



2010 Bartercard

NBL

Round 4 (March 25-27)

Exodus Saints v Zerofees Southland Sharks
Christchurch Cougars v Zerofees Southland Sharks
Harbour Heat v McDonalds Manawatu Jets
Waikato Pistons v OceanaGold Nuggets
Taranaki Mountain Airs v OceanaGold Nuggets

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STANDINGS

Team	P	W	L	Win %	GB	Pts
Waikato Pistons	3	3	0	100	0	6
Harbour Heat	3	3	0	100	0	6
Fico Finance Nelson Giants	4	3	1	66.7	0.5	6
0800 Easy LPG Bay Hawks	4	2	2	66.7	1.5	4
Wellington Saints	4	2	2	66.7	1.5	4
Christchurch Cougars	5	2	3	66.7	2.5	4
Taranaki Mountainairs	3	1	2	0	2	2
Zerofees Southland Sharks	3	1	2	0	2	2
McDonalds Manawatu Jets	2	0	2	0	2.5	0
Oceanagold Otago Nuggets	3	0	3	0	3	0

Win % - Win Percentage, GB – Games Back

LAST WEEK

Bartercard NBL - Round Three

Waikato Pistons 104 (Tony Ronaldson 28, Eric Devendorf 21, Alex Pledger 16)

Christchurch Cougars 74 (Lionel Hopgood 15, Paora Winitana 15, Jeremy Kench 12)

Harbour Heat 115 (Corey Webster 25, Rick Rickert 22, Kavossy Franklin 22, Beny Anthony 22)

Exodus Saints 95 (Darryl Hudson 19, Erron Maxey 16, Leon Henry 16, Nick Horvath 16)

Taranaki Mountain Airs 84 (Jack Leasure 30, Demarshay Johnson 17, Tyrone Davey 14)

Christchurch Cougars 62 (Paora Winitana 15, Lionel Hopgood 15)

Zerofees Southland Sharks 85 (Rene Rougeau 20, Mike Rose 19, Luke Martin 15)

0800 Easy LPG Bay Hawks 79 (Ben Hill 16, Nat Connell 13, Chris Daniel 12)

Fico Finance Nelson Giants 92 (Michael Harrison 23, Phil Jones 18, Sam Dempster 13)

OceanaGold Nuggets 60 (Antoine Tisby 28, Tyler Amaya 16)

THIS WEEK

2010 NBL Round Four

Thursday, March 25



Exodus Saints (2-2) v Zerofees Southland Sharks (1-2)

At TSB Bank Arena, Wellington, 7pm

Projected Starting Fives

	Saints	Sharks
Point Guard	Darryl Hudson	Luke Martin
Shooting Guard	Troy McLean	Mike Rose
Small Forward	Erron Maxey	Rene Rougeau
Power Forward	Leon Henry	James Paringatai
Center	Nick Horvath	Martin Iti

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Saints	Sharks
Darryl Hudson (22.0)	Mike Rose (23.0)
Nick Horvath (17.0)	Luke Martin (15.0)
Erron Maxey (14.7)	James Paringatai & Rene Rougeau (14.3)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Saints	Sharks
Rebounds	Nick Horvath (9.5)	Mike Rose (8.3)
Assists	Darryl Hudson (3.8)	Mike Rose (3.3)
Steals	Darryl Hudson (2.3)	Rene Rougeau (4.7)
Blocks	Nick Horvath (1.3)	Rene Rougeau (2.7)

Notes

The Exodus Saints will play their first home game of the season and it will be the first time they ever play the Zerofees Southland Sharks who are playing their third consecutive road game. Former Saints player Luke Martin, who played his last two seasons with them, plays his second game in a Sharks uniform. Martin was instrumental in the Sharks maiden victory in Hawke's Bay scoring 15 points and icing clutch free throws at the end. Saints have struggled of late losing two on a trot which included a 115-95 beating from the Harbour Heat. Saints import Darryl Hudson is their leading scorer at 22 per game, but has struggled in the two losses shooting a combined 0/10 from the three point line. Hopefully Hudson will have his back court partner Lindsay Tait back who has missed their last three games with an ankle sprain. Tait will be much needed to help the Saints go up against the Sharks back court of Martin and Mike Rose. Rose who was originally signed on a short term, could be reconsidered for a longer deal, currently leading his team in scoring (23.0), rebounds (8.3) and assists (3.8).

Friday, March 26

Christchurch Cougars (2-3) v Zerofees Southland Sharks (1-2)

At Cowles Stadium, Christchurch, 7pm

Projected Starting Five

	Cougars	Sharks
Point Guard	Jeremy Kench	Luke Martin
Shooting Guard	Paora Winitana	Mike Rose
Small Forward	Mark Morrison	Rene Rougeau
Power Forward	Trent Wurtz	James Paringatai
Center	Tim Behrendorff	Martin Iti

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Cougars	Sharks
Paora Winitana (20.6)	Mike Rose (23.0)
Jeremy Kench (14.4)	Luke Martin (15.0)
Lionel Hopgood (11.6)	James Paringatai & Rene Rougeau (14.3)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Cougars	Sharks
Rebounds	Mark Morrison (7.0)	Mike Rose (8.3)
Assists	Jeremy Kench (4.8)	Mike Rose (3.3)
Steals	Trent Wurtz (4.0)	Rene Rougeau (4.7)
Blocks	Two Tied (0.4)	Rene Rougeau (2.7)

Notes

Christchurch Cougars will be looking forward to returning home after a disappointing road trip up north where they lost by 30 to Waikato Pistons and gave the Mountain Airs their first win after an 18 game losing streak. Hopefully the Cougars will boost their frontcourt with big man Tim Behrendorff returning from Australia. The Cougars need to get some more production from their other import Trent Wurtz who has struggled offensively this season averaging only 8 points with a field goal percentage of 35.7%. As a team the Cougars have struggled offensively currently second to last in scoring (77.4) and second to last in field goal percentage (39.8%). Sharks Rene Rougeau has proven to be a very good defender leading the league in blocks (2.7) and second in steals (4.7), but he also showed that he can score top scoring for the Sharks in the win against the Hawks with 20.

Harbour Heat (3-0) v McDonalds Manawatu Jets (0-2)

At AUT, North Shore, 7pm

Head to Head (Wins): Heat 5 Jets 1

Last Meeting: Heat 122-71 (15/5/2009)

Projected Starting Fives

	Heat	Jets
Point Guard	Corey Webster	Paul Bristol
Shooting Guard	Kavossy Franklin	Kaine Hokianga
Small Forward	Dillon Boucher	Richard Jeter
Power Forward	Beny Anthony	Ronald Allen
Center	Rick Rickert	Calum MacLeod

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Heat	Jets
Corey Webster (25.3)	Richard Jeter (20.0)
Rick Rickert (21.3)	Kaine Hokianga (10.5)
Kavossy Franklin (21.0)	Matt Te Huna (10.5)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Heat	Jets
Rebounds	Rick Rickert (14.3)	Hugh Quinlivan (4.5)
Assists	Dillon Boucher (6.5)	Matt Te Huna (3.0)
Steals	Corey Webster (6.3)	Matt Te Huna (3.0)
Blocks	Darryl Cartwright (1.0)	Richard Jeter (0.5)

Notes

Harbour Heat has opened the season with a three game winning streak and winning by an average margin of 17 points. The Jets meanwhile have struggled dropping their first two at home by an average margin of 38 points. The odds are grossly against the Jets previously losing to the Heat by 51 points in the North Shore last season. Corey Webster will have fond memories scoring a career high 43 points against the Jets in his rookie season. The Heat is the only team in the league to average 100 points while the Jets are near the bottom averaging less than 80 points per game. Jets will need more from Kiwi big man Calum MacLeod who has struggled to get decent court time, although a starter averaging only 17 minutes a game.

Waikato Pistons (3-0) v OceanaGold Nuggets (0-3)

At Te Awamutu Events Centre, 7.30pm

Head to Head: Pistons 4 Nuggets 0

Last Meeting: Pistons 85-78 (10/05/2008)

Projected Starting Fives

	Pistons	Nuggets
Point Guard	Eric Devendorf	Sam To'omata
Shooting Guard	Hayden Allen	Riki Buckrell
Small Forward	Thomas Abercrombie	Tome Rowe
Power Forward	Tony Ronaldson	Tyler Amaya
Center	Alex Pledger	Antoine Tisby

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Pistons	Nuggets
Eric Devendorf (31.7)	Antoine Tisby (26.3)
Thomas Abercrombie (20.7)	Tyler Amaya (21.3)
Tony Ronaldson (13.7)	James Ross (5.7)

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Pistons	Nuggets
Rebounds	Alex Pledger (15.7)	Antoine Tisby (12.7)
Assists	Eric Devendorff (4.7)	Tyler Amaya (4.3)
Steals	Eric Devendorff (2.7)	Antoine Tisby (1.7)
Blocks	Thomas Abercrombie (2.7)	Antoine Tisby (1.0)

Notes

Dating back from 2005 the Pistons have had recent dominance over the Nuggets winning seven of the last eight meetings. The last time the Nuggets beat the Pistons was on the 26th of May 2006 when the Nuggets won 85-69. But if the Nuggets are going to compete then they will need to get some production from their New Zealand players who managed to combine for only 16 of the 60 points they scored in the loss to the Giants last week. 2008 rebounding champ Antoine Tisby will go head to head against the current league leader in rebounds Alex Pledger who has got two double/doubles in a row. Tisby is currently third in the league in rebounds at 12.7 and is second in scoring at 26.3 per game. Young Nuggets guards Sam To'omata and Riki Buckrell will have a lot of work to do matching up against the back court duo of league leading scorer Eric Devendorf and former Nugget Hayden Allen who seems to have fit nicely for the Pistons in a more defensive role. Allen played six seasons with the Nuggets and averaged twenty points per game in the 2001 season.

Saturday, March 27

Taranaki Mountain Airs (1-2) v OceanaGold Nuggets (0-3)

At TSB Stadium, New Plymouth, 7pm

Head to Head: Airs 4 Nuggets 0

Last Meeting: Airs 83-78 (18/04/2008)

Projected Starting Fives

	Mountain Airs	Nuggets
Point Guard	Tyrone Davey	Sam To'omata
Shooting Guard	Jack Leasure	Riki Buckrell
Small Forward	Alex Wastney	Tom Rowe
Power Forward	Aaron Bailey-Nowell	Tyler Amaya
Center	Demarshay Johnson	Antoine Tisby

Leading Scorers (Points per game)

Mountain Airs	Nuggets
Jack Leasure (24.7)	Antoine Tisby (26.3)
Demarshay Johnson (17.3)	Tyler Amaya (21.3)
Jeremiah Trueman (11.7)	Two Tied

Team Leaders in Other Categories (Per game)

	Mountain Airs	Nuggets
Rebounds	Demarshay Johnson (8.3)	Antoine Tisby (12.7)
Assists	Jack Leasure (3.0)	Tyler Amaya (4.3)
Steals	Jack Leasure (2.0)	Antoine Tisby (1.7)
Blocks	Two Tied (1.0)	Antoine Tisby (1.0)

Notes

Nuggets will have travel down to New Plymouth after their game against Waikato to play the Taranaki Mountain Airs who will be looking to put their first winning streak together since the 2008 season when they won their last two games. Recent history has favored the Airs winning their last eight games against the Nuggets, 2004 being the last time the Nuggets have won. The Airs defense is what gave them their win against the Cougars holding them to only 60 points. The Nuggets meanwhile are last in scoring (71.0), field goal percentage (36.9%) and three point percentage (17.6%) which need to be grossly improved if they have any chance of beating the Airs.

Note: Head to Head = Wins (07,08,09 Seasons)

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PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Round Three

Rick Rickert (Harbour Heat)

22 points (11/18 FG 61%), 22 rebounds in the 115-95 rout over the Exodus Saints.

Heat import Rick Rickert earns a well deserved player of the week after a dominant display inside against the likes of Tall Blacks Nick Horvath and Casey Frank.

The 22 rebounds that Rickert got against the Saints was only two shy away from a Heat record which was 24 by Brian Gomes in 2001*. In three games this season Rickert is currently second in rebounds per game (14.3), third in FG% (66.6) and 8th in scoring (21.3).

Rickert is behind Pistons Alex Pledger in rebounds, Pledger averaging 15.7 per game. His fellow team mate Eric Devendorf continues to lead in the overall player rankings and is the only person in the league averaging over 30 points a game (31.7).

Corey Webster continues his good form with 26 points, 6 assists and 6 steals in the win against the Saints. Webster also leads the league in steals at 6.3 per game.

After an 18 game losing streak the Taranaki Mountain Airs finally got a win convincingly beating the Christchurch Cougars 84-62. Airs Jack Leasure could not be stopped from the outside shooting an amazing 7/8 from beyond the arc, scoring 30 points in the win. Leasure is now in the top five in scoring (24.7) and in the top five in three point percentage (60%).

Another team that got their first win of the season in Round Three was the Zeros Southland Sharks, whom also got their first ever franchise win. Sharks Rene Rougeau was outstanding with the stat line of 20 points, 8 rebounds and five steals. Rougeau is second in the league in steals at 4.7 and first equal in blocks at 2.7 per contest.

PLAYER POWER RANKINGS

1. **Eric Devendorf (Waikato Pistons)**
2. **Rick Rickert (Harbour Heat)**
3. **Antoine Tisby (OceanaGold Nuggets)**
4. **Corey Webster (Harbour Heat)**
5. **Rene Rougeau (Zeros Southland Sharks)**
6. **Thomas Abercrombie (Waikato Pistons)**
7. **Mike Rose (Zeros Southland Sharks)**
8. **Dillon Boucher (Harbour Heat)**
9. **Michael Harrison (Fico Finance Giants)**
10. **Phil Jones (Fico Finance Giants)**

The Next 10 . . .

Alex Pledger (Pistons), Jack Leasure (Airs), Luke Martin (Sharks), Jeremy Kench (Cougars), Demarshay Johnson (Airs), Everard Bartlett (Hawks), Nat Connell (Hawks), Tyler Amaya (Nuggets), Darryl Hudson (Saints), Jamil Terrell (Hawks)

Visit www.basketball.org.nz for Top-50 Player Power Rankings

Note: *Denotes Team Records since 2000)

STAT LEADERS

Points

Eric Devendorf (Pistons)	31.7
Antoine Tisby (Nuggets)	26.3
Two Tied	25.5

Rebounds

Alex Pledger (Pistons)	15.7
Rick Rickert (Heat)	14.3
Antoine Tisby (Nuggets)	12.7

Assists

Dillon Boucher (Heat)	6.5
Luke Martin (Sharks)	6.0
Jeremy Kench (Cougars)	4.8

Steals

Corey Webster (Heat)	6.3
Rene Rougeau (Sharks)	4.7
Luke Martin (Sharks)	4.0

Blocks

Thomas Abercrombie (Pistons)	2.7
Rene Rougeau (Sharks)	2.7
Jamil Terrell (Hawks)	2.0

FG % (Min 5 Attempts)

Dillon Boucher (Heat)	77.7
Martin Iti (Sharks)	71.4
Rick Rickert (Heat)	66.6

3pt %

David Langrell (Hawks)	85.7
Kavossy Franklin (Heat)	75.0
Luke Martin (Sharks)	75.0

FT %

Five Tied	100
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