

In the spotlight...

Matt Creber

'You know you're going to get 100% effort from him'



Giving it his all: Matt Creber powers through the opposition during a Guernsey Rugby Academy under-16s match.

(Picture supplied by Martin Gray)

AFTER becoming one of the stars of the Guernsey Rugby Academy in recent seasons, teenager Matt Creber has been tipped as a senior Guernsey Raider of the future. Now plying his trade in the academy's under-16s team and a regular when it comes to Hampshire County invitations and selections, Creber is certainly making waves on the rugby scene. So much so that the sport's development officer, Steve Melbourne, is high in his praise of the young lad who is already more than holding his own in Colts (U18) training. He says that Creber can be effective anywhere in the back row positions of No. 8, blind-side flanker or open-side flanker, and wherever he plays, he offers his

A player who 'sets an example by the way he plays', Matt Creber has made a very positive impression on rugby development officer Steve Melbourne with his standout performances on the pitch. **Matt Lihou** reports

team real quality.

'The thing that most stands out about Matt is the strength and conditioning work he has put in during the last three years, he is one of the lads who had most bought into it during that time,' explained Melbourne.

'His strength and his physique is a very important part of his game, but he is also an exceptionally good ball carrier and is strong in other areas too.

'Like any young player there is still work to do and progress to be made, but Matt is a very strong, rounded player at the moment and is getting better all of the time.'

Key to that continued development of Creber's game is the effort he puts in – whether that be on the pitch during the academy's games or in training. 'Matt is somebody who will absorb any information and

feedback you give him and wants to continually get better and improve every area of his game,' continued Melbourne.

'He is a very quiet lad on the pitch, he is not a screamer or shouter, but what you will find is that when he says something, his team-mates immediately pay attention to it.

'The leadership quality he has is that he sets an example by the way he plays.

'Matt is a real workhorse and you know exactly what you are going to get from him during any game – a quality player but one who will always give 100%.'

All that considered, Melbourne admits that the future looks very bright for a player who will make the step up to under-18s Colts rugby next season.

'Matt is one of those lads who we have definitely got in mind to be signed off and play senior rugby when he turns 17 in the next year or so.

'He has everything needed to be a very capable senior rugby player of the future and assuming he carries on with his current development path, he will absolutely be a senior Guernsey player of the future.'