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Championship

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THIS week has been good news and bad news.

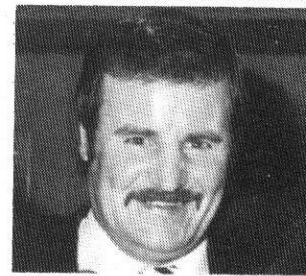
First the good news. On Thursday night we were having a team talk when who should walk through the door, but big Glyn Shaw. Typical of big Glyn he had a wide grin on his face and a joke to follow. We have missed him around the place lately and everybody was delighted to see him again. Let's hope he soon regains match fitness and helps us throughout the rest of the season.

I am sure I don't have to tell you that the bad news was our defeat at Featherstone. After performing so well in the previous three games against Hull, St. Helens and Castleford I just could not believe that we were the same side. Upon reflection we might not have prepared for the game or approached it with the same attitude that we had previous. If that is the case then we can consider the Featherstone game as a one off.

We have held a players meeting about the game and talked about all the different things we didn't do properly. At the end of the day, however, the simple fact is that Featherstone Rovers competed better than Wigan and got two points whilst we came home with none. Its as simple as that. Our job now is to prove that we are capable of reproducing the form that we showed when beating teams like Hull and Castleford. They weren't flukes they were honest to goodness well won victories. We can prove it today by sorting Oldham out. I won't stand for any slackers in any position especially when they've proved in the past they can do it.

In life you only get what you work for.
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ALEX MURPHY



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welcome TO OLDHAM

ONCE again we offer our usual warm Central Park welcome to our friends from Oldham. We hope all directors, players and staff have an enjoyable day.

Oldham have many good young players in their side, like Chris Ashton who is a former English Schools Captain, Terry Flanagan who was Captain of the Great Britain Under 24's side, and Ray Ashton a member of the current Great Britain training squad. We must not forget players like Des Foy a good strong, fast running centre and Mick Farrish a very accurate goal kicker.

With all this talent in their team today's game should turn out to be a real good game of rugby.

TODAY'S SPONSOR

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to the Cheshire Building Society for sponsoring today's match. They were previously named the Wigan Building Society, who were established over 100 years ago, and then joined forces with the Cheshire Building Society on 31st May 1982 to become part of a regional organisation which prides itself on the service it gives to members. Why not call Kevin Banks at your local branch, 10-12 Library Street, Wigan. Tel: 45089. He and his staff will be pleased to help you. We hope everyone connected with the Building Society and their guests have an enjoyable afternoon.

KERRY HEMSLEY

This afternoon is Kerry's last game at Central Park and before the game the Supporters Association will present him with an engraved silver tray to remind him of his stay at Wigan.

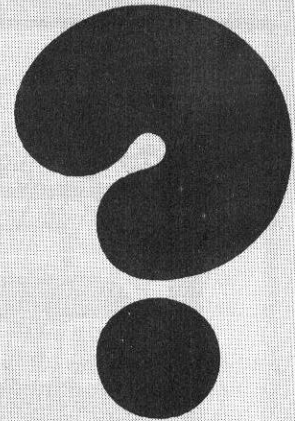
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Half-time Quiz



1. Who were the 1982-83 Division Two Champions?
2. A well-known ex-Oldham full-back holds the Oldham record for most goals in a season, 200 goals in all. Name the player.
3. In the 1983 Premiership Final between Widnes and Hull which player won the Harry Sunderland man-of-the-match award?
4. What is the nickname of the Oldham Rugby League Club?
5. Only two players share the record for playing in four cup winning sides at Wembley. Name the two players.
6. Who won the Lance Todd Trophy in the 1983 Challenge Cup Final between Featherstone Rovers and Hull?

Answers on Page 25

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CLIFF WEBB
OF THE
WIGAN
OBSERVER

WHOEVER would have thought that after that superlative display against Castleford a fortnight ago Wigan would have slipped up so badly at Featherstone only three days later?

Such is the uncertainty of First Division rugby today. A struggling side like Featherstone suddenly hits top form on the night and high flying Wigan pick that particular game to have an off day!

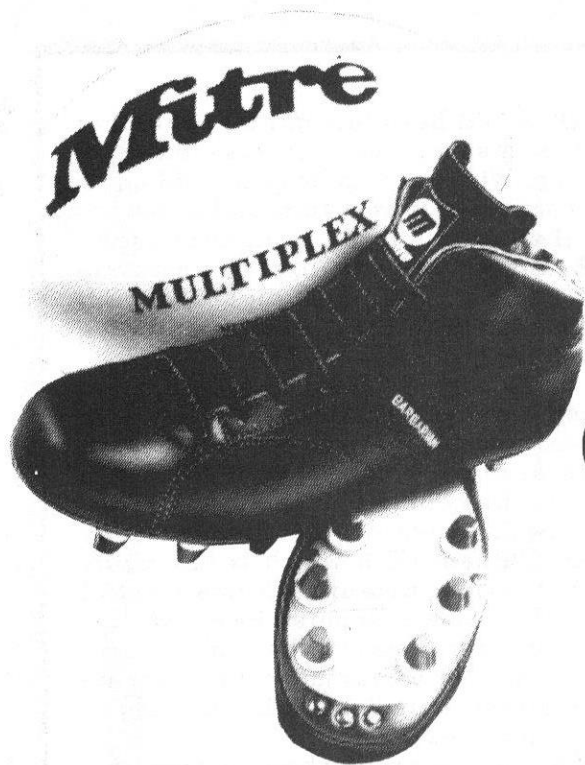
But I think we will see Wigan in more determined mood this afternoon. The lads were really elated after that victory over Castleford, not just because they won well, but because the Wigan fans were behind them all the way.

They will want to return to that situation today against an Oldham team which is having its best season for a long time under former Central Park favourite Peter Smethurst. Pete loves his rugby and his enthusiasm for the game rubs off on all with whom he comes into contact. I think that is the secret ingredient in his success as coach at Watersheddings.

Pete used to play his rugby hard, but fair, and like the rest of us in Rugby League he was really distressed at the Watersheddings fiasco two weeks ago. So I don't think today's game will be anything but a good hard match with the knocks and bruises, which good tackling brings, given and received in sporting spirit.

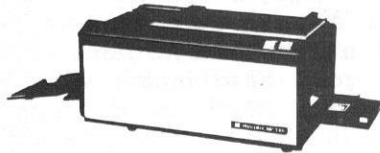
I expect Wigan will win this one. They have not been beaten at Central Park in their past six games, some of which have been against the best teams in the league. Yet Oldham, too, have become used to success and, playing the sort of fast, open rugby which they prefer, you can bet they will test Wigan to the full.

One Oldham man will be specially out to put one over on his old mates and that man is winger Jimmy Hornby, who joined Oldham on a free transfer some months ago. If Jimmy plays, he will want some watching, for he is as speedy as ever. But Wigan are determined to wipe out the memory of that defeat at Watersheddings on November 13 last year and with their fans roaring them on, they should manage it.



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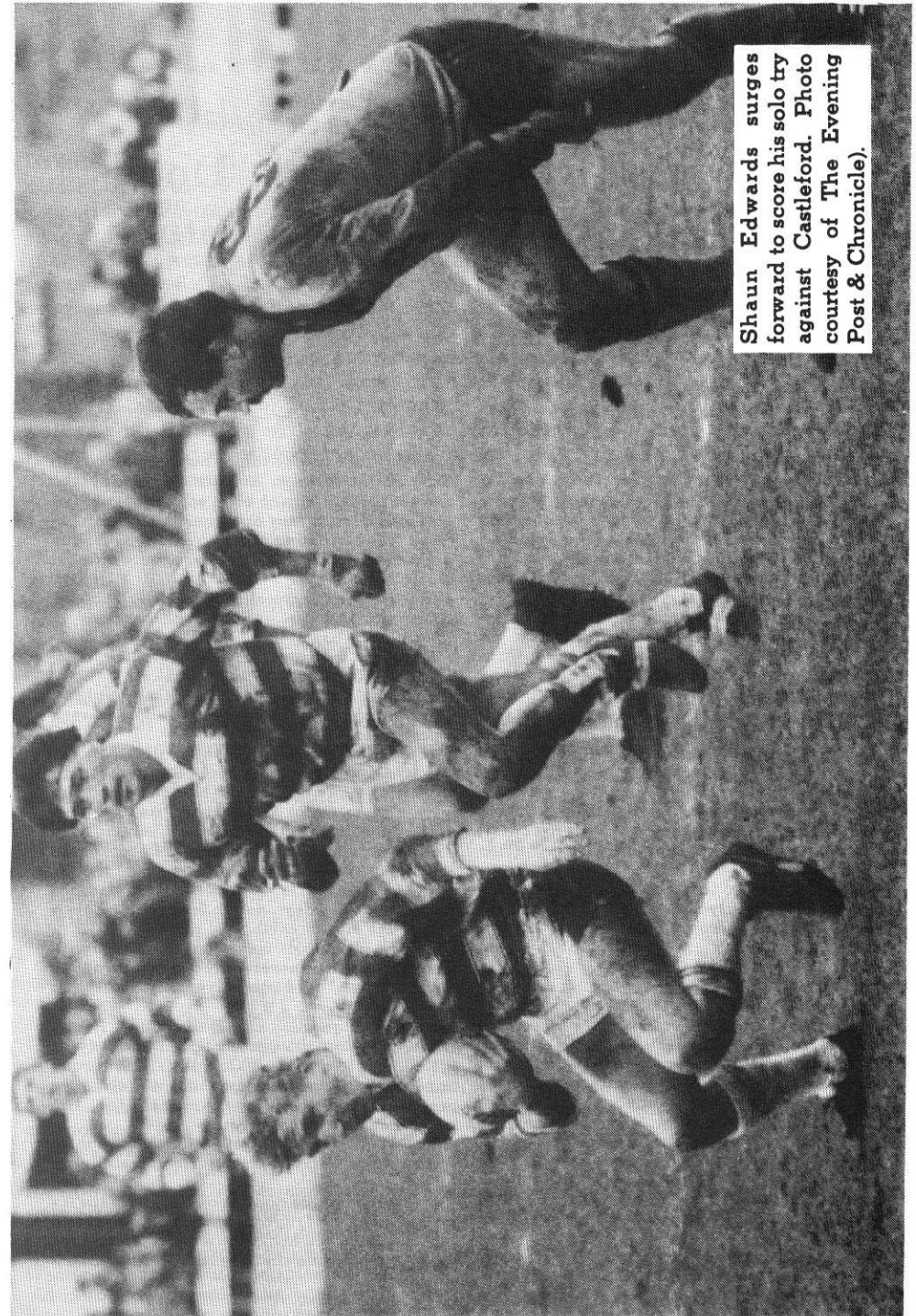
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Shaun Edwards surges forward to score his solo try against Castleford. Photo courtesy of The Evening Post & Chronicle.

VIEW FROM THE TERRACES

by
Doug
Stand

RUGBY League was recently referred to in The Guardian as "formation mugging".

At first glance, this seems just the sort of clever remark with which national newspapers so often patronise our minority pastime, but on weighing the evidence the charge is hard to dismiss.

Take a recent example - the John Player Trophy final between Widnes and Leeds.

This was a game widely received as entertaining and free-flowing entertainment for the watching TV millions - but if it had been shown in a cinema a couple of incidents in the second half would have required an X certificate.

The Daily Telegraph reporter commented that several players seemed more interested in inflicting personal damage than concentrating on the job in hand (i.e. playing football).

Ironically enough, the match programme carried an interview with Aussie ace Wally Lewis, who said yes, he was enjoying his stay over here, but didn't we think our game was a bit too physical?

Physical, of course, is a rugby writer's euphemism for psychopathic. Lewis said he thought our game would progress a lot faster if we cut out the "biff", and concentrated on the skills.

This seems to be an important point. You can't have one AND the other.

There may be a few players about who acquire first the skills and then take boxing lessons, but for every one of those there must be hundreds of naturally gifted youngsters who are put off the game by its over-physical image.

This must particularly apply in areas where the game is struggling to gain a footing.

There seems to be little point in David Oxley and Co. going on about a family game and a national sport, when the product that goes out to the public looks about as much fun as being thrown down a flight of stairs.

A certain type of spectator might enjoy

watching that sort of thing, but it's unlikely to pack in the playing recruits, especially the classier players who so often see skill rewarded with elbow in the face or a knee in the back.

The really irritating thing about rugby league violence is that it's always, but always, absolutely blatant.

The television naturally picks it up because something ruthless and cynical happens in almost every game.

There are even people who apologise for it, often actually advocate it.

It's a man's game, they say, they like it hard and if you want to watch ballerinas you should be at a soccer match.

You can tell these arguments are false by the way you never hear them applied to both teams.

It's alright for opponents to be cleaned out, but just let them inflict a cheekbone fracture or a broken jaw on one of our players. Then the hard men become animals who should be locked up for the rest of their lives.

Rugby League is a man's game, and it's probably the hardest sport in the country. This is before you start breaking the rules.

Violence does not make the sport harder, it simply makes it unnecessarily dangerous, and in the long run, less attractive to players and spectators.

It's only a question of self discipline. Rugby union hasn't got to its present position solely by the connivance of the BBC. If their players can appear before the cameras and not present too many embarrassing moments for the commentator why can't ours?

Wally Lewis broke his teeth within a fortnight of coming to England. Facial injuries generally are on the increase.

If nothing can be done about this perhaps it's time to admit that rugby league is only a sport in the sense that ice hockey is a sport, and let the players wear some similar protective clothing.

INTERNATIONAL VIEW

by Brian Murphy
(International Rugby League Supporters' Federation)

THE INTERNATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE SUPPORTERS' FEDERATION was formed in 1975 by a group of enthusiasts who were concerned about the poor image of the game at that time and who wanted to see Rugby League making progress as an international sport.

The formation of the organisation coincided with the new appointments at RL headquarters of David Oxley and Public Relations Officer David Howes as well as with BARLA's early successes in spreading the domestic game - factors which have brought a new wave of popularity for Rugby League.

Members of the IRLSF feel that they too have made a contribution towards this growing popularity.

The IRLSF has been instrumental in launching clubs in Scotland and at the Universities of Oxford, Reading and Swansea - all areas unthought of a decade ago as centres for Rugby League. BUSCARLA (British Upper Schools & Colleges Amateur Rugby League Association) was also born as a result of the efforts of the IRLSF while amateur Rugby League in Oregon, USA and the revival of the Italian R.L. have both been helped through the Federation and its members.

There are national branches in Australia and New Zealand while BL exiles all over the world have become

members.

One of the most successful of the organisation's promotions has been the staging of a series of Rugby League exhibitions at nationwide venues like Oxford and Cardiff as well as in towns throughout Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cumbria. The exhibition at the Powell Museum, Wigan in April 1976 created enormous interest.

In its plans for the future, the IRLSF hopes to establish a permanent International Rugby League Museum and Hall of Fame and a search is under way to find a suitable home for this in the north of England. Metropolitan councillors in Wigan have shown some interest in the project and, should it materialise, such an attraction would bring visitors to the town from all over the world.

The IRLSF produces its own publication in FANFARE, the monthly newsletter for Federation members and the 100th issue appears this very month as a special centenary edition.

Anyone wanting further details of the International Rugby League Supporters' Federation should forward a stamped addressed envelope to Phil Slade (Secretary), 2/1 Cleveland Road, Bradford 9, West Yorkshire.

MAGPIES SAVED

Three months after being kicked out of the Sydney Premiership, Australian Club Western Suburbs have been re-instated and will, after all, compete in this year's competition.

West's and Newtown were dropped from the premiership at the end of last season. Newtown accepted the decision because there were already plans made for them to form the basis of a new club at Campbelltown in 1985. Wally Lewis broke his teeth within a fortnight of coming to England. Facial injuries generally are on the increase.

Almost immediately, moves began to save West's and success was achieved after a Queensland millionaire offered financial guarantees which will secure West's' immediate future.

Meanwhile the Magpies must enter into a period of wrangling with those clubs which have signed Western Suburbs players believing them to be 'free agents'.

Some of the players themselves are reluctant to return to Lidcombe Oval, home of the Magpies, and the club could be involved in a series of court cases right up to the start of the new Australian season in April.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT WIGAN R.L.F.C. 1983-84

Colin Whitfield's second penalty goal in the game against Castleford brought his total number of points for the season, in first class games, to exactly 150.

Graeme West has now played in Wigan's last 30 matches - the current longest consecutive run by a Wigan player.

Nine players have appeared for Wigan for the first time this season (excluding the trialist Stand Off): The latest additions being Wayne Elvin and Mark Cannon.

Seven players have scored their first tries for the Club so far this season. The seven being: Brian Dunn, Shaun Edwards, Steve Hampson, Keith Holden, Kerry Hemsley, Howie Tamati and Tim Wilby.

Howie Tamati and Kerry Hemsley both made their debuts at Leigh in October and both scored their first tries for the Club in the home game with Whitehaven in December.

The last two Wigan players to make their debuts in the same game and score their first tries for the Club in the same game were Gary Stephens and Eddie Bowman. They made their debuts at home to Fulham in November 1980 and they scored their first tries at home to Dewsbury in February 1981.

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Substitute: Each team is allowed two substitutes and there are four substitutes allowed in each game.

Scoring: A try counts as 4 points. A penalty goal or a conversion counts as 2 points. A drop goal counts as 1 point.

Referee: Mr. D.H. Fox
Touch Judges: Mr. J.A. Unsworth (Red Flag)
Mr. G.F. Tickle (Yellow Flag)

WIGAN Cherry/White. Coach: Alex Murphy

OLDHAM Blue/White: Coach: P. Smethurst

1 STEVE HAMPSON	FULL BACK
2 DENNIS RAMSDALE	RIGHT WING THREE QUARTER
3 DAVID STEPHENSON	RIGHT CENTRE THREE QUARTER
4 COLIN WHITFIELD	LEFT CENTRE THREE QUARTER
5 BRIAN JULIFF	LEFT WING THREE QUARTER
6 SHAUN EDWARDS	STAND-OFF HALF-BACK
7 GARY STEPHENS	SCRUMMAGE HALF-BACK
8 KERRY HEMSLEY	FRONT ROW FORWARD
9 HOWIE TAMATI	HOOKER
10 BRIAN CASE	FRONT ROW FORWARD
11 MARK CANNON	SECOND ROW FORWARD
12 GRAEME WEST	SECOND ROW FORWARD
13 WAYNE ELVIN	LOOSE FORWARD
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15	SUBSTITUTE

1 CHRIS WILLIS	
2 MIKE TAYLOR	
3 MICK PARRISH	
4 DES FOY	
5 JIM HORNBY	
6 IAN BIRKBY	
7 GARY BISHOP	
8 WALLY JONES	
9 ALAN McCURRIE	
10 MICK MORGAN	
11 MICK WORRALL	
12 ALAN SINCLAIR	
13 TERRY FLANAGAN	
14	
15	

Scrums					Penalties					Half Time:
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	_____ pts.
6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20	_____ pts.

Final Score:		Scrums					Penalties				
_____ pts.		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
		6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10
		11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
_____ pts.		16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20

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DOWN MEMORY LANE

BY DAVE HURST

35 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
22nd January, 1949.

WARRINGTON	4
WIGAN	8

WIGAN: Tries: E. Ward, E. Ashcroft. Goal: E. Ward.

30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
23rd January, 1954.

WIGAN	47
BELLE VUE RANGERS	2

WIGAN: Tries: N. Cherrington 3, E. Ashcroft 2, B. Nordgren, H. Street, B. McTigue, J. Fleming, N. Silcock, J. Broome. Goals: J. Cunliffe 7.

25 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
24th January, 1959.

WIGAN	36
LIVERPOOL CITY	18

WIGAN: Tries: N. Cherrington 2, E. Ashton, W. Boston, F. Griffiths, M. Sullivan. Goals: F. Griffiths 9. Referee: Mr. T.W. Watkinson.

20 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
25th January, 1964.

WIGAN	15
FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	14

WIGAN: Tries: W. Boston, S. McLeod, B. Shillinglaw. Goals: L. Gilfedder 3.
WIGAN: Bolton, Boston, Ashton, Davies, Lake, McLeod, Shillinglaw, Barton, Clarke, McTigue, Lyon, Gilfedder, Evans.
FEATHERSTONE: Cooper, Greatorex, Penketh, Lynch, Jordan, Hunt, Dooler, Terry, Nicholson, Dixon, Morgan, Brown, Fox.
Referee: Mr. G. Philpott. Attendance: 11,494.

15 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
24th January, 1969.

WIGAN	61
LEIGH MINERS' WELFARE	0

WIGAN: Tries: K. Jones 4, W. Francis 2, C. Clarke 2, G. Lyon 2, P. Rowe, C. Hill, J. Jackson. Goals: E. Ashton, 11.
WIGAN: Ashton, Jones, Ashurst, Rowe, Francis, Hill, Jackson, Gardiner, Clarke, Ashcroft, Stephens, Lyon, O'Loughlin.
LEIGH MINERS' WELFARE: Cooke, Bardsley, Rowe, Gaskell, Westhead (Evans); Unsworth, Dowling; Murphy, Parry, Thompson, Kedworth (Murray), Mitchell, Martyn.
Referee: Mr. G. Wilson. Attendance: 9,791.

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From the terrace . . .

Dear Editor,

I'd just like to send through you a "BIG THANKYOU" for the hospital match report on all Wigan's home games, I was just in Wigan Infirmary for a while, and as I am one who *NEVER* misses a match home or away, I was very down at missing my rugby. But what a nice surprise I got when I tuned in to the radio. I don't think people realize just what a great service Ray Unsworth and his presenters give. They do a very professional job. Ray your missing your way on T.V.

Anyway, once again, thanks to all concerned for making at least one and a half hours pleasant for me while in Wigan Infirmary.

Yours
Rugby for ever
Mary Prescott, Worsley Mesnes, Wigan.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

THE performance against Castleford a couple of weeks ago was the highlight of the season so far, and Shaun Edwards magnificent try provided a fitting climax to a superb match.

However, only three days later the same team produced one of their poorest performances in a miserable match at Featherstone. Despite gale force winds, driving rain and freezing cold at least half of the 3,000 crowd had travelled from Wigan, but they had little to cheer about. Things might have turned out different had an obstruction try been awarded just before half-time when Shaun Edwards was held back 5 yards from the line as he chased a kick through, but, as Wigan supporters have come to expect, a try was not given.

Disallowed tries have also become a feature of our meetings with Oldham. Earlier in the season we had three disallowed at Water-sheddings which cost us the match. Several dubious decisions also cost us victory last season. Hopefully we'll score sufficient good tries this afternoon so that the disallowed ones won't affect the result!

KERRY HEMSLEY

Today's match is Kerry's last home game for the club before he returns home for the Australian season. After a slow start his form has been a revelation over the last couple of months and he will be missed by players and spectators alike. To remind him of his short stay, the Supporters Association will be presenting him with a silver tray before this afternoon's match. We all hope to see him in Wigan colours again next season.

AWAY TRAVEL

Next Sunday, 29th January we take on **Hull K.R.** at Craven Park. Coaches will leave Central Park at **11.30 a.m.** seats are priced **£4.50 adults and £3 juniors.**

Coaches for the Challenge Cup match at **Bramley** on February 12th will be leaving Central Park at **1.00 p.m.** seats are priced **adults £3 and juniors £2.**

Bookings for both matches can be made at the Supporters Club shop this afternoon or by ringing Wigan 46371.

A few supporters have booked seats but failed to turn up for the coach on several occasions during the season. If for any reason you cannot make the trip it would be appreciated if you could let us know in

advance so that we can allocate your seat to someone else. We don't ask for ticket money in advance, but in some cases we may have to insist on advance payment in future before we accept the booking.

COMPETITION RESULT

The winner of two seats on the Supporters Coach to Hull K.R. is Mr. J.N. Taberner of 26, Langwyth Road, Burnley. Several of the entries came very close to John Benn's Wigan team (1960-1984) which was: Fred Griffiths, Billy Boston, Eric Ashton, Alan Davies, Mick Sullivan, Dave Bolton, Frank Parr, John Barton, Colin Clarke, Brian McTigue, Graeme West, Bill Ashurst, Doug Laughton. Subs: Bill Francies, John Gray.

Thank you for your entries. To give you all another chance of winning coach seats for away trips we'll try to arrange more competitions before the season ends.

PROGRAMMES

New additions to our stocks include the John Player Trophy Final programme, Featherstone v. Wigan, Leeds homes, Hunslet homes, Widnes homes, Castleford homes, Batley homes and Keighley homes for 82-83 and 83-84.

Also on sale are the Australian magazines Big League (76-83) 60p., Rugby League Week (1982) 40p. and Rugby League News (1968-71) 30p.

TEAMS AND SCORERS

8.1.84. Wigan 32 Castleford 6 (H-T 10-0)

WIGAN: Hampson, Ramsdale, Stephenson, Whitfield, Juliff, Edwards, Stephens, Hemsley, Tamati, Case, Cannon, West, Elvin, Pendlebury, Scott. Scorers: T - West 2, Case, Edwards. G - Whitfield 8.

CASTLEFORD: Coen, Marchant, Joyner, Hyde, Kear, Freeman, R. Beardmore, Connell, K. Beardmore, Spedding, James, Crompton, England, Jones, Timson. Scorers: T - Crampton; G - R. Beardmore.

11.1.84. Featherstone 15 Wigan 6 (H-T 7-2)
FEATHERSTONE: Barker, Barends, McMahon, Quinn, Bardgett, Banks, Fox, Siddall, Spurr, Gibbins, Hobbs, Hankin, Hudson, Marsh, Clarkson. Scorers: T - Banks, Marsh; G - Quinn 2; DG - Quinn 2, Hobbs.

WIGAN: Hampson, Ramsdale, Stephenson, Whitfield, Juliff, Edwards, Stephens, Hemsley, Tamati, Case, Cannon, West, Elvin, Pendlebury, Scott. Scorers: G - Whitfield 3.

CLUB SHOP

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ST. HELENS 'A' 8 v WIGAN 'A' 14

Fielding no less than five Colts players, Wigan treated this match with the same fervour that they would a first team fixture against the "old enemy".

By half time Wigan led by 14 points to 6 after scoring three tries to Saints one, and looking by far the slicker of the two sides.

Centre Steve Brennan scored two tries, including a 'beauty' from 70 yards at a time when Saints were pressing strongly. Barry Williams opened the scoring with a try in the corner after a clever run by Woods. Woods also added a conversion. Saints try came from centre Parkes

after 'old campaigner' Mathias had created the gaps.

Good tackling by Saints, abetted by a 17 to 7 penalty count, held Wigan out after they had done most of the attacking for the first 20 minutes of the second half.

After kicking a penalty, Saints rallied and caused Wigan a few hairy moments in the last ten minutes but the defence held out and their was no further score.

18 year old Chris Wilson had an outstanding first half, breaking well and slipping the ball. Stand-off Dave Woods looked really sharp throughout.

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MEMORABLE MATCHES

WIGAN vs. OLDHAM WIGAN 10 POINTS OLDHAM 9

WIGAN: J. Sharrock, J. Leytham, B. Jenkins, L.B. Todd, J. Miller, J. Thomas, F. Gleave, R. Ramsdale, R. Silcock, T. Whittaker, W. Johnson, J. Barton, W. Cheetham.

OLDHAM: A.E. Wood, G. Tyson, G.W. Smith, T. Llewellyn, G. Cook, T. White, W. Dixon, A.E. Avery, J. Ferguson, W. Nansen, A. Smith, W. Longworth, T. Wright.

Referee: Mr. Renton (Hunslet). **Attendance:** 20,000. **Receipts** £600

In 1908 Wigan and Oldham both reached the final of the Lancashire Cup for the second time. Oldham had beaten Broughton Rangers 16 points to 9 in the previous year's final while Wigan had defeated Leigh by 8 points to nil, after a nil-nil draw, to become the first ever winners of the Lancashire Cup in 1905.

Oldham didn't have much difficulty in getting to the 1908 final. They beat Salford 20 points to 5 in the first round, Rochdale Hornets 28 points to 3 in the second round and Runcorn 26 points to 7 in the semi-finals. The 'Riversiders' route to the final however was not so straightforward. After winning 14 points to 2 at Widnes in the first round they drew 3 points all at Leigh in the second. The replay took place at Wigan shortly afterwards and Wigan won by 11 points to 5 but Leigh objected to the result on the grounds that Wigan forward Johnson left the field to change his jersey without first obtaining the permission of the referee. The Lancashire County Union upheld the objection and stated that the referee had committed a great error of judgement in allowing Johnson to continue to take further part in the game and the tie was ordered to be replayed. Leigh

failed to make use of their reprieve though as Wigan won the second replay even more convincingly than they did the first (17-3). In the semi-finals Wigan just sneaked through 15 points to 10 against Warrington.

Incidentally Runcorn lodged a protest against the result of their semi-final tie at Oldham on the grounds that a spectator interfered with a Runcorn player attempting to tackle half back Dixon who scored a try. After hearing all the evidence the committee of the Northern Union decided that the spectator did interfere but only after Dixon had scored the try and so the result was allowed to stand.

The final was a close nail-biting affair. Oldham led 7-5 at half time but Wigan hit back in the second half to take the game by the narrowest of margins at 10 points to 9. Oldham's points came from a Cook try and 3 goals by full back Wood while Thomas and the controversial Johnson scored tries for Wigan and Sharrock and Leytham both kicked a goal.

Wigan therefore became the first team to win the Lancashire Cup twice but they certainly did it the hard way!

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

WEDNESDAY, 1st FEBRUARY - KICK-OFF 7.30 p.m.

WIGAN 'A' v. LEIGH 'A'
(LANCASHIRE COMBINATION)

★ ★ ★

SUNDAY 5th FEBRUARY - KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

WIGAN v. WARRINGTON
(SLALOM LAGER 1st DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP)



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6. David Hobbs (Featherstone Rovers).

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SLALOM LAGER FIRST DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP

as at 16.1.84.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Hull K.R.	17	13	1	3	434	214	27
Bradford Northern	17	12	1	4	325	195	25
Castleford	18	11	2	5	448	248	24
Widnes	16	12	0	4	351	194	24
Hull	17	11	1	5	433	267	23
Warrington	17	10	2	5	336	255	22
Leeds	16	9	1	6	331	290	19
Oldham	16	8	2	6	279	245	18
Leigh	15	8	0	7	348	271	16
Wigan	15	8	0	7	249	220	16
St. Helens	17	8	0	9	327	311	16
Featherstone Rovers	17	6	1	10	280	367	13
Fulham	19	6	1	12	243	413	13
Wakefield Trinity	20	6	0	14	326	425	12
Salford	18	3	0	15	210	455	6
Whitehaven	19	0	0	19	159	709	0

Today's Other Games: Castleford v. Warrington, Fulham v. St. Helens, Hull v. Leeds, Leigh v. Featherstone, Salford v. Hull K.R., Wakefield Trinity v. Whitehaven

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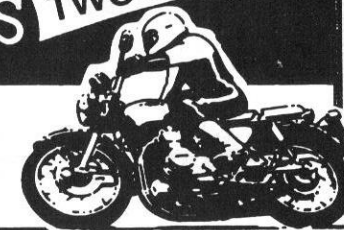
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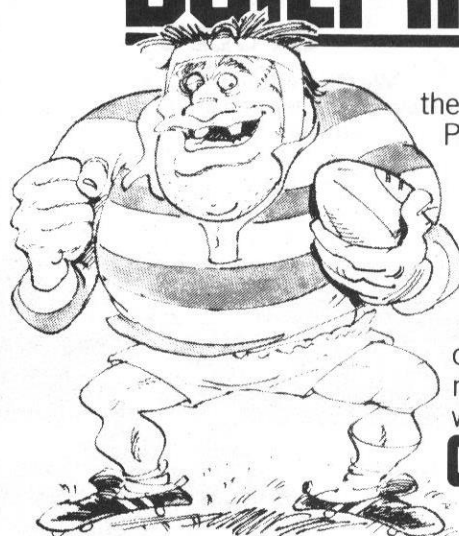
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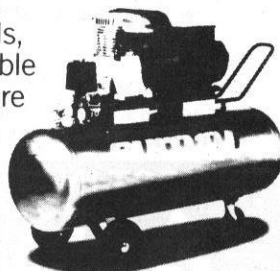
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DATA SHEET

TOP TEN TRIES:

1.	Gary SCHOFIELD	(Hull).....	19
2.	John BASNETT	(Widnes).....	18
	Joe LYDON	(Widnes).....	18
4.	Ray ASHTON	(Oldham).....	16
5.	Graham KING	(Hunslet).....	15
	Carl GIBSON	(Batley).....	15
7.	James LEULUAI	(Hull).....	14
	John WOODS	(Leigh).....	14
	Ralph McCONNELL	(Barrow).....	14
	Phil FOX	(Leigh).....	14

TOP TEN GOALS (including Drop Goals):

1.	Eric FITZSIMONS	(Hunslet).....	104
2.	Robert BEARDMORE	(Castleford).....	90
3.	Ian BALL	(Barrow).....	84
4.	Steve HESFORD	(Warrington).....	81
5.	John WOODS	(Leigh).....	80
6.	Colin WHITFIELD	(Wigan).....	71
7.	Colin MASKILL	(Wakefield T.).....	69
8.	Lyn HALLETT	(Cardiff C.).....	65
9.	Shaun DUNFORD	(Dewsbury).....	60
10.	Henry OULTON	(Batley).....	58

COLTS LEAGUE RESULTS: 14th January, 1984:

Leeds.....	30	St. Helens.....	0
Oldham.....	8	Hull.....	20
Salford.....	4	Hull K.R.....	50

Leading Positions:

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Castleford.....	17	16	-	1	32
Leeds.....	18	14	-	4	28
Wigan.....	16	12	-	4	24
Hunslet.....	16	12	-	4	24
Hull.....	15	12	-	3	24
Hull K.R.....	16	11	1	4	23
Bradford N.....	16	11	1	4	23
Leigh.....	16	11	1	4	23

DIVISION ONE WINNING RUN:

HULL KINGSTON ROVERS have won 11 successive Slalom Lager Championship matches to leave them two short of equalling the record Division One winning sequence achieved by WIDNES in 1981-82. Widnes won their first 13 games of that season before being held to a 10-10 draw - at Hull K.R.

Rovers current winning run followed an 18-18 home draw against Oldham and began with a 23-8 victory at Hull on 2nd October, 1983.

Five of their 11 victories have been achieved away. Their next two matches are at Salford on Sunday and at home to Wigan on 29th January. (Records refer to the period starting with the re-introduction of two Division in 1973).

WINNING RUN - ALL MATCHES:

The current best winning run in all matches is held by BARROW with six successive victories - all in Division Two.

LEEDS have gone nine successive matches without defeat, including one draw. The run includes four John Player Special Trophy wins.

Appearances, Tries & Goals scored

(Up to and including the match v. Featherstone, Away, 11.1.84)

Tries	App	Sub Pld	Sub N/P	League	Locker Cup	Friend-lies	Queens-land	Lancs. Cup	John Player Trophy	Total
A.N. Other	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L. Bamber	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R. Braithwaite	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
J. Clare	9	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
B. Case	19	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	3
M. Cannon	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D. Campbell	14	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	3
B. Dunn	7	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
S. Edwards	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
W. Elvin	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
K. Egan	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. Foy	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
M. Ford	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
J. Fairhurst	7	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
H. Gill	16	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	4	8
S. Hampson	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
K. Holden	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
K. Hemsley	10	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
B. Juliff	6	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
N. Kiss	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
M. Nanyn	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
G. Owen	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
J. Pendlebury	10	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D. Ramsdale	18	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
G. Stephens	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D. Stephenson	13	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	4
G. Shaw	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. Scott	9	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H. Tamati	12	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
C. Whitfield	20	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	2	7
B. Williams	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D. Wood	9	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
G. West	22	-	-	7	1	1	-	-	1	10
S. Wane	10	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
T. Wilby	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
				34	1	4	-	3	10	52
Goals:										
J. Clare				5	-	3	-	-	-	8
C. Whitfield				51(1)	5	-	1	4	15(1)	76
D. Wood				1	-	-	-	-	-	1
				57	5	3	1	4	15	85

N.B. Drop goals (in brackets) are included in the principal figures.

WIGAN RUGBY LEAGUE FIRST TEAM OFFICIAL FIXTURE SEASON 1983/84

Date	Opposition	Venue	Kick-off	W	L	POST
AUGUST						
Sunday 21st	SALFORD	(A)	3.00	W	16-14	
Wednesday 24th	WAKEFIELD TRINITY	(A)	7.30	W	18-11	
Sunday 28th	LEIGH	(H)	3.00	L	12-28	
SEPTEMBER						
Sunday 4th	COUNTY CUP - 1st ROUND WIDNES			L	20-36	
Sunday 11th	BRADFORD NORTHERN	(H)	3.00	L	16-24	
Wednesday 14th	COUNTY CUP - 2nd ROUND					
Sunday 18th	HULL	(A)	3.00	L	8-24	
Sunday 25th	WIDNES	(H)	3.00	L	16-31	
OCTOBER						
Saturday 1st	COUNTY CUP - FINAL					
Sunday 2nd	WHITEHAVEN	(A)	3.30	W	24-0	
Sunday 9th	LEIGH	(A)	3.30	L	18-24	
Sunday 16th	HULL K.R.	(H)	3.00	POST		
Wednesday 19th	LEEDS	(H)	7.45	W	20-6	
Sunday 23rd	QUEENSLAND	(H)	3.00	L	2-40	
NOVEMBER						
Sunday 6th	JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY - 1st ROUND YORK	(H)	3.00	W	30-13	
Sunday 13th	OLDHAM	(A)	3.00	L	4-8	
Sunday 20th	JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY - 2nd ROUND SALFORD	(H)	3.00	W	24-15	
Saturday 26th	JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY - 3rd ROUND WIDNES	(A)	3.00	L	15-20	
Sunday 27th	CASTLEFORD	(A)	3.30	POST		
DECEMBER						
Sunday 4th	WHITEHAVEN	(H)	3.00	W	33-11	
Sunday 11th	BRADFORD NORTHERN	(A)	3.30	POST		
Sunday 18th	HULL	(H)	3.00	W	14-12	
Monday 26th	ST. HELENS	(H)	3.00	W	12-8	
JANUARY						
Sunday 1st	WARRINGTON	(A)	3.00	POST		
Sunday 8th	CASTLEFORD	(H)	3.00	W	32-12	
Wednesday 11th	FEATHERSTONE	(A)	7.30	L	6-15	
Sunday 22nd	OLDHAM	(H)	3.00			
Sunday 29th	HULL K.R.	(A)	3.00			
FEBRUARY						
Sunday 6th	WARRINGTON	(H)	3.00			
Sunday 12th	STATE EXPRESS CHALLENGE CUP - 1st Rd Bramley	(A)	3.00			
Sunday 19th	FULHAM	(A)	3.00			
Sunday 26th	STATE EXPRESS CHALLENGE CUP - 2nd ROUND					
MARCH						
Sunday 4th	WAKEFIELD T.	(H)	3.00			
Sunday 11th	WIDNES	(A)	3.00			
Sunday 18th	FULHAM	(H)	3.00			
Sunday 25th	LEEDS	(A)	3.00			
APRIL						
Sunday 1st	FEATHERSTONE R.	(H)	3.00			
Friday 20th	ST. HELENS	(A)	3.00			
Monday 23rd	SALFORD	(H)	3.00			
Sunday 29th	SLALOM LAGER PREMIERSHIP - 1st ROUND					
MAY						
Saturday 5th	STATE EXPRESS CHALLENGE CUP FINAL AT WEMBLEY					

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

Date	Opposition	Venue	Kick-off	W	L	POST
Thursday 18th August 1983	Swinton	(A)	7.30	W	32-16	
Wednesday 31st August 1983 (Lancashire Shield)	Leigh	(H)	7.30	POST		
Friday 2nd September 1983	Warrington	(A)	7.30	L	28-14	
Friday 23rd September 1983	Widnes	(A)	7.30	L	38-28	
Friday 14th October 1983	Salford	(A)	7.30	W	12-8	
Thursday 20th October 1983 (Lancashire Shield)	Leigh	(A)	7.30	L	34-12	
Wednesday 26th October 1983 (Lancashire Shield)	Leigh	(H)	7.30	W	28-2	
Wednesday 9th November 1983	Oldham	(H)	7.30	W	32-30	
Wednesday 16th November 1983	Warrington	(H)	7.30	L	8-40	
Wednesday 30th November 1983 (Lane Shield)	Leigh	(H)	7.30	W	28-12	
Saturday 10th December 1983	Barrow	(A)	2.30	W	14-12	
Thursday 15th December 1983 (Friendly)	Wakefield	(H)	7.30	W	30-7	
Wednesday 21st December 1983	Salford	(H)	7.30	POST		
Thursday 5th January 1984	St. Helens	(A)	7.30	W	14-8	
Friday 20th January 1984	Oldham	(A)	7.30			
Wednesday 1st February 1984	Leigh	(H)	7.30			
Saturday 18th February 1984	Barrow	(H)	3.00			
Wednesday 7th March 1984	Widnes	(H)	7.30			
Thursday 22nd March 1984	Leigh	(A)	7.30			
Wednesday 4th April 1984	Swinton	(H)	7.30			
Wednesday 18th April 1984	St. Helens	(H)	7.30			

SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

WEMBLEY TRIP

In response to requests from many of our regular travelling supporters we have decided to run a coach to Wembley, no matter who the finalists are. There is plenty of time left for you to reserve coach seats (the tickets for the coach should cost about £8.50) but if you would like us to obtain match tickets for you then please let us have the full remittance *by Sunday at the latest*. Standing tickets are priced £4; seats are £18, £14, £12 and £9. We will be taking bookings at the Supporters Club shop tonight and Sunday.

OPEN RUGBY

The MARCH edition of Open Rugby is still available at the Supporters Club Shop. Also on sale are a few copies of *World Rugby League*, the Australian edition of Open Rugby, copies of the Australian magazine '*Big League*' are also on sale.

STEVE HAMPSON

On behalf of all the Wigan supporters we would like to offer our congratulations to Steve Hampson on being chosen as the Halbro Shooting Star of the month for February.

SOUVENIRS

We are expecting souvenirs to sell very quickly for the forthcoming semi-final of the Challenge Cup to avoid disappointment, by yours this evening. We have just received a new stock of cherry and white rosettes at 75p, and official club ties at £5.

ALEX MURPHY COLUMN

STOP PRESS!!

I just thought I would pop in an extra word after last Sunday's marvellous win at St. Helens.

Let me first of all congratulate you. The Wigan spectators did exactly what I asked them to do and out numbered, out shouted and out sang the St. Helens supporters. When John Pendlebury scored that decisive try and the Wigan supporters started to sing "Here We Go" there wasn't a dry eye in the house. On behalf of everyone at the Club may I say thank-you.

I must also congratulate the players, to come from behind in a cup tie especially in the second half needs guts and spirit. We don't lack those qualities at Wigan and eventually it saw us through.

Having said that I was disappointed when we let them score their try. We had been hammering their line for fully 15 minutes and then let them run through our tackling and score a try with their first visit to our half.

We must not display a similar lack of concentration against Oldham tonight. Every match must be treated with the same seriousness and if we keep up this effort we will make the top eight.

Yours in sport,

A.J. Murphy.

STATE EXPRESS R.L. CHALLENGE CUP — SEMI-FINALS

YORK -v- WIGAN at Elland Road, Leeds — 24th March
LEEDS/BRADFORD N. -v- WIDNES at Swinton — 31 March

WIGAN

- 1 Colin Whitfield/Steve Hampson**
- 2 Shaun Edwards**
- 3 Dennis Ramsdale**
- 4 David Stephenson**
- 5 Henderson Gill**
- 6 Mark Cannon**
- 7 Gary Stephens**
- 8 Neil Courtney/Graeme West**
- 9 Howie Tamati**
- 10 Brian Case**
- 11 Brian Juliff**
- 12 Ian Potter/Mick Scott**
- 13 Wayne Elvin**
- 14**
- 15 John Pendlebury**

OLDHAM

- 1 Steve Littler**
 - 2 Colin Hawkyard**
 - 3 Mick Parrish**
 - 4 Des Foy**
 - 5 Jim Hornby**
 - 6 Ray Ashton**
 - 7 Paddy Kirwan**
 - 8 Wally Jones**
 - 9 Alan McCurrie**
 - 10 Andy Goodway**
 - 11 Alan Sinclair**
 - 12 Tom Naidole**
 - 13 Terry Flanagan**
 - 14**
 - 15**
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