

TEAM CHECK

OLDHAM

LEEDS

22 G Burke	— KEVIN MEADOWS — 1	— GARY SPENCER
	— RICHARD IRVING — 2	— VINCE FAWCETT
	— DES FOY — 3	— DAVID STEPHENSON
23 Meadows	— CHARLIE McALISTER — 4	— CARL GIBSON
Patterson	— PAUL LORD — 5	— JOHN BASNETT
Ford	— MIKE FORD — 6	— GARRY SCHOFIELD
Casey	— IAN BATES — 7	— RAY ASHTON
Ruane	— IAN SHERRATT — 8	— JOHN FAIRBANK
	— MARTIN HALL — 9	— COLIN MASKILL
	— HUGH WADDELL — 10	— LEE CROOKS
	— PAUL ROUND — 11	— ROY POWELL
	— COLIN HAWKYARD — 12	— PAUL MEDLEY
	— TERRY FLANAGAN — 13	— DAVID HERON
Lord	— STEVE PATTERSON — 14	— MARK WILSON
Clawson	— LEO CASEY — 15	— GARY PRICE

Referee: Mr. K. Allatt (Southport) Touch Judges: Mr. J. Glover (Red Flag), Mr. M. Haigh (Orange Flag)

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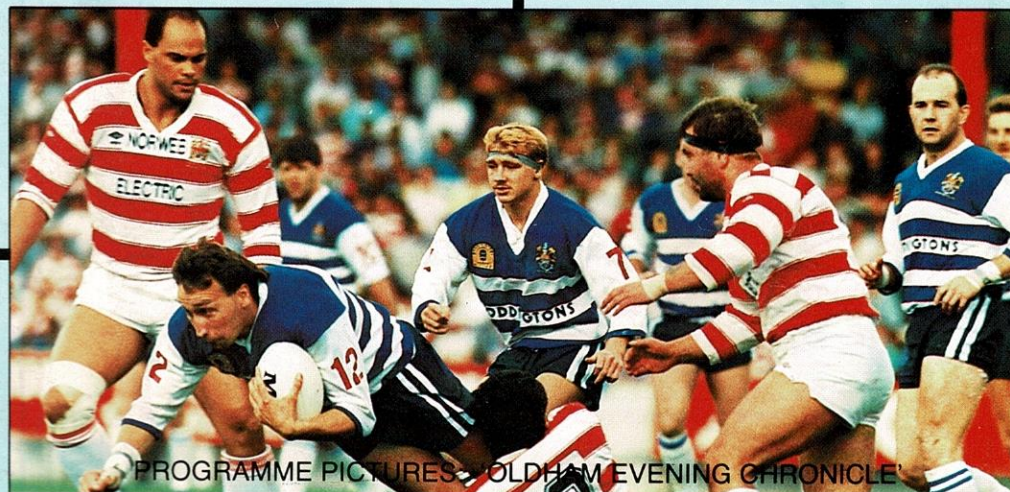
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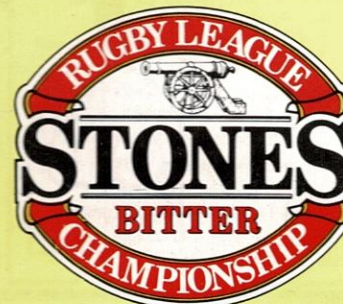
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Official Sin Bin Man: David Whitehead

CLUB RECORDS

Record Victory: 67-6 v Liverpool City, April, 1959

Record Defeat: 11-67 by Hull K.R., September, 1978

Record Attendance: 28,000 v Huddersfield,
24 February, 1912

Record Receipts: £30,388.70 v Wigan,
4th February, 1987

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £65,000 to St. Helens
for Paul Round August 1987
and £65,000 for Mike Ford January 1988

Record Try Scorer: Reg Farrar, 49 tries,
1921-22 season

Record Goal Scorer: Bernard Ganley, 224 goals,
1957-58 season

Record Point Scorer: Bernard Ganley, 28 points
v Liverpool City, April 1959

First Game: 21st October, 1876 v Stalybridge

Highest number of points scored: Bernard Ganley,
2,881

Most Appearances: Joe Ferguson, 685

Most Tries: Pre 1900, Jack Hirst, 233
Since 1900, Alan Davies, 182

CLUB HONOURS

Rugby League Championship Play-off Winners:
1909-10, 1910-11, 1956-57

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09,
1921-22, 1954-55

First Division Champions: 1904-05

Second Division Champions: 1963-64, 1981-82,
1987-88

Rugby League Challenge Cup Winners: 1898-99,
1924-25, 1926-27

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24, 1925-26

Lancashire Cup Winners: 1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14,
1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22,
1954-55, 1966-67, 1968-69, 1986-87

Lancashire Championship Winners: 1907-08,
1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57, 1957-58

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20,
1923-24, 1954-55

Lancashire Shield Winners: 1975-76, 1979-80

Colts Premiership Trophy: 1979-80

Second Division Premiership: 1987-88



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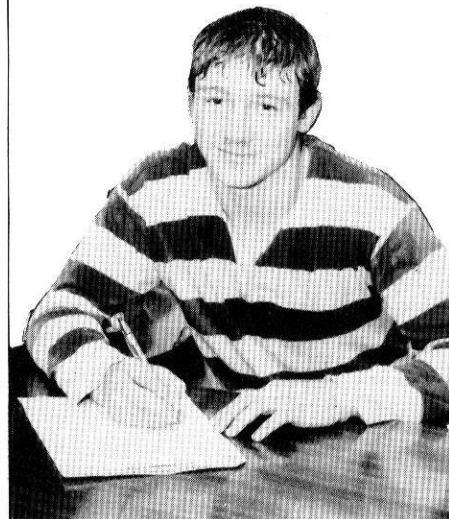
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PLAYERS PROFILE

IAN BATES

PLAYER PROFILE



Full Name: *Ian Mark Bates*
 Nick Name: *Batesy*
 Birthdate: *2.1.68*
 Birthplace: *Dewsbury*
 Marital Status: *Single*
 Occupation: *Engineer*
 Car: *Granada*
 Fav. TV Show: *The Equaliser*
 Fav. Film: *Karate Kid*
 Fav. Music: *Pop*
 Fav. Food/Drink: *Chicken/Tetley Bitter*
 Fav. Reading: *Newspapers*
 Hobbies: *Squash*
 Fav. other sports: *Table Tennis*
 Likes about game: *Excitement, good mates*
 Dislikes: *Bad referees*
 Superstitions: *None*
 Fav. ground: *Elland Road*
 Fav. position: *Scrum-half*
 Best moment: *v Aussie youth, '87*
 Worst moment: *Sustaining broken arm*
 Hardest player to tackle: *None*
 Hardest tackler: *Mick Worrall*
 Fav. all-time player: *Alan Bates (Uncle)*

CAREER WITH OLDHAM

Date signed on: *August, 1987*
 Debut: *v Doncaster (a) on 27.9.87*
 Appearances: *4 (inc. one as non-playing sub.)*
 Tries: *1*
 Goals: *0*
 Drop goals: *0*
 Total points: *4*

AUTOGRAPH:

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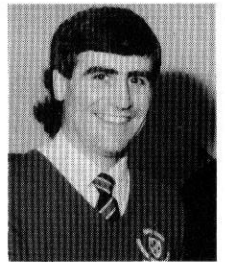


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THE BOSS TALKING

(A personal view by Oldham coach Eric Fitzsimons)

*"FULL MANY A RACE IS LOST
'ERE EVER A STEP IS RUN. . ."*



Sincere thanks to the bookmakers, some sections of the Press and public, and even some of our own faithful. Quoted favourites to go down before the season commenced, we are not in the slightest bit disappointed. We intend to convert the 'faithless'. Indeed, the only talk I hear in the dressing room is positive and enthusiastic. The coaches and players are totally united in their belief that Oldham can write a success story in 1988/89.

The body will follow the mind's strongest thought and the players know what they want this season.

We had the best support of any team last season — your part was magnificent — and I ask you to repeat it again. When we talk about team work you are very much part of it. Don't be a knocker. If you really want the Oldham club to get back where it belongs, put your weight behind the team as you did last year.

Welcome to Ian Taylor. He is a quality coach and he has an important role to play during the season. Congratulations to Mike Ford and Hugh Waddell, who did so well on tour. Mike takes on the club captaincy with a team that will get behind him 100-per-cent. Hugh has ended all the speculation about his future and we are all pleased he is staying with us.

Also arriving with us soon will be Paul Taylor and his wife of one day, Debbie, as well as Chris O'Sullivan and Ashley Gilbert. We wish them all success, friendship and happiness here at Oldham. Welcome back Charlie McAlister from Newcastle Knights. We look forward to seeing his new daughter, Kayla Marie in a month or so when Trish and Luke get over from New Zealand.

Congrats also to Martin Hall and Jackie, who gave birth to Liam during the pre-season. Leo Casey and Helen are the next 'parents-elect' and we have sent off a copy of our training schedules to the fertility clinic. We believe it has a lot to do with it!

We were all encouraged by the form of our 'A' team in the York home game. Several members of the side pressed for a first-team place as a result of their performances. Ian Taylor knows what he wants from his team and that was as good a start by anybody's standards: a 38-2 victory. There were notable performances from several players including Mick Bardsley, Tony Morrison, Steve Patterson, Bob Marsden and Tommy Foley.

My personal tribute to Paul Round and Ian Bates who have shown great, all-round improvement during the hard, pre-season training.

I wish all my players success for the coming season and I thank you, the supporters, for your continued attendance here today.

ERIC FITZSIMONS

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and
Alex Murphy

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LEEDS CHASE THE JACKPOT

BIG-SPENDING Leeds are leaving no stone unturned in their search for the pot of Rugby League gold to restore the glory days at Headingley.

Proof positive came with the headline-hitting, world record breaking signings last year of Hull's multi-talented Great Britain pair Garry Schofield and Lee Crooks, whose combined skills cost Leeds a cool £300,000 or more!

Unfortunately, both could be missing from the Loiners' line-up today due to injury, but that doesn't mean that Leeds will have to field a side minus stars or personalities. They are packed with them.

Great Britain boss Mal Reilly starts the ball rolling in the 'big name' game. He succeeded Maurice Bamford during the summer and will be keen to ensure that Leeds improve on last year's fifth place in the Stones Bitter championship.

From Australia come Test stars Andrew Ettingshausen and big Sam Backo as well as Cliff Lyons, who many believe will walk into a Kangaroo jumper when Peter Sterling and Wally Lewis retire from the Test scene.

Backo is the big, burly Canberra prop; Ettingshausen returns for a second spell from the Cronulla club; Lyons comes from Manly.

Then we have a host of players who are household names on the domestic scene — backs like David Creasser, John Basnett, Carl Gibson, David Stephenson and Ray Ashton and forwards such as Roy Powell, John Fairbank, Colin Maskill, the pacy Paul Medley and David Heron.

In the League last season Leeds had a great home record, but a poor away record. They won only four league games on their travels, losing seven and drawing two.

They will be keen to rectify that deficiency this season, and Oldham will have to expect a tough and competitive game today as the curtain goes up on the 1988-89 Watersheddings season

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WITH THE SUPPORTERS' CLUB

WELCOME to the new season — and what a great season it promises to be now that we are back in the First Division. We would like, first of all, to thank all the supporters for their wonderful efforts last season. They made the Rugby League world sit up on more than one occasion with their terrific home-and-away support in Oldham's cause and the Supporters' Club was proud of everyone.

Let's hope we can continue going forward this season. Membership for 1988-89 is now due and at £1 for adults and juniors it represents great value.

Adult members receive a super Supporters' Club diary, complete with pictures and items about the club, as well as concessions on away-day travel.

The Juniors, with many thanks to the parent body, and on production of membership cards, will gain admission to all first-team games for £1 and FREE admission to the 'A' team, plus reductions on the cost of travel to away games. Please see any member of the Supporters' Club committee for further details.

We are still running the half-time draw for the juniors so anyone wishing to donate £5 for the draw will be helping us along and we will acknowledge the contribution in the programme.

We are anticipating a big demand for away-day coaches and, to help us to organise the coaches, we would appreciate it if fans who wish to travel with us would book as soon as possible in the week on 665 1832 or 627 0235. We need time to estimate the volume of support for each separate game so that we know how many coaches to book, so please don't leave your bookings to the Friday night.

It goes without saying, of course, that we welcome all the Leeds fans to Watersheddings today and invite them to use our souvenir shop.

A big thank-you to all our canteen customers over the years. The refreshment scene has now been taken over on franchise, but we would like to make it clear that we will still be operating the canteen near the pavilion corner for 'A' team matches and looking forward, as always, to your custom.

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NEW LAWS OF THE GAME

Two new laws, one experimental, will be in operation for the 1988-89 campaign. The Summer meeting of the International Board also approved two rules which were on trial in Britain last season.

The new law applies at a scrum. The scrum-half not putting in the ball will retire behind the pack and all other players outside the scrum, other than the feeding scrum-half, will retire at least 5 metres until the ball has emerged. The touch-judges will mark the 5 metres and offenders will concede differential penalties.

The experimental rule for the coming season states that the team not in possession shall only be allowed one player at the play-the-ball, thus banning the current practice of a "second marker."

The British experimental laws tried out last season and now adopted as International Laws are that if, after five successive tackles a player is tackled, knocks on, passes forward or kicks the ball into touch on the full, play shall restart with a handover, and that when play is stopped because of injury to a player, a colleague may play the ball to enable the game to resume.

The following amendments to existing laws were also passed at the Sydney meeting of International delegates:

- It is illegal for the player playing the ball to play it to himself when there is a player marking him.
- The non-offending side always has the loose head and put-in at all scrums. Previously the attacking side had the loose head and the defending side the put-in when the ball was kicked into touch other than at the full or after the fifth tackle.
- In all cases where a defending player in his in-goal takes a kick in general play from an opponent on the full, play shall resume with a tap on the 25 yard line. A player no longer has the choice to run the ball out.
- All head tackles are outlawed in any circumstances.
- It is not now obligatory for the referee to send off a player guilty of foul play who has previously been cautioned or sin-binned. Thus it is left to the referee's discretion whether to sin-bin a player more than once in the same game.

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FIXTURES 1988/89

FIRST TEAM

AUGUST

28 WiganA L 40-18

SEPTEMBER

4 LeedsH
11 Featherstone R (3.30)A
18 County Cup—WorkingtonH
25 Castleford (3.30)A
28 County Cup

OCTOBER

2 Hull K RH
5 County Cup Semis
9 Wakefield T (3.30)A
23 St. HelensH
(or Lancashire Cup Final)

NOVEMBER

6 WarringtonA
13 John Player Special Trophy
20 HalifaxH
27 John Player Special Trophy

DECEMBER

4 Bradford N (3.30)A
(or John Player Special Trophy 3rd Round)
10 John Player Special Trophy semi
11 WarringtonH
17 John Player Special Trophy semi
18 HullA
26 SalfordH

JANUARY

1 LeedsA
7 John Player Special Trophy final
8 WidnesH
15 Hull KRA
22 Bradford NH
29 Challenge Cup 1st round

FEBRUARY

5 WidnesA
12 Challenge Cup 2nd round
19 HullH
26 St. HelensA
(or Challenge Cup 3rd round)

MARCH

5 Featherstone RH
11 Challenge Cup semi
12 HalifaxA
19 Wakefield TH
24 SalfordA
25 Challenge Cup semi
27 WiganH

APRIL

9 CastlefordH
23 Premiership 1st round
29 Challenge Cup final

MAY

7 Premiership semis
14 Premiership final

Kick-off 3 p.m. unless otherwise stated

'A' TEAM

AUGUST

24 York (7.30)H W 38-2

SEPTEMBER

3 Dewsbury (2.30)A
10 Featherstone R (2.30)H
15 Bramley (7.30)A
21 Huddersfield (7.30)H

OCTOBER

1 Lancashire Shield (1st round)
5 Wakefield T (7.30)H
15 Lancashire Shield (2nd round)
21 Huddersfield (7.30)A
26 Runcorn (7.30)H

NOVEMBER

5 York (2.30)A
9 Bramley (7.30)H
12 Runcorn (2.30)A
25 Leigh (7.30)A
30 Bradford (7.30)H

DECEMBER

10 Barrow (2.30)A
17 Workington (2.30)H
31 Doncaster (2.30)H

JANUARY

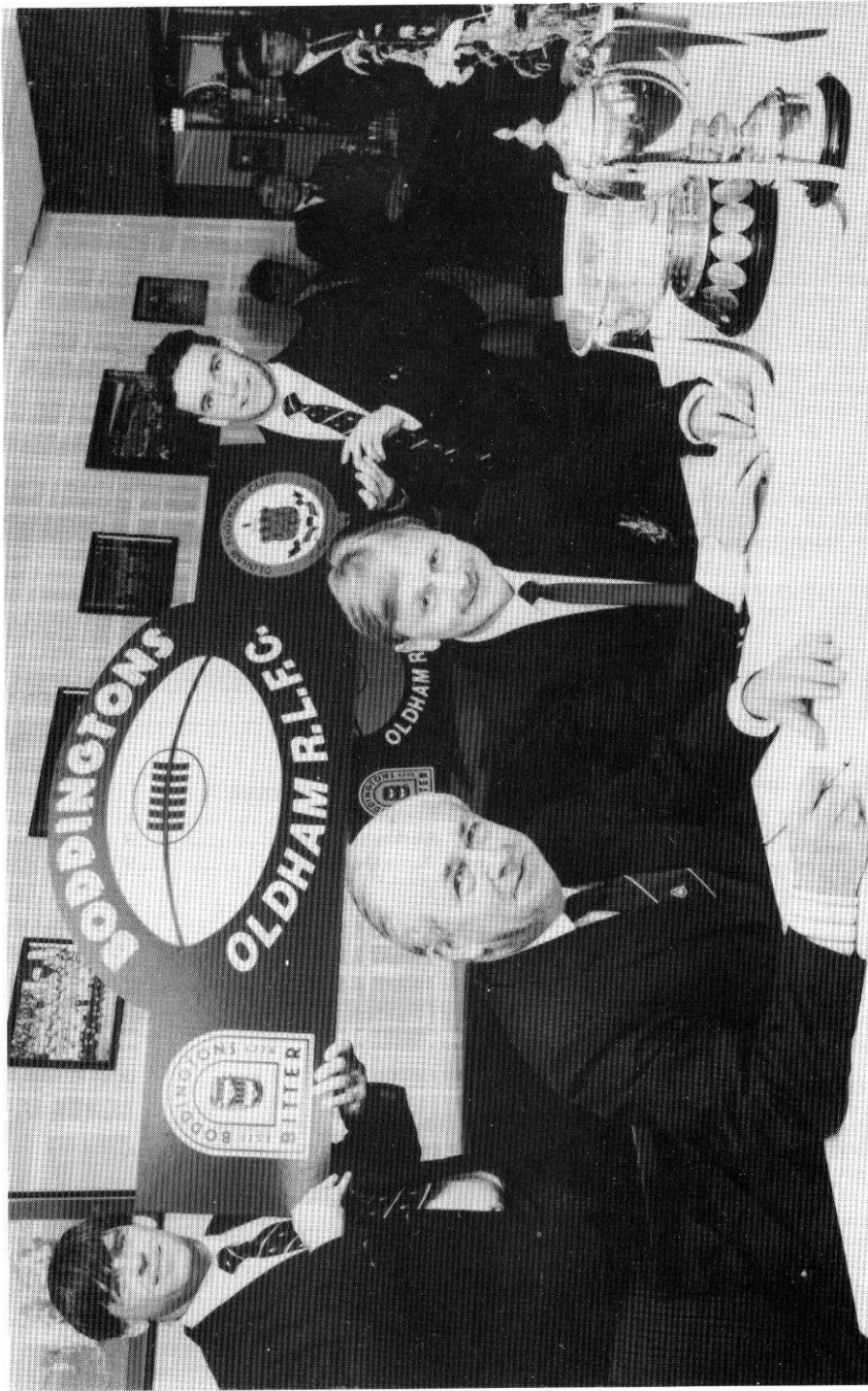
7 Trafford (2.30)A
11 Trafford (7.30)H
20 Bradford (7.30)A
25 Dewsbury (7.30)H

FEBRUARY

4 Challenge Cup (1st round)
11 Doncaster (2.30)A
18 Challenge Cup (2nd round)
22 Leigh (7.30)H

MARCH

4 Featherstone (2.30)A
11 Barrow (2.30)H
18 Wakefield T (7.30)A
25 Workington (2.30)A



Signed, sealed and delivered. Mr. Ewart Boddington, the Boddingtons chairman, pictured with Oldham RLFC director Jim Knox at the sponsorship launch. In the background are Oldham's Great Britain tourists, Hugh Waddell and Mike Ford.

WATERSHEDDINGS SURVEY

WE are delighted to announce a major sponsorship deal worth £80,000 over three years with brewers Boddingtons. Our home jerseys will carry the 'OB Ales' logo and our away strip, plus our strip for TV games, will sport the 'Boddingtons' name.

Paul Wielgus, Boddingtons' marketing controller, said: "A three-year link between the North-West's leading independent brewer and Oldham RLFC will be beneficial to both parties."

We regard the deal as a major step forward for the club and we are delighted to be associated with Boddingtons, who are planning a series of competitions and promotional activities during the season through the company's 150 tied and free trade outlets in the area.

A £90,000 low-interest loan is also involved and part of this will be used to refurbish our social club which we hope will become the focal point of the club and a meeting place for the fans throughout the week.

★ ★ ★

CONGRATULATIONS to Mike Ford, who has been appointed both club captain and team skipper for our return to the First Division — a big responsibility for a 22-year-old but one that Mike accepts with 'pride and honour'. Everyone at Watersheddings is confident he will do well.

★ ★ ★

ARRIVING any time now will be our three new players from Australia — Paul Taylor, whom you will all remember from his last stay here four years ago, Chris O'Sullivan and Ashley Gilbert. Paul is from Parramatta, Chris and Ashley from Canberra. We wish them all a happy stay with us and a successful season in the English RL.

★ ★ ★

THE first-round draw for the Grunhalls Lager Lancashire Cup has paired us at home to Workington Town in the first round on Sunday, September 18 (kick-off 3.00p.m.). The full draw is: **OLDHAM** v Workington; Widnes v St. Helens; Barrow v Wigan; Swinton v Leigh; Carlisle v Chorley; Rochdale v Fulham; Salford v Whitehaven; Runcorn v Warrington.

★ ★ ★

THE 1988-89 Stones Bitter champions will receive Rugby League's richest prize of £25,000 — a 25-per-cent increase. The runners-up will get £10,000. Prize money is also increased in the premiership double-header and total sponsorship for the season is £150,000 with £77,000 of this set aside for ground improvements. First Division gates last season were up by 20-per-cent and Second Division gates rose by 40-per-cent — a statistic which owed much to the magnificent support of Oldham fans.

★ ★ ★

DESPITE last years success, bookmakers Corals offer odds of 4-1 against Widnes retaining the Championship trophy. Wigan are 7-4 favourites. The bookies say Featherstone are firm favourites to go down, joined by any two of Oldham, Salford and Wakefield — we think Eric Fitzsimons and the boys will have something to say about that with their performances and results!

Odds: 7-4, Wigan; 4-1, Widnes; 5-1, St. Helens; 7-1, Leeds; 10-1, Warrington; 12-1, Bradford; 16-1, Castleford, Halifax; 20-1, Hull KR; 25-1, Hull; 50-1, Oldham, Salford, Wakefield; 100-1, Featherstone.

Pro Sport

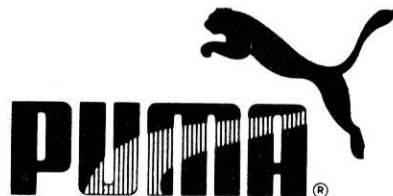
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Season 1988/89

**OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE
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FACE IN THE CROWD

JACK DEARDEN — OUR MAN ON THE TERRACES

A warm welcome to all supporters at the start of the 1988-89 Rugby League season at Watersheddings.

We have a difficult start with Wigan followed quickly by Leeds, but having spoken to the Oldham coach, I'm sure the players will relish the opportunity to return to the 1st Division and compete against the best that Rugby League has to offer.

One or two Oldham players still have to settle contracts with the club and I hope this can be achieved successfully and amicably.

Hugh Waddell, who in Australia proved to be a tower of strength to the Great Britain party, has been taken off the transfer list and that is good news with which to go into the new season.

The club has successfully negotiated a sponsorship deal with Boddingtons and I'm sure it can rely on the excellent support of the Oldham public in this 1st Division season.

If an opportunity arises for any of you to encourage a friend, colleague or workmate along to Watersheddings, they won't be disappointed by the effort and determination of the Oldham team.

I look forward in particular to seeing Charlie McAlister playing in the 1st Division with several other players who will be performing at this level for the first time.

Our Australian signings, Paul Taylor, Ashley Gilbert and Chris O'Sullivan will supplement our squad and I feel we have a good chance of success.

The rule changes will hopefully suit Oldham's pattern of play, and after watching the lads in pre-season training they certainly looked sharp and determined.

If we can get behind them and encourage them, as we did last year, who knows what the season has in store.

Special congrats to Terry Flanagan, who has done the Oldham club proud over the last ten years. Good luck Terry, with your testimonial functions this season. The same goes to all the Oldham players and staff for the 1988/89 season

JACK DEARDEN

NEXT HOME MATCH
Grunhalle Lager Lancs. Cup - Round One
Oldham v Workington Town
3.00 p.m.
Sunday, September 18th



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COMMERCIAL ventures continue to be the life-blood of professional sport, and here at Oldham, we are delighted to look forward to another record-breaking season from fund-raising through off-the-field activities.

Membership of our £2-a-week Lifeline scheme currently stands at 2,200 — a far cry from its 750 when we took over a year ago — and thanks to the renowned generosity of Oldham supporters and the hard work of my staff I expect the figures to maintain their upward trend.

We are soon to offer, in addition to the weekly prize of £1,000, a brand-new car in a special draw for all Lifeline members. The draw will take place when we meet Hull KR at Watersheddings on October 2, and the vehicle will get a public viewing today when it will either be driven around the pitch or on show on the car park, depending on the weather conditions.

Prospective Lifeline members who have still to sign up have until Friday of this week, September 9th, to join the scheme in order to qualify for the October 2nd draw, so if you are considering it, now is the time to take action by ringing the Lifeline Hot-Line on 624 4501.

More major prizes will be on offer in the New Year but, don't forget, £1,000 is up for grabs every week, so Lifeline certainly represents good value for money.

We believe the Gold Card Scheme also represents good value. For £200 for the season — or £150 excluding cup ties — the supporter gets a best seat, programme, car park pass, and facilities before and after the match in the pavilion. Gold Card members use the upstairs bar in the pavilion and have access to full refreshment facilities, including buffet.

Sponsorship is a major feature these days and we have available sponsorship for the match ball, team, man-of-the-match and programme. Anyone who supports these will be entertained in the pavilion bar downstairs.

Also on offer this season is our £1,200 executive sponsorship in which a business or firm takes up to 16 main-stand seats and is provided with four-course Sunday lunch (wine and choice from the menu) in the executive sponsorship bar at the rear of the pavilion on the ground floor.

Post-match buffet is also provided and we will do whatever is practical on the day of the match to advertise the firm concerned around the ground.

If you are interested in any more information about any of these schemes please inquire at the office (624 4865) or the Development Association premises on the car park (620 4870).

In the meantime don't forget the deadline for joining lifeline to qualify for the car draw. . . Friday, September 9th

RAY HILL

LEEDS PEN PICTURES

GARY SPENCER: Strong running and sound tackling full-back who joined Leeds from Wakefield Trinity, along with half-back John Lyons in an exchange deal which took Mark Conway, Phil Fox, Andy Mason and Keith Rayne to Belle Vue last summer. Gary was out last season for a long period due to a shoulder injury but is now fully fit again.

CARL GIBSON: Toured Australia and New Zealand this summer with the Great Britain Team. Joined Leeds from Batley R.L.F.C. in January 1986 and has been a regular member of the back division since. A £50,000 signing, Carl has scored some spectacular tries with Leeds and has won both Yorkshire County and Great Britain honours.

GARRY SCHOFIELD: Former Hunslet junior and Hull F.C. centre who went to Leeds from Hull at a world record fee of £178,250 in October 1987. Great Britain International centre renowned for his deadly finishing and speed off the mark.

DAVID STEPHENSON: David moved to Leeds from Wigan on New Year's Day 1988. He was an ex-Fylde and England rugby union player before joining Salford in 1978. In 1982 Wigan paid £60,000 for him — at that time a club record fee — and he has won Great Britain honours at senior and under 24's levels together with Lancashire County recognition. Sturdily built centre and sound goal-kicker.

JOHN BASNETT: Long striding winger, 6ft. 1in. and 13st. 7lbs., who came to prominence with Widnes R.L.F.C. whom he joined after playing for New Brighton R.U.F.C. John quickly settled into Rugby League and toured Australia in 1984. He was transferred from Widnes to Leeds in August 1987.

JOHN LYONS: (Off-half or Scrum-half). 24, 5ft. 8ins., 11st. 4lbs. A product of Batley Victoria A.R.L.F.C. who after trials with Rovers 'A' was signed by Wakefield Trinity in the summer of 1981. In a difficult year last season with Trinity he was their Player of the Year, top points scorer and their top try scorer with 14. He went to Headingley along with Spencer in the six man exchange deal in May 1987.

RAY ASHTON: (Scrum-half). 24, 5ft. 7ins., 12st. Former Oldham player, an '84 International Tourist to Australia and New Zealand. Lancashire County half back. Was Maurice Bamford's first signing on his return to Leeds R.L.F.C. Good football brain, he had acted as captain in his early days at Headingley.

MARK WILSON: (Scrum-half). 22. Former Wyther and Stanningley Junior who made his first team debut at Craven Park in April 1984. A couple of years ago he was at centre, but a severely torn knee ligament hampered his progress. Has played on the wing and also been one of the trio of players competing for his favourite No. 7 jersey, although including positional changes enforced during a game, he had fulfilled every role in the backs for the club.

COLIN MASKILL: (Hooker). 23, 5ft. 9ins., 12st. Former Under 24 International hooker, now in his fourth season at Headingley after joining them from Wakefield Trinity. Born in Castleford he is the younger brother of late Alan Maskill. Is also a reliable goal kicker.

LEE CROOKS: (Prop). 24, 6ft. 2ins., 15st. When signed in June 1987 for a £172,500 the fee was World record until surpassed four months later by the Schofield deal. Twelve Great Britain caps and over 200 appearances for Hull to his credit. Since joining Leeds he had passed a career total of 1,000 points. 947 of them being for Hull.

KEVIN RAYNE: (Prop). 6ft. 1in., 15st. Great Britain forward formerly with Wakefield Trinity. One of the famous Rayne twins, brother Keith having recently returned to Trinity in the Spencer-Lyons deal Kevin has a devastating burst of speed and is a most experienced forward.

ROY POWELL: (Second-row prop). 22, 6ft. 1in., 14st. A product of St. John Fisher amateur football who played for Great Britain Under 21's versus France in February 1986 and toured with Great Britain last summer.

PAUL MEDLEY: 20, 6ft. 1in., 14st. 7lb. Joined Leeds in 1984 and is now developing into one of the game's most feared running second row forwards. Has already gained a full Great Britain cap to go with Great Britain under 21' and Colts honours. Another G.B. tourist this year.

MARK BROOKE-COWDEN: (Second-row). 24. New Zealander who played League as a junior at off-half or centre. Switched to Union and as a flanker in the pack, he became an "All Black" and a star of the R.U. World Cup games. The holder of a British passport, he signed for Leeds only days after Gurr and Jackson last year.

DAVE HERON: 28, 5ft. 11ins., 14st. Now in his Benefit season after joining Leeds in April 1976. A former Hunslet Junior who has been a fixture in the Leeds pack over the years, he is a running forward who has gained Great Britain honours at all levels including playing against the 1982 Australians in the Test at Wigan.



Charlie McAlister on the break at Wigan, leaving Joe Lydon grounded

MATCH REPORTS

WIGAN 40 — OLDHAM 18

OUR First Division campaign ended with a comprehensive defeat at Wigan last Sunday. Few teams will win at Central Park, of course, and we learned plenty of first-half lessons that stood us in good stead later in the match and will continue to do so over the season.

Special mention should go to substitute forward Leo Casey who was, without doubt, Oldham's top performer on the day.

Wigan went into a 40-0 lead, but Oldham showed plenty of pluck and courage by racing in for 18 points late in the match thanks to tries by Paul Lord, Colin Hawkyard and Richard Irving and three goals by Charlie McAlister

Attendance: 14,701

OLDHAM 'A' 38 — YORK 'A' 2

THE Oldham reserves set about the task of doing well in division 2 of the Alliance with a splendid win over York at Watersheddings in our first Wednesday night match of the season. Wednesday night is 'A' team night for our home games this season and if the boys play as they did in this match the crowds will soon be topping 1,000.

There were notable performances from Mick Bardsley, Tony Morrison, Steve Patterson, Bob Marsden and Keith Atkinson, whose immaculate goal kicking earned him seven goals from as many shots.

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APPEARANCES AND SCORERS 1987/88

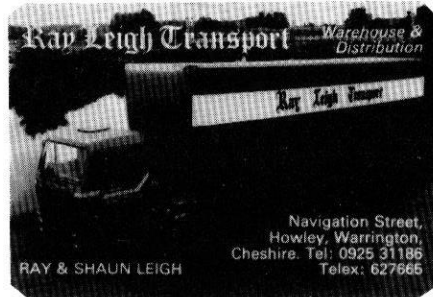
OLDHAM PLAYING RECORD (38 POSSIBLE)

	App	G	DG	T	Pts	Total App
M. Graham	38			16	64	65
K. Meadows	38			16	64	42
H. Waddell	36			7	28	52
C. Hawkyard	32			3	12	176
P. Round	32			16	64	32
T. Flanagan	31		1	6	25	273
P. Walsh	31	62		14	180	31
M. Burke	30	4	1	7	37	43
D. Foy	27			21	84	176
I. Sanderson	27			4	16	85
N. Clawson	26			2	8	52
G. Warnecke	25			7	28	87
M. Ford	19		3	9	39	19
C. McAlister	18	15		9	66	18
B. McCarthy	17			10	40	17
R. Irving	15			2	8	15
K. Atkinson	14	62		6	148	29
I. Sherratt	14			2	8	19
S. Peters	13					13
M. Bardsley	9					10
P. Kirwan	9			2	8	156
P. Lord	9			5	20	11
S. Robinson	8			1	4	8
L. Casey	7			3	12	12
J. Edwards	6	1			2	33
M. Worrall	5	2		2	12	175
A. Morrison	4					15
M. Hall	3			2	8	8
T. Nadiola	3					64
I. Bates	2			1	4	2
T. Copeland	2					2
C. Myler	2					2
R. Marsden	1					5
P. Sherman	1					42

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HOW THEY FINISHED IN 1987/88

DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OLDHAM	28	23	1	4	771	335	47
Featherstone	28	21	2	5	712	353	44
Wakefield	28	20	1	7	666	315	41
Springfield	28	18	0	10	448	356	36
Sheffield	28	16	1	11	490	429	33
York	28	15	1	12	558	526	31
Mansfield	28	15	1	12	439	412	31
Keighley	28	15	0	13	495	428	30
Barrow	28	14	2	12	380	397	30
Workington	28	15	0	13	380	441	30
Carlisle	28	14	1	13	388	444	29
Runcorn	28	14	0	14	420	469	28
Whitehaven	28	10	1	17	417	452	21
Bramley	28	10	1	17	400	600	21
Dewsbury	28	10	0	18	417	519	20
Doncaster	28	9	2	17	406	512	20
Fulham	28	10	0	18	382	559	20
Rochdale	28	10	0	18	322	512	20
Huddersfield	28	7	1	20	383	597	15
Batley	28	6	1	21	305	523	13

TOP TRIES

Martin Offiah (Widnes)	44
Ellery Hanley (Wigan)	36
Garry Schofield (Leeds)	25
Carl Gibson (Leeds)	24
Kevin Pape (Carlisle)	23
Andy Goodway (Wigan)	23
Peter Smith (Featherstone R)	21
Shaun Edwards (Wigan)	21
Des Foy (Oldham)	21
Mark Conway (Wakefield T)	20
Les Quirk (St. Helens)	20
Chris Bibb (Fetherstone R)	20
Mark Elia (St. Helens)	20

TOP GOALS

John Woods (Warrington)	152
Steve Quinn (Featherstone R)	128
Kevin Harcombe (Wakefield T)	116
Paul Loughlin (St. Helens)	114
Gary Pearce (Hull)	111
Mike Smith (Springfield)	98
David Stephenson (Leeds)	95
Mike Fletcher (Hull KR)	94
David Hobbs (Bradford)	83
Ken Jones (Salford)	79

TOP POINTS

John Woods (Warrington)	351
Steve Quinn (Featherstone)	299
Paul Loughlin (St. Helens)	250
Kevin Harcombe (Wakefield)	244
Gary Pearce (Hull)	237

UPS AND DOWNS OF CROWD AVERAGES

	1987/88 Average	Annual Difference		1987/88 Average	Annual Difference
FIRST DIVISION			SECOND DIVISION		
Wigan	13021	(+ 289)	OLDHAM	3790	(- 125)
Leeds	9911	(+ 3518)	Wakefield	2416	(- 221)
St. Helens	8417	(+ 1076)	Featherstone	1879	(- 727)
Halifax	6521	(+ 1630)	Whitehaven	1772	(- 28)
Widnes	6262	(+ 2422)	Barrow	1624	(- 1040)
Hull	5111	(- 427)	Doncaster	1450	(- 93)
Warrington	4974	(+ 820)	York	1406	(- 114)
Bradford	4723	(+ 411)	Rochdale	1106	(+ 229)
Castleford	4520	(- 238)	Keighley	958	(+ 503)
Leigh	4516	(+ 284)	Springfield	922	(+ 447)
Hull KR	4186	(- 465)	Batley	859	(+ 115)
Salford	3747	(+ 921)	Bramley	858	(+ 121)
Swinton	2987	(+ 1365)	Sheffield	847	(+ 139)
Hunslet	2678	(+ 1050)	Carlisle	763	(- 26)
			Workington	737	(+ 84)
			Dewsbury	658	(- 41)
			Fulham	615	(- 69)
			Huddersfield	601	(+ 77)
			Runcorn	515	(+ 184)
			Mansfield	368	-

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