TEAM CHECK

OLDHAM

CHORLEY

DUNCAN PLATT -RICHARD IRVING -

MIKE SMITH **KURT BURNETTE**

DES FOY – JOHN HENDERSON –

BRIAN TORPY STEWART WILLIAMS

PAUL LORD -

BRETT CLARK MIKE FORD

DAVID BACON AARON WHITTAKER **GEOFF BIMSON**

LEO CASEY RICHARD RUSSELL JOHN DUFFY

JOHN FIELDHOUSE KEITH NEWTON - TONY HODSON TOMMY GITTINS

SHAUN ALLEN JOHN COGGER - 13 - DAVID WOOD

CARL BRISCOE - MARK KNIGHT

KEITH ATKINSON - 14 - KEN MARSHALL JOHN FAIRBANK - 15 - BILLY PRICE

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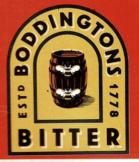
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CLUB RECORDS

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: £37,505.50 v Wigan, 5th October, 1989

I. Sanderson.

Record Transfer Fee Pald: £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

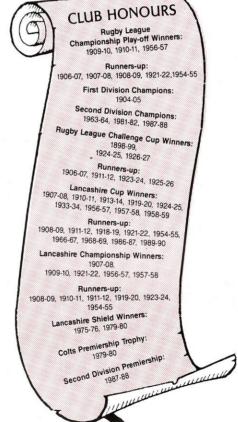
Record Point Scorer: Bernard Ganley, 28 points v Liverpool City, April 1959

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



WE'RE PUTTING OUR SHIRTS ON OLDHAM





CONGRATULATIONS to all the players for their great performance in beating Salford 18-7 at the Willows last Sunday in the second round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

I'm sure thousands of Oldhamers were gathered around their TV screens on Monday evening when the quarter-final draw was made and we were paired with Widnes at Naughton Park next weekend.

The world champions ... and in their own backyard! They don't come much tougher than that. I would be kidding myself if I were to say it was what I wanted. I think you all know what I wanted ... Whitehaven at home.

However, it is no use whingeing about it. We have to take a positive attitude, get on with the job, and prepare ourselves to pull off a shock.

I have every confidence in my boys to do just that. David did a pretty good job on Goliath, if I remember rightly, and Oldham can do a similar job on Widnes.

It is a one-off match with 13 men on the Widnes side and 13 men on the Oldham side. We have to match them in all aspects of the game, but I know we can do that.

Anything can happen in cup-tie

rugby at this stage of the Challenge Cup and I really do fancy our chances. Rochdale gave them a big fright in the second round and I'm sure Oldham can go one better in the third.

The Widnes players are good, but they are not supermen, and that has been proved more than once this season.

You can rest assured that we will all be doing our utmost to knock over the world champions, who will have all the pressure on them.

It will be a big help, of course, if as many fans as possible make the trip to Naughton Park and get behind the team vocally as you have done so splendidly on numerous occasions this season.

The support at Salford was firstclass and the players quickly showed their appreciation when the final hooter sounded.

I am sure you will all turn up in force at Naughton Park to give the boys a helping hand.

See you there!

TONY BARROW

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TODAY'S

Welcome to Chorley

TODAY we welcome to Watersheddings the players, coaching staff and officials of the 'new' Chorley Borough club — the babes of the Rugby League.

Some people seem to be confused about the birth of Chorley and another new club, Trafford, in relation to the old Blackpool Borough club, so we will endeavour to put the record straight. When Blackpool had to leave Borough Park they moved to Springfield Park, Wigan, and the club changed its name to Springfield Borough. After a year in Wigan, the nomads were off again, this time to Victory Park, Chorley, where they adopted the name of that fair town.

Throughout these seasons of doubt and uncertainty, a section of the board, headed by Manchester business man Mike Marsland, wanted to move to Altrincham. Finally, those in favour of a move to Altrincham won the vote and off they went to form what is now the Trafford club operating at Moss Lane. Five directors of the original Blackpool club resigned. They were Sid Secker, George Lunn, Reg Parker, Jack Hart and Keith Bell, the latter two accepting invitations to join the board at Leigh, where they are now vice-chairman and chairman respectively.

Messrs Secker, Lunn and Parker were then invited by the Chorley soccer club to form a brand-new Rugby League club at Victory Park, and this they did with the backing and involvement of numerous business men in and around the Chorley area. Mr. Secker is the chairman, Mr. Lunn the club secretary and Mr. Parker — one of the most respected and long-serving Rugby League Council men — the club's representative on the RL Council.

There is a hard-working board of around a dozen directors and the club has enjoyed a fair degree of success in its first season after laying out around £80,000 on players and bringing over overseas men such as centre Brian Torpy from Cairns, Australia, winger Kurt Burnette from Brisbane Broncos reserves and stand-off Aaron Whittaker from Christchurch, New Zealand.

Aaron won Chorley's man-of-the-match award when Oldham won 44-6 at Victory Park on January 21 and the club is currently negotiating with him to come back again next season. He originally came over in the hope of playing for Hull KR, but when the Rovers overseas allocation was full, Colin Hutton recommended the young Kiwi to Chorley and he has made a big impact on everyone at Victory Park.

Among players signed in domestic transfers have come Ken Marshall and Tommy Gittins from Barrow, Stewart Williams on loan from Barrow, David Wood from Rochdale Hornets, Mark Knight from Warrington and Chris Chisnall on loan from Oldham. Unfortunately, Chisnall played only one game for Chorley — against Oldham — and then disappeared from the scene.

There are long-term plans to form an 'A' team next season — finances permitting — although initially the Chorley reserves may just play friendly matches until they are sufficiently well established to make an application to join the Alliance.

A lot of work is being put in on introducing the game to the Chorley community, the schools, etc., and there are high hopes that the Babes will eventually establish themselves with good roots so that they can become a force in the Rugby League. They proudly point out that they have already won more matches this season than Sheffield Eagles did in their first season ... and look at the Eagles now!

The task of coaching Chorley in this formative season falls to Stan Gittins. Stan is a Rugby League lad through and through and he is working hard, alongside the board, to lay down those vital roots.

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Flashback.

1989/90

Chorley 6, Oldham 44



Earlier this year Oldham were convincing winners against Chorley, with Richard Irving running in a hat-trick of tries — the fourth Oldham player to score at least three tries in a match this season — with Des Foy and John Cogger scoring two apiece and Keith Newton touching down, too. Duncan Platt kicked six goals in front of the 2,851 crowd.

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JOHN HENDERSON, Oldham's quicksilver centre with the deadly turn of speed, has made a tremendous return to form after suffering the third broken jaw of his career earlier in the season.

After a shaky comeback when he struggled to find confidence, John has hit the type of form that saw Oldham pay Leigh £50,000 for his services in 1988.

In his last three games, John has scored seven tries — a hat-trick against Workington and four against Fulham — and reached the memorable landmark of a career century of tries.

This season, much of it missed through injury, the former Saddleworth Rangers amateur is averaging a try a game.

This dramatic return to form is just what the doctor ordered, both for John and Oldham, who are chasing glory on three fronts ... the Second Division Championship and Premiership and the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

Although after the Halifax away game earlier this season, the 26-year-old must have wondered if somebody up there was trying to tell him something.

"I broke my jaw for the third time in that match. As soon as I was tackled, I knew what had happened — after all, I'd broken it twice before," commented John, who had turned professional at the age of 17 after playing for England Schoolboys, Lancashire Under-17s and Under-19s and GB Under-19s.

"Each time I broke the jaw, friends said that taking liquids through a straw for six weeks with wired-up jaws should be enough to put any sane person off rugby for life, but I couldn't give it up. Rugby League must be in my blood!"

John's been playing professionally since 1982, making his debut for Leigh against St. Helens in a dramatic 19-19 draw. In his seven years at the club his most prolific season saw him score 31 tries, finishing fourth in the try chart in the 1985/86 season.



Prior to that season, John had spent 6 months down-under playing for Western Suburbs. "My spell in Australia gave me invaluable experience as well as being a lot of fun. I had plans to go back there the following year but unfortunately I injured my knee in a car accident so I had to change my arrangements."

However, John would still like to return to Australia, although this time as a GB tourist on the 1992 tour. "That's something that everybody works towards although it's dangerous to be too confident. The game is getting harder as players have a much higher fitness level these days. There is a lot of stiff competition, but I am definitely making it one of my goals," comments the likeable centre.

John's immediate priority is this season and promotion. "Both the Oldham team and our fans deserve to get into the First Division. Team spirit at Oldham is the best I've ever experienced and a big part of that is due to the support of our fans. Even when I was out of the game for so long they never knocked me and I was inundated with letters and cards. With them behind us we've got to be winners!"



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Action Replay ...

ACTION FROM OUR RECENT FIXTURES



Diving for glory — Richard Russell touches down after a Leo Casey break to put Oldham on the road to a famous 18-7 victory against First Division Salford in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.



John Henderson in action against Fulham, where his four tries in Oldham's 52-4 victory took his career total past the magic one hundred!

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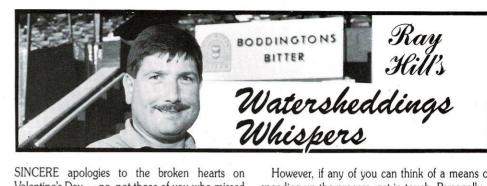
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SINCERE apologies to the broken hearts on Valentine's Day — no, not those of you who missed out on cards and red roses — who were disappointed by the cancellation of our St. Valentine's Day Massacre disco and casino night last Wednesday.

Unfortunately, the Valentine's Day extravaganza clashed with Oldham Athletic's historic Littlewoods Cup semi-final against West Ham. Obviously this was a big day for Oldham sports fans so we decided to postpone our evening until a more suitable occasion.

But before you put your violin cases away for another year, make a note of Wednesday 21st March in your diary. That's when you will get the chance to make your fortune at blackjack and roulette in our very own Sheddings Chicago speakeasy — and dance away till your heart's content — at our rescheduled Valentine's Day Massacre disco and casino night. So keep your tickets safe until then!

For those who haven't yet bought tickets for this spectacular event there are still a few available from the usual outlets at the very reasonable cost of £10. The ticket price includes a delicious buffet, and a fistful of gambling chips which you'll get as soon as you walk through the door.

Don't forget that fancy dress is a must — the best gangster and his moll will walk away with a case of Boddingtons. And although the theme is prohibition there will be plenty of Boddies flowing.

Who knows, by the end of the evening you could be a millionaire, on paper anyway.

Talking about paper, I recently received a letter from a fan who mentioned that our floodlights were missing quite a few bulbs. In an ideal world we would like to replace the bulbs once they stop working but they are extremely expensive. Each bulb costs £100 and at the moment we are replacing two a month.

However, if any of you can think of a means of speeding up the process, get in touch. Personally, I am in the dark over this so if you have any bright ideas and could throw a little light on the subject I would be very interested!

Oldham Rugby's Lifeline draw is as popular as ever, although some winners could be missing out if they haven't changed their banker's order yet. As you are aware, Lifeline changed banks from the NatWest to the Co-op last year, so it is in your interests to make sure that you transfer your banker's order. If you don't, you could miss out on our next special draw which is a dream holiday for two to the exotic Caribbean. That draw takes place in June, so make sure you don't miss out. Forms are available in the Souvenir Shop for transferring banker's orders.

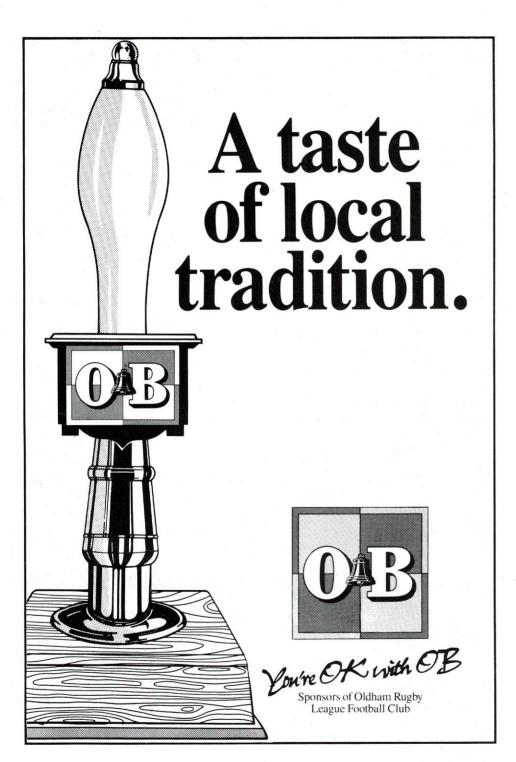
Also available in the Souvenir Shop are our brand new designer ski jackets in red and navy with a white stripe, extremely reasonably priced at less than £30. These jackets are both highly fashionable and extremely warm — so they're absolutely ideal whatever kind of piste you're on.

They're also great for cold afternoons on the terraces — although you don't need one if you book a trip abroad to watch international Rugby League with the club. There's the trip to Avignon to see the France-Great Britain match in March, and downunder for a fortnight for three internationals against Papua New Guinea and the first New Zealand Test.

The costs for these trips are £249 and 2,499 respectively, which you'll agree are both great value. For more details contact me on 061-620 4870.

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CORNER

OB PLAYER OF THE YEAR

OLDHAM have been in impressive form this season with promotion to the First Division almost guaranteed. The club has already been in one major cup final and there's the possibility of another following last week's Silk Cut Challenge Cup victory over Salford.

Success like this has definitely got the Watersheddings terraces buzzing and you'll get your chance to show your appreciation in the next League home game against Huddersfield (March 4).

That's when you can start voting for the Boddingtons-sponsored OB Player of the Year.

Who collects this prestigious award depends entirely upon your votes.

Last year it was Aussie stand-off Chris O'Sullivan. He collected a magnificent trophy, a £250° cheque and a case of Boddingtons Bitter to celebrate.

You'll get two opportunities to vote as coupons will be appearing in the Huddersfield and Runcorn home games. After that, you can pick up voting forms from the Souvenir Shop.

The same coupon also gives you the chance to nominate the winners of two more important Boddingtons Bitter awards.

First, you can vote for the Young Player of the Year. This is a completely new award, giving fans the opportunity to acknowledge the youngsters at Oldham. The winner, who must be under 21, will be presented with a special trophy plus a cheque for £150 before the final match of the season at home against Rochdale.

And it's not just the players who win the awards. A major award will be presented to the Oldham Supporter of the Year, the fan

who, in the opinion of our team of judges, has given the most loyal support on the Watersheddings terraces.

This year's winner will receive an attractive award, a replica kit and a pair of season tickets. You can propose your Supporter of the Year on the Player of the Year voting coupons.

RENEE'S NOT THE RETIRING TYPE

OUTGOING OB landlady Renee Pearson could have retired 12 years ago, but at 72 she's still happy pulling pints at the Carters Arms, Royton.

Renee recently celebrated 35 years at the OB local when the Boddington Pub Company presented her with a gold watch and bracelet, a string of pearls and a basket of flowers.

The Carters Arms has been home for popular Renee since 1955 when she moved into the pub on Oldham Road with late husband Cyril. And when Cyril died, Renee and her son, David, 46, took over running the pub as a family team.

Although she passed the license to her son three years ago, Renee is behind the bar every night to greet her regulars.

"It would break my heart to leave this pub because all my memories are here. I'm surrounded by family and friends and we've built a lovely little community here, so I won't be leaving in a hurry!" says the popular landlady, who is seen here with Mike Clayton, Boddington Pubs Operations Director.



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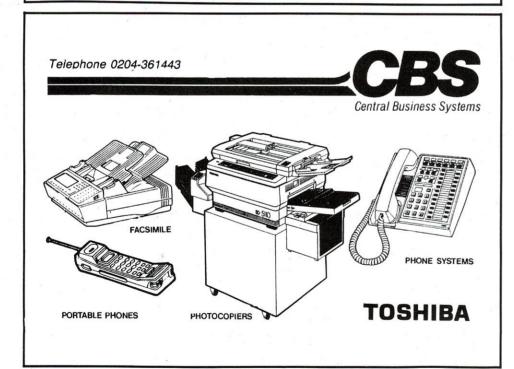
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Sep	3	E	3.00		3			Platt (4)	3.743
	10 Halifax	A	3.00	11	ப	12-22	Platt, Cogger	Platt (2)	8.612
	16 Barrow (Lancs Cup)	A	2.30		3	46-2	Lord (2), Ford, Casey, Platt (2), Allen, Hyde, Cogger	Platt (5)	2,300
	27 St. Helens (Lancs Cup)	A	7.30		3	36-6	Robinson, Ford, Platt, Cogger, Allen, Newton	Platt (6)	7,834
0ct	1 Hull KR	Ξ	3.00	12	3	12-4	Lord	Platt (4)	5,797
	5 Wigan (Lancs Cup)	Ξ	7.30		3	19-18	Fieldhouse, Newton, Ford	Platt, Hyde (2), Ford (dg)	8,603
	8 Runcorn H	Α	3.00	6	3	34-6	Russell, Clarke (2), Meadows (2), Clawson, Irving	Hyde (2)	2,500
	14 Warrington (Lancs Cup final)	1	3.00		ר	16-24	Irving, Robinson, Lord	Platt (1), Hyde (1)	9,895
	18 Halifax	Н	7.30		3	14-3	Lord, Fairbank	Hyde (3)	6,953
	22 Carlisle	Α	3.00	5	3	10-32	Fieldhouse (2), Hyde, Fairbank, Cogger, Meadows	Hyde (2), McAlister (2)	1,200
	29 Batley	Ξ	3.00	3	3	22-4	Ruane, Martyn, Meadows, Irving	Martyn (3)	4,120
Nov	5 Doncaster	A	3.00	2	3	22-20	Casey, Lord, Hyde, Fairbank	Hyde (3)	3,813
	12 Keighley	Ξ	3.00	2	≥	50-34			4,113
	19 Fulham	Α	2.30	2	M	40 - 10	McAlister, Ruane (2), Clark, Cogger, Allen, Ford	McAlister (6)	1,440
	26 Doncaster	Η	3.00	2	×	30-8	Lord, Meadows, Ruane, Robinson, Clark	McAlister (5)	4,914
Dec	3 Bramley (Regal Trophy)	Α	3.50		3	48-16	Robinson, Cogger (2), Lord, McAlister, Clawson, Clark, Croston	Platt (8)	1,632
	10 Huddersfield (Regal Trophy)	н	3.00		3	22-8	Cogger (2), Croston	Platt (5)	5,205
	17 St Helens (Regal Trophy)	Α	3.00		J	18-32	18-32 Fairbank, Cogger (2), Lord	McAlister	7,752
	26 Rochdale H	Α	3.00	4	7	24 - 12	24-12 McAlister, Lord	McAlister	8,150
Jan	1 Swinton	Η	3.00	3	Μ	29-14	29-14 Ford, Lord (2), Cogger, Russell	Platt (4), Ford (dg)	4,954
	7 Hunslet	H	3.00	3	M	48-10	Foy (5), Cogger (3), Fairbank	Platt (6)	3,644
	14 Huddersfield (SCCC)	н	3.00		M	30-8	Clark, Allen, Newton, Cogger, Fairbank	Platt (5)	4,593
	17 Hull KR	A	7.30	3	W	9-6	Irving	Platt (2), Platt (dg)	6,530
	21 Chorley		3.00	3	M	44-6	Irving (3), Foy (2), Cogger (2), Newton	Platt (6)	2,851
	28 Workington (SCCC Rnd 1)	×	3.00		W	30-8	Platt, Henderson (3), Clark	Platt, Atkinson (4)	3,710
Feb	4 Fulham	H	3.00	3	Μ	52-4	Henderson (4), Foy, Casey, Newton (2), Platt, Lord	Platt (5)	3,549
	11 Salford (SCCC Rnd 2)	Α	3.00		×	18-7	Russell, Clark	Platt (5)	6,542
	18 Chorley	Ξ	3.00						
	25 Widnes (SCCC Rnd 3)	A	3.00						
Mar	4 Huddersfield	Ξ	3.00	Z,					
	11 Batley	A	2.30						
	18 Runcorn	H	3.00	-					
	25 Huddersfield	А	3.00						
Apr	1 Hunslet	Α	3.30	= 8					
	8 Carlisle	н	3.00						
	13 Swinton	Α	3.00				34		
	16 Rochdale	Ξ	3.00						

18

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Appearances and Scorers

1989/90 SEASON

	P	Sub	G	D	T	Pts
Shaun Allen	22	1	0	0	4	16
Keith Atkinson	4	8	4	Ŏ	Ó	8
Mick Bardsley	2	Ö	Ô	Ŏ	Õ	ŏ
Ian Bates	1	Ŏ	Ŏ	Ŏ	Õ	Õ
Leo Casey	18	Ö	Ö	Ŏ	3	1ž
Brett Clark	23	ĭ	Ŏ	ŏ	9	36
Neil Clawson	4	î	Ŏ	Õ	2	8
John Cogger	25	Õ	Ŏ	ŏ	20	80
Trevor Croston	4	4	ŏ	ŏ	2	8
John Fairbank	13	10	ŏ	ŏ	6	24
John Fieldhouse	24	Õ	ŏ	Ŏ	3	12
Neil Flanagan	0	ĭ	ŏ	ŏ	Õ	-0
Mick Ford	26	Ô	Ŏ	ž	6	26
Des Foy	-9	Ŏ	Õ	õ	8	32
John Henderson	9	2	ŏ	ŏ	9	36
Gary Hyde	14	2	21	ŏ	4	58
Richard Irving	19	1	Ô	ŏ	8	32
Paul Lord	25	Õ	Õ	Ŏ	15	60
Charlie McAlister	13	5	16	ŏ	5	52
Tommy Martyn	1	1	-3	ŏ	1	10
Kevin Meadows	6	5	ŏ	ŏ	6	20
Keith Newton	19	Ö	Ŏ	ŏ	6	24
Duncan Platt	17	Õ	70	1	6	165
Steve Robinson	12	4	Ő	Ô	4	16
Paul Round	1	Ô	Ŏ	Ŏ	Ô	0
Andy Ruane	16	Ŏ	ŏ	Ŏ	6	24
Richard Russell	22	4	ŏ	Ö	5	20

Up to and including Fulham match

Division Two League Table

Hull KR Rochdale OLDHAM Rydale York Swinton Halifax Dewsbury Doncaster Huddersfield Batley Trafford Fulham Bramley Hunslet Whitehaven Chorley Keighley Carlisle	P 17 18 17 19 19 17 18 19 18 20 19 18 19 21 19 18 18 18	W 7897787556754454331	D 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	L 1101212344446756657	F 290 375 297 204 253 186 194 145 1219 147 139 196 172 153 176	A 43 127 89 76 128 99 111 125 116 130 179 173 241 219 187 251 165 218	W 87 67 7 44 55 65 44 44 32 22 13	0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	L 1223344435445776797	F 358 254 205 207 211 197 156 194 188 159 131 128 125 88 141	A 688 153 104 159 161 134 190 137 126 144 146 185 187 173 196 202 207 303	Pts 30 30 29 28 24 22 22 22 21 19 16 14 11 10 8
Carlisle Workington Nottingham Runcorn		3 1 1 0	0 0 0				1 3 1 0	0 0 0	9 7 9 10			

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'A' Team Round-Up

Slalom	Lager			Alliance	•	League	
	FIRST		NOISINI	NO			
	Ь	3	Ω	1	ц	ď	Pts
Hull	18	13	П	4	411	327	27
Castleford	18	13	0	2	504	320	26
Leeds	17	12	Ţ	4	446	227	25
Wigan	18	12	0	9	473	297	24
Hull KR	17	12	0	2	356	214	24
Warrington	18	11	0	7	427	378	22
St Helens	15	10	0	2	366	302	20
Halifax	18	10	0	∞	358	353	20
OLDHAM	19	7	1	11	340	347	15
Swinton	17	7	0	10	257	364	14
Featherstone	17	9	0	11	357	392	12
Widnes	18	9	0	12	262	524	12
Salford	18	4	I	13	394	405	6
Carlisle	16	3	0	13	276	520	9
Hunslet	18	3	0	15	211	468	9

Flage	
leam	1
*	

|--|

Date	•	Opponents	Venue	Res	Н
Sen		St. Helens	V		2
)	0	9	Ξ	3	24-
	15	Castleford	Η	J	16 =
	29	Hull KR	A	П	14-
Oct	9	Salford A (LCCS)	A	П	0
	12	Halifax	A	П	10 -
	27	Hull	V	ப	9
Nov	3	Widnes	Ξ	L	10 -
	10	Wigan	Η	П	16-
	17	Hull	Η	О	16-
	24	Leeds	А	J	16-
Dec	Н	Warrington	Ξ	3	36-
	∞	St. Helens	Ξ	3	20-
	22	Featherstone	Η	\geqslant	28
	29	Swinton	A	_	20-
Jan	2	Hunslet	A	\geq	32-
	12	Hull KR	Ξ	J	9
	19	Warrington	A	L	
	26	Salford A	工	\geq	-92
Feb	3	Salford (SACC Rnd 1)	A	П	12-
	6	Castleford	A	\geq	
	17	SACC Rnd 2			
	23	Wigan	Ξ		
Mar	7	Featherstone	A		
	16	Leeds	Ι		
	23	Salford A	A		
	30	Hunslet	Ξ		
Apr	7	Carlisle	V		
	13	Swinton	Ξ		
	20	Widnes	A		

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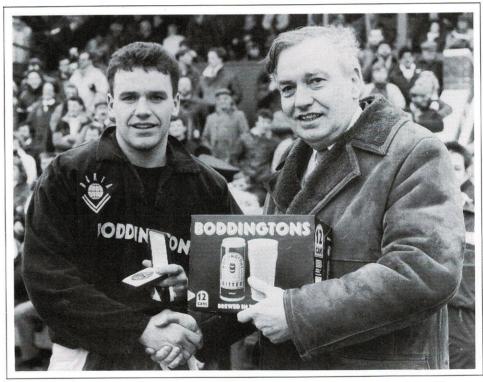
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Man-of-the-Month MIKE FORD RETAINS BODDINGTONS AWARD

Oldham scrum-half Mike Ford, who has been in outstanding form this season, won the OB Evening Chronicle Player of the Month award for the second consecutive month in January. Award judge and Evening Chronicle Rugby League writer Roger Halstead said: "Mike Ford is running into an exceptional spell of form. He is consistently constructive and was simply outstanding in the crucial Second Division win against fellow promotion contenders Hull KR when he totally outplayed their dangerman, David Bishop."



Mike is seen here being presented with an inscribed medal and case of Boddingtons Bitter by Boddingtons representative Ken Reagan.

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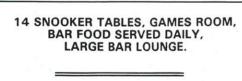
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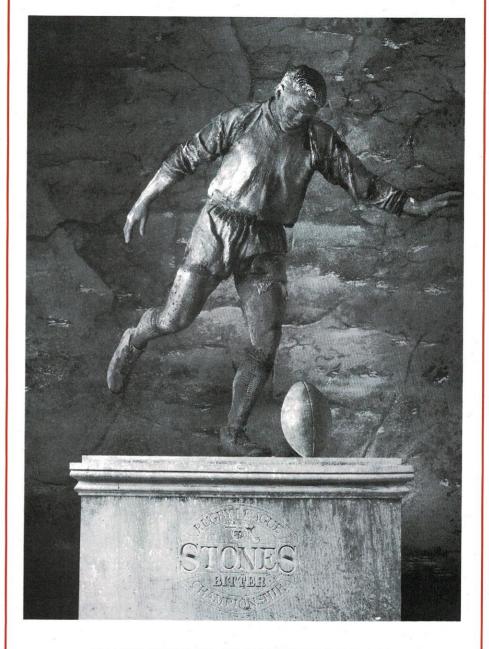




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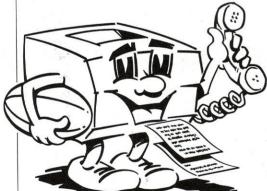
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