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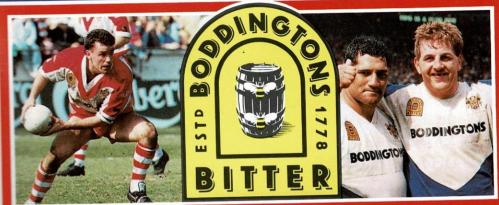
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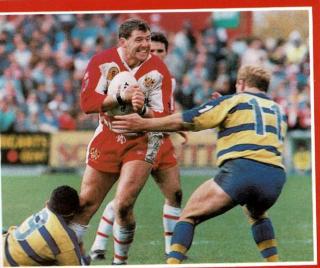
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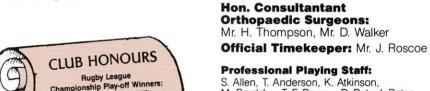
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Record Try Scorer: Reg Farrar, 49 tries,

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

Most Appearances: Joe Ferguson, 685

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



### ON THE BARROW BEAT

by Oldham coach TONY BARROW



A LOT of my old friends come to Watersheddings with Warrington today — and a big welcome, too — but it doesn't alter the fact that we have a couple of old scores to settle with the men from Wilderspool.

While we were in the Second Division last season we had a couple of cracking cupties with the Wires — first in the Lancashire Cup final and then in the semi-final of the Challenge Cup.

They won them both ... so we now feel it is our turn to savour the satisfaction of victory.

We were desperately disappointed after both our defeats by the Wires last season, of course, and particularly after the Challenge Cup semi-final when Paul Lord's last-minute try was disallowed for off-side as he chased Mike Ford's kick.

Today's game gives us the chance to avenge those cup defeats and it is an important match for us, not only because the game is going out on Granada television across the North-West, but because home points are vital and we slipped up when losing to Hull KR in our last encounter at Watersheddings.

That defeat, of course, ended our run of 23 consecutive home victories, so there is not much wrong with our home form although it is important that we quickly get the Hull KR experience out of our system.

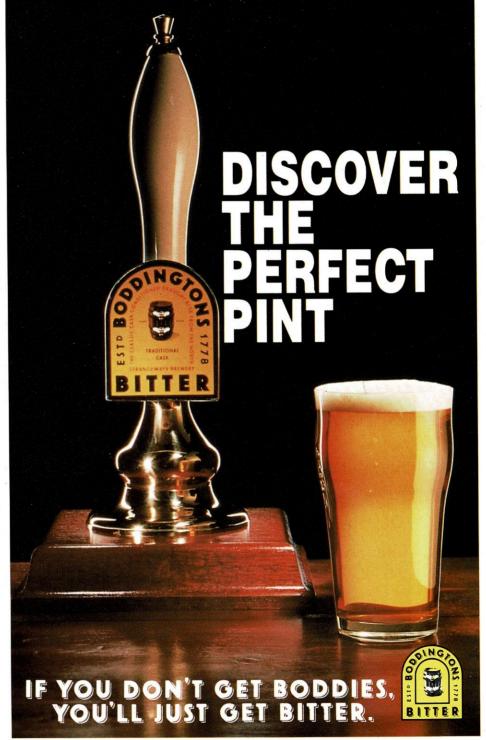
I welcome a lot of old friends from Wilderspool. I can't mention them all, but a special word for coach Brian Johnson, who succeeded me at Warrington, and standoff Chris O'Sullivan, who did a great job for us here at Watersheddings two seasons ago.

Since I left Warrington, a lot of changes have taken place, particularly in the capture of the three Welsh boys, Kevin Ellis, Allan Bateman and Rowland Phillips.

I am glad to see that Brian has had some money to spend. He is a nice bloke and he deserves some success but not, I hope, in today's game.

Finally, don't forget that we have another interesting game here tomorrow afternoon when the "A" team plays Wigan "A" in the second round of the Lancashire Shield.

Our reserves have done well this season to make a challenge for the leadership of the Slalom Lager Alliance first division — despite their poor form at Leigh last week — and they will be hoping to get as much vocal backing as possible in our Sunday afternoon "A" team experiment.





# SKIPPER'S SPOT

by Oldham Captain **Mike Ford**  TODAY'S televised game gives us the chance to gain revenge for two cup defeats last season and to carry on the good work from last Sunday when we beat Sheffield away.

It promises to be a tough game but, after the hiccup against Hull KR, we need to quickly get back into the habit of winning at home.

I am confident we can do well against the Wires, especially as Paul Round has been outstanding in the second row. There is not a better second row in the country on current form and I am convinced that Paul should be in the Test squad. He isn't because the GB selectors, unlike the Aussies, don't pick the players that are in form, which they need to do if they are going to beat the Kangaroos.

Paul was one half of Oldham's awesome second row partnership with Charlie McAlister until Charlie broke his cheek bone in four places against Hull KR. All the team wishes Charlie a speedy recovery and a quick return to action.

Another player who I think will be heading for international honours soon is Tommy Martyn, who has the skills and youth necessary to succeed at the highest levels.

It is always comforting to know that when I lead out the team, players of the quality of Paul and Tommy are following me, so make sure you give them and the rest of the players the support they deserve as we look to get back to winning ways.

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# FOCUS

Oldham Evening Chronicle Rugby League writer, Roger Halstead, looks at today's visitors WARRINGTON have hit the headlines this season with their major plundering of the Rugby Union market in Wales. It appears that they had lined up a massive £400,000 offer for England RU captain Will Carling and then spent the money in South Wales when Carling declined.

Kevin Ellis, a scrum-half from Bridgend, Allan Bateman, a centre from Neath, and Rowland Phillips, a forward from Neath, have all settled in well at Wilderspool and those Oldham fans who watched Granada's presentation of the Warrington-Hull match last Saturday saw all three in action.

Ellis had a splendid game at outside-half and Bateman and Phillips, a substitute, both did well until injury forced them to leave the field. Many judges are already tipping a big future in League for Bateman, but coach Brian Johnson must have cursed his luck last Saturday when injuries struck again.

Warrington, like Oldham, have been bedevilled by cruel luck on the injury front and a whole string of players were missing last weekend, including the former Oldham stand-off and captain Chris O'Sullivan. It remains to be seen whether 'Sully' will be fit to play today, but the Canberra Raiders man was an extremely popular player at Watersheddings two seasons ago and he can be guaranteed a warm welcome by Oldham fans if he is able to take the field.

Long-term injury victims include loose-forward Mike Gregory, who captained Great Britain to Test success against New Zealand last summer, local boy Mark Roberts and stand-off Rocky Turner.

Another Oldham-area youngster, Steve Molloy, recently left Wilderspool to sign for Leeds in a deal worth £120,000 — but watch out for the impact of a new boy ... Aussie-born Don Duffy, a former Carlisle forward, who seems to have appeared from nowhere to make a big impression on the Wires!



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#### Warrington

TODAY'S

David Lyon: Full back who joined Warrington from Widnes in 1987 and won Great Britain under-21 honours. Called up as a replacement for the summer tour of New Zealand.

Des Drummond: International winger who made his name with Leigh prior to joining the Wires in 1987. A strong, fast player who is still a lethal finisher.

Gary Mercer: New Zealand centre who joined Warrington after the Kiwis' last tour of the UK and has been an ever-present since, although he missed out on international duty during the summer due to illness.

Tony Thorniley: Local boy who missed a certain Wembley place last season because of injury. A strong and aggressive runner, he is now back to full fitness.

Chris Rudd: Talented centre/stand-off playing on the left wing since the injury to Mark Forster. Chris signed from Kells ARLC last season.

Robert Turner: Last season's Halbro Shooting Star of the Season, Robert is an excellent goal kicker and tackler who missed out on a Wembley appearance through injury. A former under-21 international, he joined the Wires from Blackbrook in 1986.

Martin Crompton: Scrum-half who joined the club from Wigan St. Patricks in 1987. Since then has overcome a severe leg injury.

Paul Bishop: Warrington's play-maker and son of Great Britain international Tommy Bishop who originally played for Warrington before going Down Under to play for Cronulla. Rejoined Warrington last season on a three-year contract.

Tony Burke: He joined Warrington for £50,000 from St. Helens last season and has been an ever-present since in the pack. He holds the distinction for playing more first team rugby during the 1980s than any other player.

Duane Mann: Current Kiwi international hooker who joined Warrington along with Gary Mercer. A good player in the loose and one of the world's top hookers, the Wires are looking for Duane to add stability to their pack.

Neil Harmon: Signed from Blackbrook in 1987, he has progressed through the Alliance side to command a regular berth at No. 10. Strong and powerful, he has already won international honours at under-21 level.

Bob Jackson: Signed from Fulham, he is enjoying his second spell with the club after retiring for a year. He suffered with a back injury last season sustained in the Lancashire Cup defeat of Oldham.

Gary Sanderson: He joined Warrington from Thatto Heath in 1985 and has a century of first team performances behind him. Reward for his efforts was winning last year's player of the season.

Bill McGinty: Signed from Widnes Tigers in 1982, he has made the No. 13 shirt his own this season as Wires skipper Mike Gregory has been sidelined with injury although he is equally at home in the second row.

Paul Darbyshire: A strong-tackling centre who played against Wigan in the semi-finals of the Lancashire Cup as a 17-year-old. Went one better last season and played against them at Wemblev.

Allan Bateman: A former Welsh Rugby Union centre, he signed from Neath RUFC. Immensely strong and fast, he is quickly settling down to the 13-a-side

Kevin Ellis: Signed during the summer from Bridgend RUFC, he has just broken into the first team after serving his Alliance apprenticeship.

Rowland Phillips: Another Rugby Union convert, this big and powerful forward has made one appearance in the professional game.

Don Duffy: Australian by birth, he has lived in the UK for the last eight years. Originally played for Fulham and Carlisle before joining Warrington at the beginning of this season after a couple of years out of the game.

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John Fairbank . . .

This week's PLAYER ONE of the stars of last Sunday's win at Sheffield was bustling forward John Fairbank, who capped a fine performance by creating one try and scoring

This is a fine return to form for a young player who missed the start of the season through suspension and who is now looking to win a regular place in the Oldham first team.

John, at 23, is the youngest of four professional Rugby League playing brothers — Karl, Richard and Mark play for Bradford, Halifax and Keighley respectively - who turned professional in 1987 when he signed for Leeds after winning BARLA and county honours.

He signed on Tuesday and made his debut for Leeds the following Sunday and was a first team regular for the rest of the season. He joined Oldham in a player exchange plus cash which took Hugh Waddell across the Pennines to the Yorkshire club.

Since then, his strong and aggressive running and tackling has made him a big hit with the fans. And the feelings are mutual.

John, who works on his father's farm, starting every day at the tender hour of 5.30 a.m., says: "Oldham is a good club with a great atmosphere. The fans have always been supportive and they enjoy good rughy."

He's equally proud of his brothers and there is no sibling rivalry. Comments John: "There is no competition as all of us like to see each other do well plus I know there is always a game to watch on Sunday!"

Right now, John is too busy on Sundays himself to see his brothers in action and is looking forward to enjoying a double celebration, confirming a regular place in the Oldham first team and his forthcoming marriage to girlfriend Gill



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#### WATERSHEDDINGS WHISPERS

General Manager Ray Hill reports on the Watersheddings scene WE are looking forward to a busy couple of months at Water-sheddings, with the Boddingtons Bitter-sponsored Miss Oldham beauty contest (see page 13) and our sportsmen's dinner being two essential dates for your diary.

Oldham RLFC's Sportsmen's Dinner takes place on Wednesday 5th December at the Sheddings night club. We've lined up a fabulous night's entertainment. The speaker is Barry Roberts, a TV scriptwriter who has written for Dave Allen, the Two Ronnies and Spitting Image. Joining Barry is comedian Gary Skyner, who was Merseyside's Comedian of the Year last year. Keeping control of the proceedings is our very own Ray Hicks.

It promises to be a great evening. Tickets cost £15, which includes a superb four-course meal, and can be obtained from our ticket office.

You can also book entire tables for the dinner, which is ideal for Corporate Hospitality. Check with me on 061-620 4870 for further details.

Finally, definitive proof that Oldham Rugby is important to a lot of people in the area arrived on my desk this week when a Mr. Peter Boase wrote to me thanking the club for allowing his late father's ashes to be scattered on the ground.

His father was an ardent supporter who sadly died on September 26th. We were only too pleased to be able to help and would like to offer our commiserations to his family.

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programmes respectively. Nothing could be easier. Remember, all you have to do is to make sure you collect the six vouchers that will be appearing on this page in the next six programmes and a trip to Paris could be yours!

QUESTION 3: What is Oldham's nickname?

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Closing date for entries is November 14th, 1990.

Flashback: Angela Knox celebrates her victory after being crowned the Boddingtons Bitter Miss Oldham Rugby last year.

#### **BRETT'S SEPTEMBER MAN!**

SEEN here collecting a £100 cheque and inscribed medal for winning the Boddingtons Bitter Player of the Month award is Aussie stand-off Brett Clark. Making the presentation is Boddingtons Bitter representative Ken Regan (left).

Award judge and Oldham Evening Chronicle Rugby League writer Roger Halstead commented: "Brett won the Boddingtons Bitter award, narrowly beating Paul Round on the strength of his impressive displays in the home wins against Leeds and Castleford."



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#### **TEAM CHECK**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 1990

Team Changes



Team Changes

OLDHAM
TOMMY MARTYN

- 2 NORMAN FRANCIS
- 3 RICHARD IRVING
- 4 RONNIE DUANE
- 5 PAUL LORD
- 6 BRETT CLARK
- 7 MIKE FORD
- 8 AUSTIN DONEGAN
- 9 RICHARD RUSSELL
- 10 IOHN FAIRBANK
- II PAUL ROUND
- 12 TONY BARROW
- 13 JOHN COGGER
- 14 GARY HYDE

PENALTIES

1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10

11 12 13 14 15

16 17 18 19 20

15 KEITH NEWTON

#### WARRINGTON

- 1 DAVID LYON
- 2 DES DRUMMOND
- 3 GARY MERCER
- 4 ALLAN BATEMAN
- 5 CHRIS RUDD
- 6 KEVIN ELLIS
- 7 PAUL BISHOP
- 8 TONY BURKE
- 9 GEORGE MANN
- 10 NEIL HARMON
- 11 BOB JACKSON
- 12 DON DUFFY
- 13 PAUL CULLEN
- 14 MARTIN CROMPTON
- 15 BILLY McGINTY

Referee:

Mr. J. Holdsworth (Kippax)

Touch Judges:

Mr. D. Barratt (Red Flag)

Mr. R. Carter (Orange Flag)

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11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20

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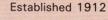
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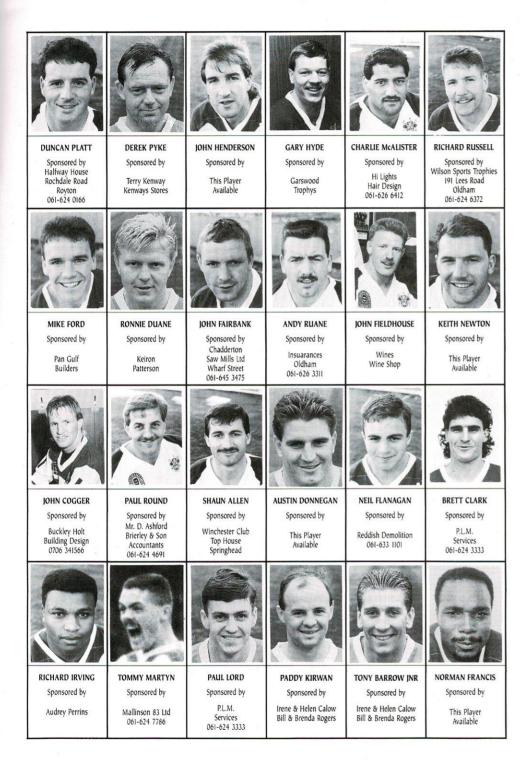
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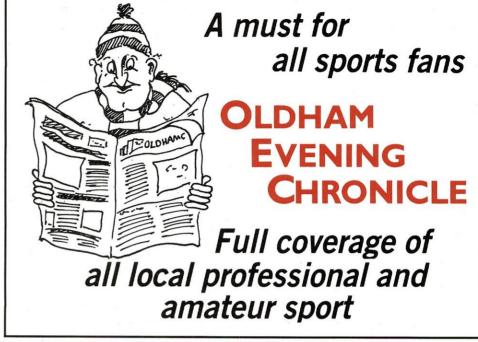
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# **OLDHAM STATISTICS 1990/91**

# Appearances and Scorers

							٠
	Ь	Sub	D	D	⊢	Pts	
Tony Barrow	3	_	0	0	0	0	
Brett Clark	7	0	0	0	3	12	_
John Cogger	4	0	0	0	0	0	
Austin Donegan	-	4	0	0	-	4	-
Ronnie Duane	9	0	0	0	0	0	
John Fairbank	2	3	0	0	_	4	-
John Fieldhouse	4	0	0	0	0	0	_
Mike Ford	7	0	-	-	7	=	
Des Foy	_	0	0	0	0	0	
Norman Francis	4	0	0	0	7	8	
John Henderson	-	0	0	0	0	0	-
Richard Irving	9	0	0	0	_	4	
Paul Lord	7	0	0	0	3	12	
Tommy Martyn	5	-	2	7	4	31	-
Charlie McAlister	9	0	0	0	7	8	- House
Keith Newton	7	2	0	0	-	4	
Duncan Platt	9	0	18	0	-	40	_
Derek Pyke	4	0	0	0	0	0	
Paul Round	7	0	0	0	9	24	
Andy Ruane	7	0	0	0	0	0	-
Richard Russell	5	7	0	0	0	0	-

# Stones Bitter First Division

		Ь	≥	D	7	ഥ	Α	≷	D	_	щ	Α	Pts	
	Hull	9	3	0	0	76	24	3	0	0	57	42	12	
-	Widnes	9	3	0	0	Ξ	34	-	0	7	40	64	8	
	Hull KR	9	7	0	-	54	52	_	-	_	52	8	7	
		9	-	0	7	19	46	7	0	-	9	54	9	
- Company	Warrington	9	2	0	7	89	46	_	0	-	34	38	9	
100	OLDHAM	9	2	0	_	85	72		0	7	52	55	9	
THE RESERVE	Wakefield	5	7	0	0	59	18	_	0	7	36	88	9	
and the same	Wigan	5	_	-	0	45	20		0	7	72	73	2	
-	Sheffield	9	-	0	7	99	50		-	-	64	63	2	
	Featherstone	9	_	_	-	63	62	-	0	7	51	8	2	
-	St Helens	4	2	0	0	99	30	0	0	7	18	43	4	
A PERSONAL PROPERTY.	Bradford	9	-	0	7	53	65	_	0	7	58	<b>4</b>	4	
-	Castleford	9	7	0	_	84	69	0	0	3	38	104	4	
- Herein	Rochdale	9	-	0	7	57	99	0	0	3	17	92	7	

NEXT HOME GAME v BRADFORD NORTHERN (November 11th, kick-off 3 p.m.)

NEXT AWAY GAME v WIGAN (November 4th, kick-off 3p.m.)

1,0,900   3,00   1,0,10   1,	Opponents Da	Date	8	Res	F/A	Att	Pos	-	2	3	4	2	9	7	8	6	01	=	12	13	4	15
16.590   H   300   W   32-22   6.338   Platt 3g   Irving   Marryn t dg     16.590   A   330   L   12-17   5851   8   Platt 12g   Irving   Marryn t dg     2.0050   H   330   L   12-24   7361   8   Platt 2g   Francis   Irving     1.0050   H   300   L   25-28   4-710				$\vdash$	74	-	$\vdash$	Platt 4g	Irving	Foy	Henderson	. Lord	Clark	Ford g	Pyke	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round t	McAlister t	Duane	Martyn t	Newton
16.590   A 330   L 12-17 5651   S Platt 2g   Fringt   Maryn					33		1	Platt 5g	Irving	Martyn t dg	Duane	Lord	Ford t g dg	Clark t	Pyke	Ruane	Newton t	Round t	McAlister t	Cogger	Russell*	Donegan*
A   26.59   H   330   W   28-22   5.101   6   Platt 4g   Fancis to Marryin to Liu.   1.000   H   300   L   1.54   7.361   8   Platt 2g   Fancis to Inving to Liu.   1.000   H   300   L   1.54   7.361   8   Platt 2g   Fancis to Inving to Liu.   1.000   H   300   L   1.54   7.361   R   Platt 2g   Fancis to Inving to Liu.   1.000   H   300   L   1.54   7.361   R   Platt 2g   Fancis to Inving to Liu.   1.000   H   300   L   1.54   7.361   R   Platt 2g   Fancis to Inving to Liu.   1.000   H   300   L   1.54   R   1.55   R   R   R   R   R   R   R   R   R			_		-			Platt t 2g	Irving t	Martyn	Duane	Lord	Ford	Clark	Fieldhouse	Ruane	Newton	Round	McAlister .	Cogger	Russell*	Fairbank*
210.90 A 730 L 16-24 7361 8 Platt 2g Francis Irving  1410.90 A 315 W 24-14 55.00 6 Marryn 13g Francis Irving  on 411.90 A 315 W 24-14 55.00 6 Marryn 13g Francis Irving  on 411.90 A 320 A				_				Platt 4g	Francis t	Martyn t	Duane	Lord	Clark t	Ford	Pyke	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round 2t	McAlister	Barrow	Donegan	Fairbank
1,10,00   1, 3,00   1, 3,10   1, 3		06:00 A		_	~			Platt 2g	Francis	Irving	Duane	Lord t	Clark	Ford t	Pyke	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round	McAlister	Barrow	Fairbank*	Donegan*
01   14,10.90   A   215   W   24-14   5.500   6   Marryn 13g   Fancis t   Inring    411.020   H   245   S   S   S   S   S   S   S   S   S					7		1	Platt 2g		Martyn 2g dg	Irving	Lord t	Clark	Ford t	Pyke	Russell	Fairbank	Round 2t	McAlister	Cogger	Barrow*	Donegan*
001 201030 H  41190 A  1 111190 H  1 111190 H  1 111190 H  1 11120 A  1 1120				_	7			Martyn t 3g	Francis t	Irving	Duane	Lord	Clark t	Ford	Donegan	Russell	Fairbank t	Round	Barrow	Cogger	Newton*	Hyde
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Key: t = try g = goal dg = drop goal \* = played as substitute

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A-TEAM ROUND-UP



The Coach's View

OUR Lancashire Shield trial started with a 28-10 win over Workington Town, the weather on the day being the real winner with strong winds and driving rain which resulted in countless errors by both sides.

It was heartening to see Tony Anderson start his road back to full fitness with his first competitive appearance since breaking his ankle last season, co-incidentally against Workington.

The league programme took us away last Thursday night to Hilton Park, Leigh. Our standing in the first division of the Slalom Lager Alliance — second place — was not reflected by our performance in any way, shape or form. On this occasion we were dreadful!

Some poor tackling and inept attacking gave Leigh a 24-8 win and the way we played was reflected in the result.

Take it from me, a lot of hard work has been put in this week to try and improve matters for tomorrow's cup-tie.

John Maxwell made his comeback appearance at Leigh and was soon in action when Trevor Croston was injured. John came through well after his lengthy spell out of action due to a serious knee injury sustained towards the end of last season.

We now look forward to entertaining Wigan here at Watersheddings tomorrow in the second round of the Lancashire Shield.

It will be a novelty for the Alliance side to play on a Sunday and your support will be very much appreciated, so please come along and let's hope we can progress even further in this competition.

Any game against Wigan has all the prospects of being a cracker ... and tomorrow's encounter will be no exception.

IAN TAYLOR

#### Slalom Lager Alliance Fixtures

Date Aug		Opponents St Helens	Venue H	Res W	F A 32-8
Sept	7	Leeds	Α	L	12-18
ocp.	14	Wakefield	Н	W	18-12
	21	Salford	Α	W	22-1
	28		Н	W	34-10
Oct	5	Workington (Lancs Shield)	Н	W	28-1
	11	Leigh (Thurs)	Α	L	8-2
	21	Wigan (Lancs Shield)	Н		
Nov	2		Н		
	9	Widnes	A		
	16		Н		
	23		Α		
	30	Warrington	Н		
Dec	7	Wigan	A		
	14		Н		
	21	Halifax	A		
	28	Leeds	Н		
Jan	4	Featherstone	Α		
	11	Hull KR	Н		
	18		Α		
	25	Featherstone	Н		
Feb	1	St Helens	A		
	8	Castleford	Н		
	16	Alliance Cup (Sat)			
	22	Hull	Α		
Mar	2	Alliance Cup (Sat)			
	8	Halifax	Н		
	15	Warrington	A		
	22	Hull KR	A		
	29	Leigh	Н		

#### Slalom Lager Alliance First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts
Hull	5	5	0	0	164	75	10
Leeds	6	4	0	2	145	106	8
OLDHAM	6	4	0	2	126	109	8
Widnes	6	4	0	2	135	118	8
St Helens	6	3	0	3	176	159	6
Castleford	5	3	0	2	144	136	6
Leigh	6	3	0	3	130	130	6
Salford	6	3	0	3	106	114	6
Hull KR	6	3	0	3	104	130	6
Featherstone R	5	2	0	3	107	125	4
Wigan	6	2	0	4	112	132	4
Halifax	6	2	0	4	116	168	4
Warrington W	5	- 1	0	4	136	148	2
Wakefield T	6	- 1	0	5	76	127	. 2

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Our regular review of what's happening in the world of Rugby League

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#### Runcorn's Unenviable Record

Runcorn Highfield are heading for a half-century of consecutive defeats. The side's last victory was against Fulham nearly two years ago when they won 21-12. Their last point was when they drew 8-8 at home to Workington on 22nd January, 1989.

#### Special BSB Offer

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#### GRASS ROOTS

McCorquodale looks at Rugby League around Oldham CONGRATULATIONS to Chris Eckersley, Mick Martindale and Martin Halkyard, who have all been chosen to represent South Lancs for the forthcoming regional fixture against Humberside.

The Under-13 trials are next week and, as Oldham are undefeated at this age group after six games, our hopes are high that Paul Sculthorpe, who has represented Lancashire and is eligible for selection, will lead a large Oldham contingent.

A special thanks to Mike Ford, Paul Round, John Henderson and Richard Russell for turning up at North Chadderton for the first year's rugby training.

I won't say that there isn't a rugby tradition in this area but not one of the players was recognised. Eventually, one small boy pointed at Paul Round and said he thought it was Ian Marshall!

Today's curtain-raiser sees St. Augustine's, with the town team's half-back pairing of Richard Badby and John Hough, take on Hathershaw.

It should be a good game. Enjoy it!



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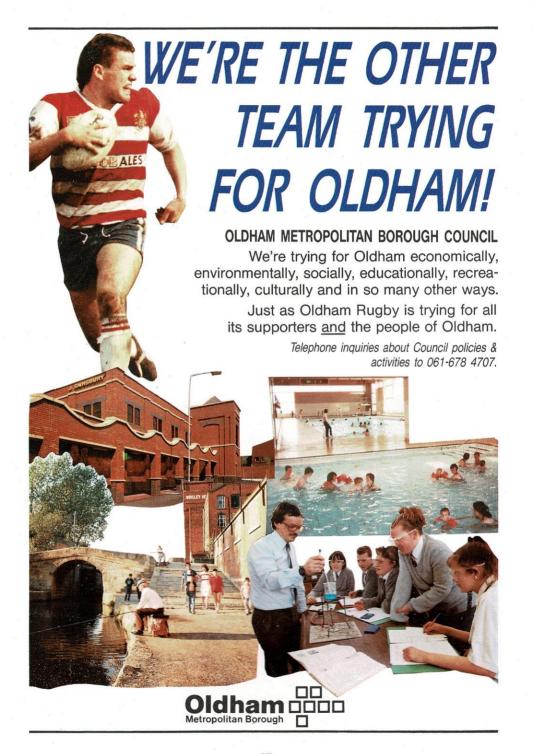
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