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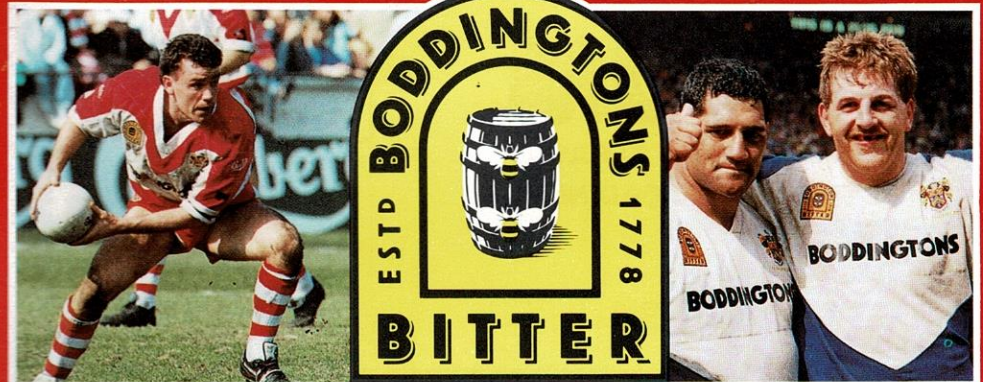


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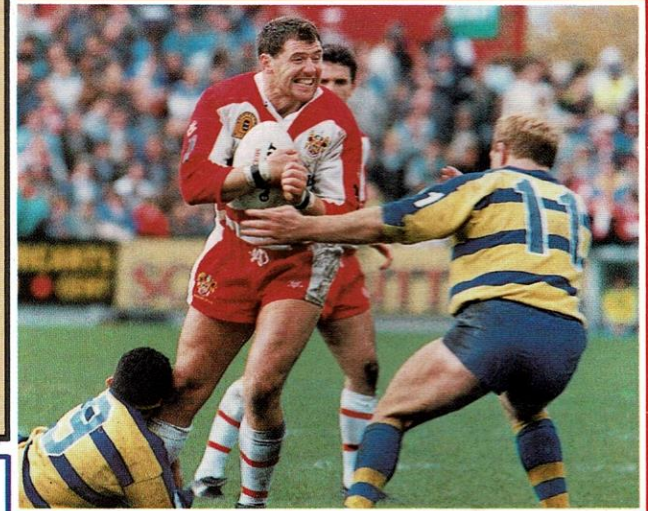
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Record Try Scorer: Reg Farrar, 49 tries,
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Record Goal Scorer: Bernard Ganley,
224 goals, 1957-58 season

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

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Since 1900, Alan Davies, 182

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1966-67, 1968-69, 1986-87, 1989-90

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Lancashire Shield Winners:
1975-76, 1979-80

Colts Premiership Trophy:
1979-80

Second Division Premiership:
1987-88, 1989-90

ON THE BARROW BEAT

by *Oldham coach*
TONY BARROW



I HATE to say: "I told you so" . . . but what a proud man I was at Wembley when the British boys finally killed the myth that the Australians are superhuman.

At the time of writing, of course, I don't know what happened at Old Trafford yesterday, but I stick to my prediction that Great Britain will win the series.

I was one of the few to tip Britain to win at Wembley and the victory, of course, made it two wins in a row for the boys in red, white and blue after their third Test win in Sydney in 1988.

If we are not careful, the Aussies will be getting an inferiority complex!

They were certainly shaken by the way we murdered them at Wembley, and their slip was also showing a few nights later when my old club Warrington gave them a few frights at Wilderspool.

They only sealed victory in the last quarter-of-an-hour and it might have been a different story if David Lyon had not left his kicking boots at home and if Warrington had not presented the tourists with two gift tries — one following a charge-down and the other an interception.

A third Kangaroos try followed an up-and-under . . . so where was all the brilliant, wing-to-wing football that many people seem to think they can produce at the drop of a hat?

We have always had cleverer footballers than Australia, in the main, and now that we are matching them for fitness, attitude and stamina, our superior individual skills are proving so decisive.

The Kangaroos did have exceptional footballers around in the shape of Wally Lewis, Peter Stirling, Ray Price, Brett Kenney and Co, but they are no longer part of the scene and it's Britain who now hold the footballing aces in players like Andy Gregory, Garry Schofield and Ellery Hanley.

I'm sure the tourists will have fielded a different side at Old Trafford yesterday, probably playing the Canberra pair of Ricky Stuart and Laurie Daley at half-back and possibly including Benny Elias at hooker.

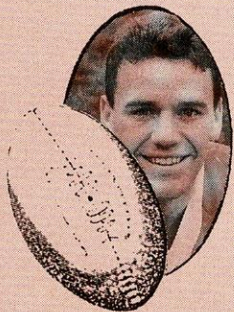
They will be going for more variety, but I am confident that, come the end of the series at Elland Road, in a fortnight, it will be the British Lion that is roaring as the Kangaroo heads off for home with its tail between its legs.

An advertisement for Boddingtons Bitter. On the left, a brass beer tap stands on a wooden base. The tap handle is a dark, polished wood. The tap's body is brass and features a circular logo with a crown and the text "ESTD BODDINGTONS 1778" and "BITTER". To the right of the tap is a tall, slender glass filled with golden beer and a thick head of white foam. The background is dark, making the tap and glass stand out. At the bottom right, there is a small circular logo identical to the one on the tap.

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SKIPPER'S SPOT

by
Oldham Captain
Mike Ford

WE may have lost but I was pleased with the way we played against Wigan last Sunday.

It was only in the last 20 minutes that the game ran away from us and they scored three tries in seven minutes — until they there was only a couple of points between us.

That performance puts me in good spirit for today's game against Bradford Northern which is a definite 'four' pointer. Win and we go above the Yorkshiremen, lose and we slip towards the relegation zone.

Hopefully Duncan Platt will be able to play after his disciplinary hearing on Thursday. Duncan is a great asset to the side, and there are few more reliable kickers in the game today.

Our preparation this week under Tony Barrow's guidance, as usual, has been excellent and although we are expecting a hard game, this is a match we should win.

By Christmas I expect we'll have a true indication of where we will finish at the end of the season. At the moment I am pleased with the position of the team. Four wins and four defeats: I would have settled for that at the beginning of the season.

Our start to the season has given us firm foundations to build on and it is up to us to take full advantage of the situation.

Finally, by the time you read this we may well have regained the Ashes if Great Britain won yesterday's second test, proving that Rugby League is alive and kicking in this country.



ROGER'S FOCUS

Oldham Evening Chronicle Rugby League writer, Roger Halstead, looks at today's visitors

BRADFORD Northern are currently enjoying the benefits of having their most settled squad for years. Only 22 players have been used in all matches this season and that says something for the consistency of performance and the consistency of selection.

Today's squad is unlikely to show much change from that which played at Watersheddings in the Paddy Kirwan testimonial game before the start of the season.

However, winger Henderson Gill is out of action after a knee operation and in recent matches regular centre Steve McGowan has been playing on the left-wing with former Castleford man Tony Marchant and New Zealander Darrall Shelford filling the centre positions.

Shelford is the brother of the former All-Blacks captain Wayne Shelford and he proved in the pre-season game at Watersheddings that he is an exceptionally strong runner — just the type, perhaps, to give free-scoring Welsh wing Gerald Cordle the yard he needs to expose the cover up the touch-line.

Shelford's fellow Kiwi Brett Iti has also settled in well at Odsal and has made quite an impact now that he has become more accustomed to the demands of his new code.

Oddly enough, he is partnered by another former Union man in Neil Summers, the ex-England 'B' and Yorkshire RU scrum-half, who has made the outside-half position his own despite competition from no less a challenger than Roger Simpson, who was on tour with Great Britain in Papua New Guinea and New Zealand last summer.

As always, Northern command the greatest respect for their big, tough pack, led by player-coach David Hobbs, who needs no introduction to Oldham fans.

Hobbs had an outstanding game here in the testimonial match and has no shortage of experienced men around him in hooker Brian Noble, Karl Fairbank — brother of Oldham's John — the speedy Paul Medley, and the crafty, footballing loose-forward in John Pendlebury.

Make no mistake, Northern will provide formidable opposition.

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Bradford Northern . . .

Keith Mumby: Full back. 13st 8lbs. One of the game's most consistent and loyal players, who has been at Odsal for 17 seasons since joining them as a 16-year-old, yet is still widely regarded as one of the best full backs in England. Club records include most matches in a career, most goals and most points scored. Honours include England, Great Britain under 24's and tours in 1974 and 1979. Club Player of the Year on seven occasions.

Ian Wilkinson: Full back or centre. Signed from Halifax RLFC. Former Leeds player who toured Australia and New Zealand with the 1988 team. Also plays Second Row. Very strong runner.

Gerald Cordle: Winger. 6' 2". 14st 7lbs. Signed from Cardiff RUFC in 1989. Big strong and elusive runner. Hard man to tackle.

David Cooper: Threequarter. 5' 11". 13 stone. 26 years old. Signed from Bramley Rugby Union in 1989. Prolific try scorer.

Steve McGowan: Centre. 13 stone. Signed from Leeds Colts. Has had many great games with the Club. Standing 6' 3" he is reminiscent to Eric Ashton in his style.

Tony Marchant: Centre. Age 28. 5' 10". 13 stone. Signed from Castleford RLFC in December 1989. Former Great Britain centre, Tony has always been a consistent try scorer, including one on each of his Yorkshire appearances.

Darrall Shelford: Threequarter. 6' 1". 14st 2lbs. Age 27 years. Big signing from New Zealand in close season. Represented New Zealand Maoris in 1988, 1989 and 1990. Played in New Zealand trials in 1990. Regarded as a Rugby Union Centre of world class ability by most people in New Zealand. Outstanding defensive player with great attacking skills.

Henderson Gill: Winger. 5' 8". 13st 10lbs. 29 years-old. Very fast and keen tackler. Former Great Britain tourist. Signed from Wigan last season.

Phil Hellewell: Centre or Off Half. Product of Dudley Hill Amateur Club in 1986. He had earned under 19 amateur honours. A serious injury at the start of season 1987/88 curtailed his appearances. Captain of successful Alliance team last season.

Richard Francis: Winger. 5' 10". 12 stone. Signed from Parkside Juniors as a 17-year-old. A Great Britain Colts International and former schoolboy sprint champion, he is the fastest player on Northern's books.

Roger Simpson: Stand-off. Age 23. 5' 6". 11 stone. From Moldgreen ARL he can also play Centre or Wing. A former Colts International, he joined Northern on his 17th birthday. Toured Papua New Guinea and New Zealand this summer.

Heath Godfrey: Scrum half. Age 23. A player who always gives 100 percent whenever he receives a first team chance. he also stood in at Off half.

Brett Iiti: Half back. Age 25. 5' 6½". 12½ stone. New signing this season from New Zealand. Played many representative games, including Wellington New Zealand Tour of Italy, France, Spain and Argentina in 1988. All Black trialist in 1990. In 1989 scored 18 tries from 18 games. Could become one of Rugby League's outstanding half backs.

Neil Summers: Half back. Age 21. 5' 8". Signed from Headingley Rugby Union last season. Plays either half back position and looks a very exciting prospect.

David Hobbs: Second Row or Prop Forward. 6' 1". 15st 7lbs. Joined home town Featherstone, where he gained international honours and a Cup Winner's medal. Lance Todd Trophy winner in 1983. Had a couple of years at Oldham prior to joining Northern four seasons ago. This strong running forward is also a very useful goal kicker. Appointed team Coach at end of last season.

Jonathan Hamer: Prop Forward. Age 24. 6'. 15½ stone. Signed from Halifax Junior Club, Siddall. Strong running, hard tackling player. A great prospect. Big things are expected of this player.

Brian Noble: Hooker. Age 29. 13st 6lbs. Joined Northern straight from school and graduated through the sides until he won a first team place. In 1984 he was the youngest ever Captain of a Great Britain side to tour Australasia and although he has eleven International Caps, eight as Captain, for the past five seasons he has been passed over for International selection. An ever present in the side, he had a benefit two seasons ago.

Glen Barraclough: Hooker. Age 24. 5' 8". 13 stone. Signed from Bramley RLFC in 1987/88 season, having originally played with Bradford Junior Club, Sedbergh. Non-stop running and tackling player, he should have a great future in the game.

Karl Fairbank: Second Row Forward. Age 27. 6' 15st. BARLA's Player of the Year in 1986. Signed from Elland Amateur Rugby League Club at the end of the 1985/86 season. At 23 years old he had an outstanding tour with the Great Britain Amateur side in Australia. He has been on the last two tours to Australia and Papua New Guinea and New Zealand, but did not win a Test place. One of five brothers, he is the son of former Leeds star, Jack Fairbank.

Paul Medley: Second Row Forward. Age 23. Signed from Halifax in 1989. Very fast player. Great Britain Tourist in 1988. Former Leeds player.

John Pendlebury: Age 29. 6'. 13 stone. Ex-Wigan and Salford Loose Forward signed by Halifax in 1976. Challenge Cup Winners and Losers medal and Halifax's midfield general. His drop goal at Wembley won the Cup for Halifax against Saints. Capped for Lancashire in 1985. Classy Loose Forward and ball distributor with an eye for half a chance, good cover tackler who reads the game well. Dedicated professional

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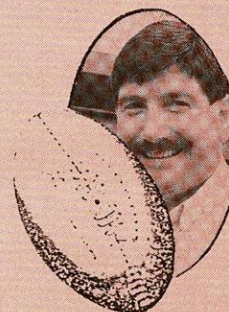


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**WATERSHEDDINGS
WHISPERS**

*General Manager
Ray Hill
reports on the
Watersheddings
scene*

WHOOOPS! In the last programme a gremlin crept into my word processor when I was writing about Oldham RLFC's Sportsmen's Dinner which actually takes place at the Periquito Hotel, not the Sheddings nightclub as it appeared in my previous column.

The action takes place, at the Periquito Hotel, on Wednesday 5th December. We've lined up a fabulous night's entertainment. The speaker is Barry Roberts, a TV script writer 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.

The sportsmen's dinner launches what should be a busy Christmas for everyone involved at the club.

Talking of Xmas, if you're thinking about presents for loved ones why not call in at the Souvenir Shop where you'll discover a real treasure trove of Oldham gifts that are very reasonably priced.

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QUESTION 4: Who is the Oldham captain?

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WHO WILL BE THE NEXT MISS OLDHAM RUGBY?

YOU can find out by attending the Boddingtons Bitter-sponsored Beauty Contest at Watersheddings on Wednesday 21st November when Oldham's finest will be competing to find the next Miss Oldham Rugby.

First prize for the winner includes a modelling course, a £150 cheque and a superb silver salver. There are cash prizes for second and third too.

It is going to be a great night out.

What's more it is not too late to enter.

All aspiring models have to do is write to Karen Scott, Boddingtons Bitter Miss Oldham Beauty Competition, Oldham RLFC, The Pavilion, Watersheddings, Counthill Road, Oldham, giving details of age, career and interests together with a recent photograph.

Final closing date is 16th November 1990.

PAUL'S TOP MAN FOR OCTOBER!

PAUL ROUND is the October winner of the Boddingtons Bitter player of the month award following performances against Widnes, Sheffield Eagles, Hull KR and Warrington which earned him this accolade from award judge Roger Halstead, the Oldham Evening Chronicle's Rugby League writer.

Roger says: "Paul has produced four outstanding attacking performances throughout the month. His long striding breaks, tremendous runs and try scoring record means that he is playing as well as any attacking forward in the game at the moment!"

Paul, who won the award towards the

end of last season, collects a special Boddingtons Bitter tankard, a £100 cheque and a case of Boddingtons Bitter to celebrate in style.

KEEP ON SMILING



Putting their Boddies to good use at a recent 'Aussie Beach party' held at Watersheddings are (from left) stand-off Brett Clark, models Amanda Ullerton and Vanda Marriot, John Cogger and Charlie McAlister. Commenting on the Boddingtons Bitter-sponsored event Brett Clark said: "It may not have been as warm as back home but it was just as much fun."

PADDY'S DATES

Three dates for your diaries for Paddy Kirwan's testimonial year. First, on Monday 19th November there is a sportsmen dinner at the Sheddings nightclub with ex-GB coach Maurice Bamford as guest speaker. Tickets are £10. Second, there's a race night at the New Museum Inn of 15th November and quiz night at the Springvale Inn on 6th December. All three events promise to be a lot of fun.

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throughout the season



BODDINGTONS

TEAM CHECK

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11th, 1990



OLDHAM

Team Changes

- 1 DUNCAN PLATT
- 2 NORMAN FRANCIS
- 3 TOMMY MARTYN
- 4 TONY ANDERSON
- 5 PAUL LORD
- 6 BRETT CLARK
- 7 MIKE FORD
- 8 JOHN FAIRBANK
- 9 RICHARD RUSSELL
- 10 KEITH NEWTON
- 11 PAUL ROUND
- 12 RONNIE DUANE
- 13 JOHN COGGER
- 14 RICHARD IRVING
- 15 SHAUN ALLEN

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

Referee:
Mr. John Connolly (Wigan)

Touch Judges:
Mr. K. Spencer (Red Flag)
Mr. C. Stanton (Orange Flag)

BRADFORD N

Team Changes

- 1 IAN WILKINSON
- 2 GERALD CORDLE
- 3 DARRALL SHELFORD
- 4 TONY MARCHANT
- 5 STEVE MCGOWAN
- 6 NIEL SUMMERS
- 7 BRETT ITI
- 8 DAVID HOBBS
- 9 BRIAN NOBLE
- 10 JOHN HAMER
- 11 PAUL MEDLEY
- 12 KARL FAIRBANK
- 13 JOHN PENDLEBURY
- 14 ROGER SIMPSON
- 15 CRAIG RICHARDS

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

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OLDHAM STATISTICS 1990/91

Appearances and Scorers

	P	Sub	G	D	T	Pts
Shaun Allen	0	1	0	0	0	0
Tony Anderson	0	0	0	0	1	4
Tony Barrow	3	1	0	0	0	0
Brett Clark	9	0	0	0	3	12
John Cogger	6	0	0	0	0	0
Austin Donegan	2	4	0	0	1	4
Ronnie Duane	8	0	0	0	0	0
John Fairbank	3	4	0	0	1	4
John Fieldhouse	5	0	0	0	0	0
Mike Ford	9	0	1	1	2	11
Des Foy	1	0	0	0	0	0
Norman Francis	6	0	0	0	2	8
John Henderson	1	0	0	0	0	0
Richard Irving	6	2	0	0	1	4
Paul Lord	9	0	0	0	3	12
Tommy Martyn	7	1	6	3	4	31
Charlie McAllister	6	0	0	0	2	8
Keith Newton	4	2	0	0	1	4
Duncan Platt	8	0	22	0	1	48
Derek Pyke	4	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Round	9	0	0	0	7	28
Andy Ruane	2	0	0	0	0	0
Richard Russell	7	2	0	0	0	0

Stones Bitter First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull	8	4	0	0	110	30	3	0	1	63	64	14
Widnes	8	4	0	0	137	42	2	0	2	56	70	12
Bradford	9	3	0	2	104	91	2	0	2	94	83	10
Hull KR	8	3	0	1	78	66	1	1	2	62	107	9
Wakefield	7	3	0	1	87	40	1	0	2	36	88	8
OLDHAM	8	3	0	1	89	74	1	0	3	67	93	8
Wigan	6	2	1	0	80	35	1	0	2	72	73	7
Featherstone	8	2	1	1	101	70	1	0	3	65	105	7
St. Helens	6	2	0	1	82	59	1	0	2	48	61	6
Leeds	7	1	0	2	61	46	2	0	2	73	80	6
Warrington	8	2	0	2	68	46	1	0	3	52	67	6
Castleford	7	2	0	1	84	69	1	0	3	67	120	6
Sheffield	8	1	0	3	82	86	1	1	2	70	97	5
Rochdale	8	1	0	3	75	96	0	0	4	25	130	2

NEXT HOME GAME

v WIDNES (November 25th, kick-off 3 p.m.)

NEXT AWAY GAME

v CASTLEFORD (November 18th, kick-off 3.30 p.m.)

Opponents	Date	KO	Res	F/A	Att	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Salford	2.9.90	A	3.00	L	24-27	4,236	-	Platt 4g	Irving	Foy	Henderson	Lord	Clark	Ford g	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round t	McAllister t	Duane	Martyn t	Newton
Leeds	9.9.90	H	3.00	W	32-22	6338	-	Platt 5g	Irving	Martyn 1 dg	Duane	Lord	Ford t & dg	Pyke	Ruane	Newton t	Round t	McAllister t	Cogger	Russell*	Donegan*
Wakefield	16.9.90	A	3.30	L	12-17	5651	8	Platt 1 2g	Irving t	Martyn	Duane	Lord	Ford	Fieldhouse	Ruane	Newton	Round	McAllister	Cogger	Russell*	Fairbank*
Castleford	26.9.90	H	7.30	W	28-22	5,001	6	Platt 4g	Francis t	Martyn t	Duane	Lord	Clark t	Ford	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round 2t	McAllister	Barrow	Donegan	Fairbank
Widnes	2.10.90	A	7.30	L	16-24	7,361	8	Platt 2g	Francis	Irving	Duane	Lord t	Clark	Ford t	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round	McAllister	Barrow	Donegan	Donegan*
Hull KR	7.10.90	H	3.00	L	25-28	4,710	-	Platt 2g	Francis	Martyn 2g dg	Irving	Lord t	Clark	Ford t	Russell	Fairbank	Round 2t	McAllister	Cogger	Barrow*	Donegan*
Sheffield	14.10.90	A	3.15	W	24-14	5,500	6	Martyn 1 3g	Francis t	Irving	Duane	Lord	Clark t	Ford	Russell	Fairbank t	Round	McAllister	Cogger	Newton*	Hyle
Warrington	20.10.90	H	2.45	W	4-2	4,097	3	Platt 2g	Francis	Martyn	Duane	Lord	Clark	Ford	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round	Newton	Cogger	Irving	Fairbank
Wigan	4.11.90	A	3.00	L	15-38	1,987	6	Platt 2g	Francis	Martyn dg	Anderson t	Lord	Clark	Ford	Russell	Newton	Round t	Duane	Cogger	Irving	Allen
Bradford N	11.11.90	H	3.00																		
Castleford	18.11.90	A	3.30																		
Widnes	25.11.90	H	3.00																		
Regal Trophy	2.12.90		3.00																		
Regal Trophy	9.12.90		3.00																		
Hull	16.12.90	A	6.30																		
Rochdale	26.12.90	H	3.00																		
Leeds	1.1.91	A	3.00																		
Featherstone	6.1.91	H	3.00																		
Hull KR	13.1.91	A	3.00																		
Wakefield	20.1.91	H	3.00																		
Featherstone	27.1.91	A	3.30																		
St Helens	3.2.91	H	3.00																		
SCCR 1st Rd	10.2.91		3.00																		
Bradford	17.2.91	A	3.30																		
SCCR 2nd Rd	24.2.91		3.00																		
St Helens	10.3.91	A	3.00																		
Sheffield	17.3.91	H	3.00																		
Rochdale	29.3.91	A	3.00																		
Wigan	1.4.91	H	3.00																		
Warrington	7.4.91	A	3.00																		
Hull	14.4.91	H	3.00																		

Key: t = try g = goal dg = drop goal * = played as substitute



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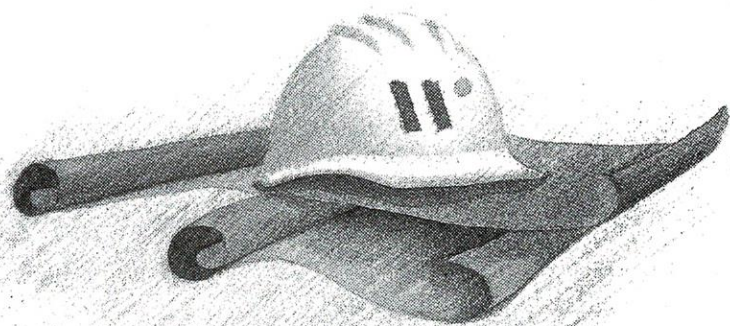
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A-TEAM ROUND-UP



The Coach's View

VERY disappointed! That was my reaction after our 14-16 defeat in the Lancashire Shield game with Wigan.

The game was played at a cracking pace and it always looked within our grasp.

On reflection there were three main reasons why we lost: First, a penalty was given against Tony Anderson which clearly should have been given to us right in front of the Wigan posts; Second, a knock-on decision was given when John Maxwell released a pass from which Steve Robinson scored; Third, we had quite a few players who were coming back after lengthy lay-offs and the pace of the game caught up with them.

Our 34-6 victory over Warrington got us back on our winning ways in good style. It not only keeps us in touch at the top of the division, but we played with a lot of vision and vigour. We completely overran a very handy Warrington outfit.

It was a fine team effort, and that is the standard I want us to maintain.

The way in which our young players are coming on is one of the most pleasing aspects of the Alliance side.

To say the future looks good is a big under-statement. It's going to be an exciting place to be here at Water-sheddings and with even more young blood, such as Paul Barrow and Chris Eckersley, to get their taste of Alliance football the future is looking good.

Thanks for your terrific following, by the way, and do keep it up because we all appreciate it very much indeed.

IAN TAYLOR

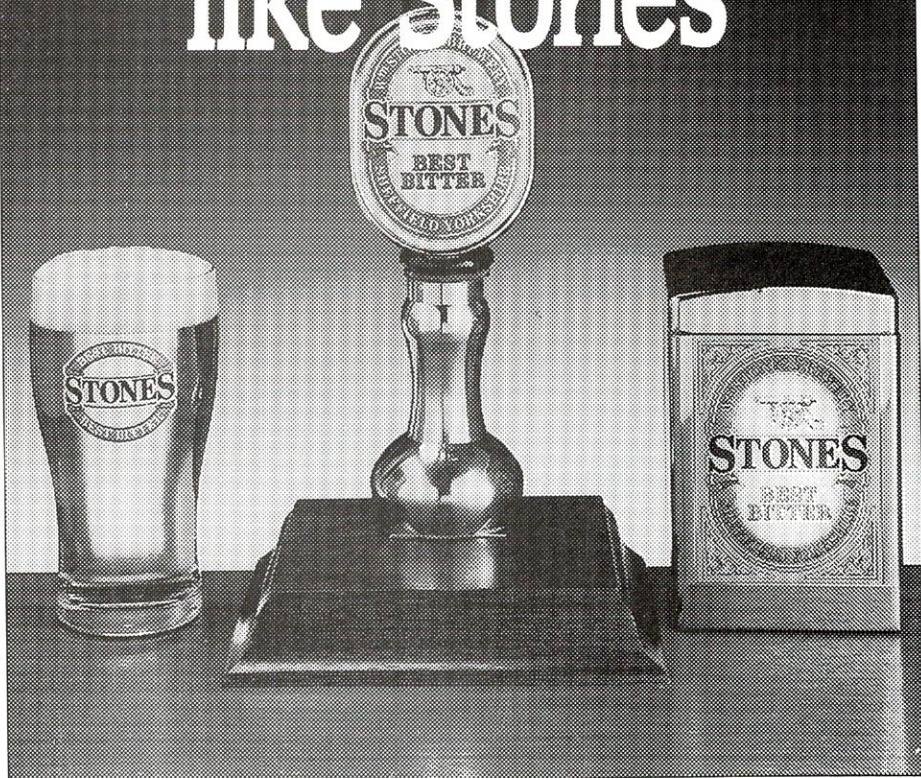
Slalom Lager Alliance Fixtures

Date	Opponents	Venue	Res	F	A
Aug 31	St Helens	H	W	32-8	
Sept 7	Leeds	A	L	12-18	
14	Wakefield	H	W	18-12	
21	Salford	A	W	22-17	
28	Widnes	H	W	34-10	
Oct 5	Workington (Lancs Shield)	H	W	28-10	
11	Leigh (Thurs)	A	L	8-24	
21	Wigan (Lancs Shield)	H	L	14-16	
Nov 2	Warrington	H	W	34-6	
9	Widnes	A			
16	Salford	H			
23	Castleford	A			
Dec 7	Wigan	A			
14	Hull	H			
21	Halifax	A			
28	Leeds	H			
Jan 4	Featherstone	A			
11	Hull KR	H			
18	Wakefield	A			
25	Featherstone	H			
Feb 1	St Helens	A			
8	Castleford	H			
16	Alliance Cup (Sat)				
22	Hull	A			
Mar 2	Alliance Cup (Sat)				
8	Halifax	H			
15	Warrington	A			
22	Hull KR	A			
29	Leigh	H			

Slalom Lager Alliance First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull.....	6	6	0	0	180	83	12
OLDHAM.....	7	5	0	2	160	115	10
Widnes.....	7	5	0	2	155	128	10
St Helens.....	7	4	0	3	206	177	8
Leeds.....	7	4	0	3	155	126	8
Leigh.....	7	4	0	3	162	144	8
Castleford.....	7	4	0	3	182	184	8
Salford.....	6	3	0	3	106	114	6
Featherstone R....	7	3	0	4	153	171	6
Hull KR.....	7	3	0	4	126	160	6
Wigan.....	6	2	0	4	112	132	4
Halifax.....	6	2	0	4	116	168	4
Warrington W....	7	1	0	6	150	198	2
Wakefield T.....	7	1	0	6	94	157	2

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Elland Road Sell Out

The Ashes have really caught the imagination of Rugby League fans as the third test match at Elland Road is a 32,000 sell out regardless of the score of yesterday's Second Test between Great Britain and Australia.

The record aggregate attendance for a Test series — originally set in 1948 at 114,883 — looks certain to be broken this year. There was a record 52,274 for the First Test plus full houses of 48,000 and 32,000 at Old Trafford and Elland Road.

Record Breaking Tour

The Kangaroos tour is proving popular away from the Test arena too. After eight matches they have averaged 17,826 compared with 16,732 for the whole of the record breaking 1948 tour.

October's Teams

Hull and Fulham — both unbeaten during the month — are the Stones Bitter First and Second Division teams of the Month for October. During October Hull beat Wigan, Sheffield Eagles and Warrington while Fulham recorded victories against Bramley, Batley, Keighley and Runcorn Highfield, averaging over 20 points per match.

Test Star's Run

Test winger Paul Eastwood has the longest club points scoring sequence covering 31 matches for Hull. His run started on 21st November 1989 with two tries and two goals against St. Helens.

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**GRASS
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*Iain
McCorquodale
looks at
Rugby League
around Oldham*

LAST Saturday at Leigh saw the first schoolboy regional fixture of the season when North Lancs (Wigan, Leigh and Oldham) crushed Humberside at all three levels.

At Under 11 captain Danny Sculthorpe (Watersheddings) was ably assisted by Carl Wheelhouse (Beever), Gareth Barber (Knowsley) and Kevin Sinfield (Knowles Lane) and the latter two are available for selection next year.

At Under 13, captain Paul Sculthorpe (Counthill) together with Keiron Royales (Our Ladies), Keith Boocock (Counthill) and Steven Wood (Radcliffe) helped the Lancashire side run riot in the second half.

Naturally, the greatest attention was focused on the Under 16 fixture where Chris Eckersley and Martin Halkyard (Saddleworth) and Mick Martindale (St. Augustines) inspired Lancs to a 64-0 victory. Ten of the boys in the squad have already toured Australia with either Oldham or Orrell St. James and six have signed professional contracts with professional clubs.

Incidentally, 11 out of the 17 boys were members of the Lancs Under 11 side who I had the pleasure of coaching five years ago so it was a delight to see how well those boys have responded to the skills coaching at their clubs and schools in that time.

I am sure that several will go right to the top and delight spectators in a few years time.



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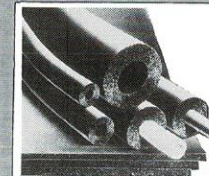
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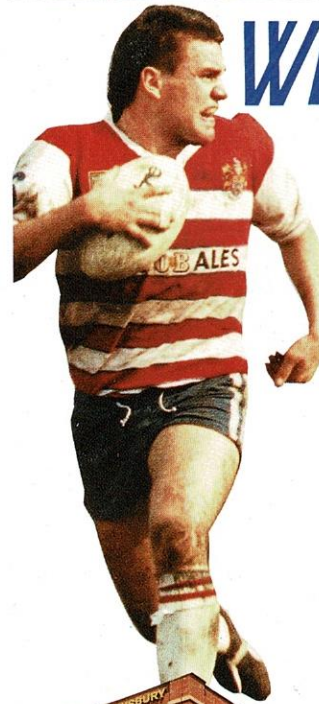
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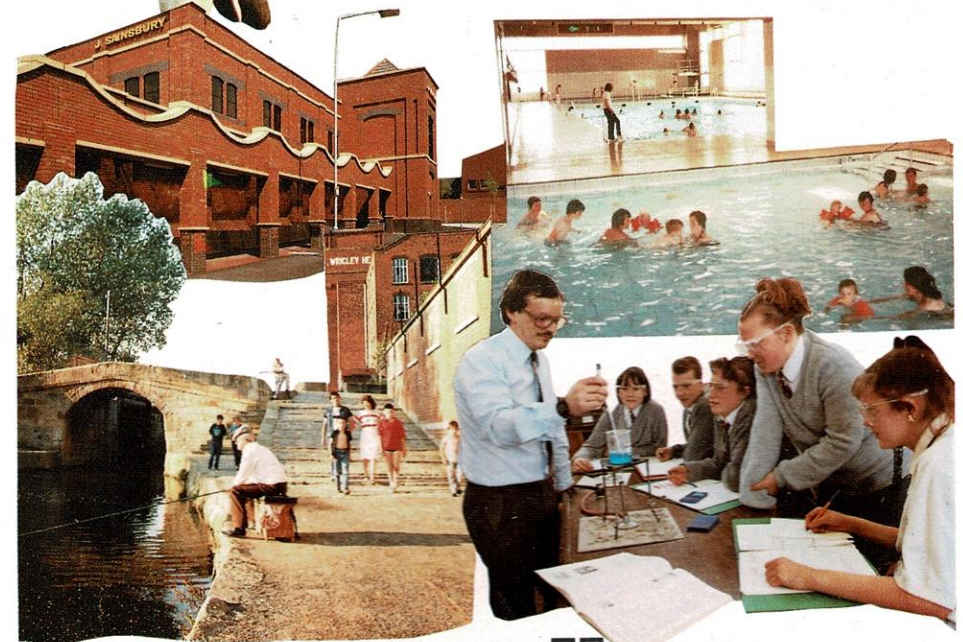
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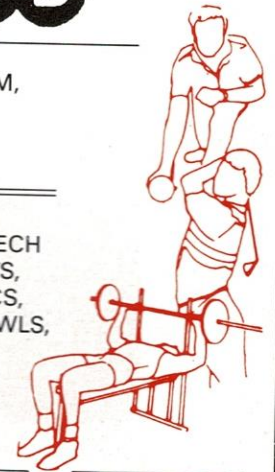
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