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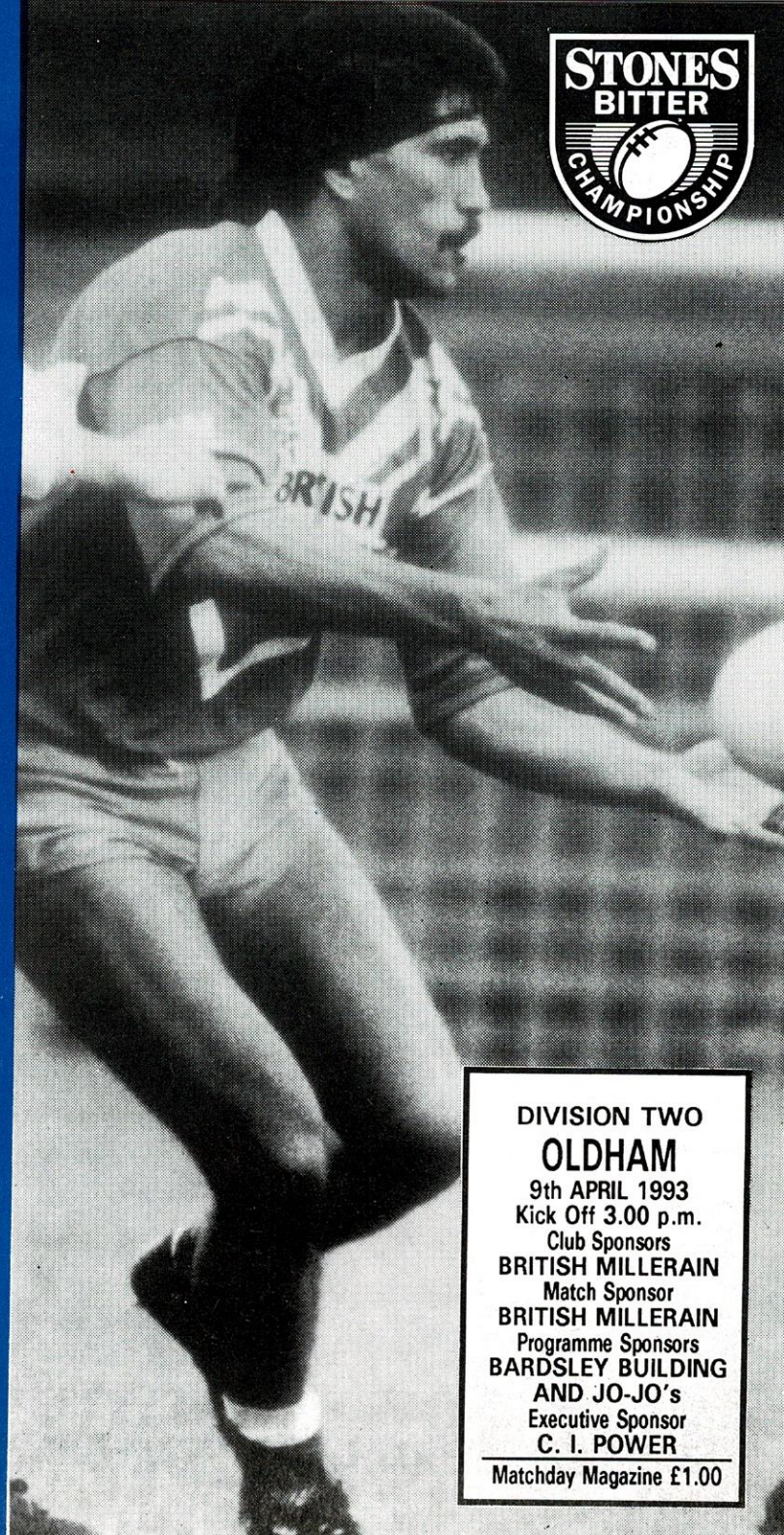
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DIVISION TWO

OLDHAM

9th APRIL 1993
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REGISTERED OFFICE:

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COACHING STAFF: K. Lowe, M. Kuiti **CLUB DOCTOR:** D. Walker

GROUND ADMIN: S. Foster, F. Kelly **GROUND STAFF:** R. Cowgill

TIME KEEPER: R. Myers **PHYSIO STAFF:** S. Hardman, G. Ogden

KIT MAN: M. Reynolds

PROGRAMME EDITOR: Ian McMahon

CLUB HONOURS

Challenge Cup Winners 1921/22

Lancashire League Winners: 1918/19

Lancashire Cup Winner: 1911/12, 1914/15 1918/19

Runners Up: 1912/13, 1920/21, 1965/66, 1991/92

Stones Bitter Championship Div. 2 Runners Up 1989/90

John Player Trophy Runners Up 1973/74

BBC Floodlit Trophy Runners Up 1971/72

City of Salford Rugby League Trust Fearnley

Construction 7's Winners 1990

HORNETS CLUB RECORDS

Attendance: 26,664 v Oldham (R.L. Cup) 25 March 1922

Tries in a match: 5 ; J. Corsi v Barrow 31 Dec. 1921 & v Broughton Moor 25 Feb. 1922.

J. Williams v St. Helens 4 April 1933.

N. Brelsford v Whitehaven 3 Sept. 1972.

Tries in a season: 30 by J. Williams 1934-35

Goals in a match: 14 by Steve Turner v Runcorn H. 5 Nov. 1989.

Goals in a season: 115 by K. Harcombe 1985-86

Biggest Victory: 92 - 0 v Runcorn H. 1989-90

Heaviest Defeat: 79 - 2 v Hull 1920-21

Highest Transfer Fee: £60,000 for Ian Gormley from Salford 1990

Highest Transfer Out: £65,000 for Neil Cowie 1991 (plus £15,000 if he plays for Gt. Britain, which he has!)

DIVISION TWO RECORDS

Widest winning margin: 92 points v Runcorn H. 5 Nov. 1989.

Most points by losing side: Dewsbury 36 Hornets 34 - 9 Oct. 1988

Scoreless Draw: v Dewsbury 30 Jan. 1983

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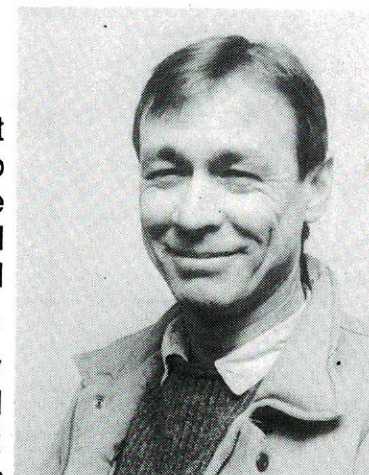
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peter says

Well after last weeks defeat against Huddersfield we know what we need to do to attain third place spot for the play-offs. We must win today and against Carlisle and hope Huddersfield slip up in one of their remaining games.

Even though last week was very dissapointing we must turn that around and play like we did against Featherstone a week earlier but this time come off the paddock with a victory under our belts.

We have again been hit by injuries losing Colin Whitefield with a cracked bone in his foot.



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inside information

Mark Sheals: Rugged, hard-working prop who joined Oldham in a three-for-one exchange deal with Leigh in the summer of 1992. Won a Lancashire cap last season, but missed his county debut due to suspension.

Sean Devine: A 22-year old scrum half whom Oldham boss, Peter Tunks also recruited in an exchange deal which took Chris Joynt to St Helens.

Mark Meadows: A second-row forward who had seen service with Swinton and Trafford Borough when Tunks snapped him up on the eve of the 1992/93 season from the new Blackpool Gladiators club, who took Sean Allen in a straight swap.

Hugh Gumbs: A young winger from Yorkshire, who signed for Bradford Northern when David Hobbs was boss. Had a spell with Batley and then signed for Oldham as a free agent in the summer of 1992.

Stuart Cocker: Yet another of Tunk's famous wheeler-dealer signings, Cocker joined Oldham in the deal that took Neil Flanagan and Des Foy to Fartown. A try poacher - well known for his scoring habits.

Paul Jones: At 6ft 3in and 17 stone, Leigh-based Jones had more than 60 senior appearances for St Helens behind him, albeit many of them as substitute, when he signed for Oldham with Sean Devine in the Chris Joynt deal.

Ben Olsen: This Danish-born forward made a name for himself with London Crusaders and signed for Oldham in the famous swop-shop summer of 1992.

Tiny Solomona: A Kiwi of Western Samoan origin, Tiny signed for Oldham early in 1992 from Widnes, but did not make his debut until the start of the 1992/93 season due to groin trouble. Has had two groin operations since the turn of the year, but is now playing at the top of his form and won the Man of the Match award in Oldham's First Round Lancashire Cup win against Warrington.

David Bradbury: Signed from Leigh Miners after touring New Zealand with the BARLA Under 19 squad. David is a strong-running loose forward.

Iva Ropati: A member of the famous New Zealand footballing Ropati family, Iva was the top try scorer in the country this year. A new signing for Oldham and an exciting prospect for the team.

Scott Ranson: 24-year old St Helen's player and top try scorer from his former club Swinton. Signed for Oldham in March 1992.

Shane Tupaea: Ex New Zealand player, signed for Swinton then Rochdale. A hard-tackling, defensive second row forward.

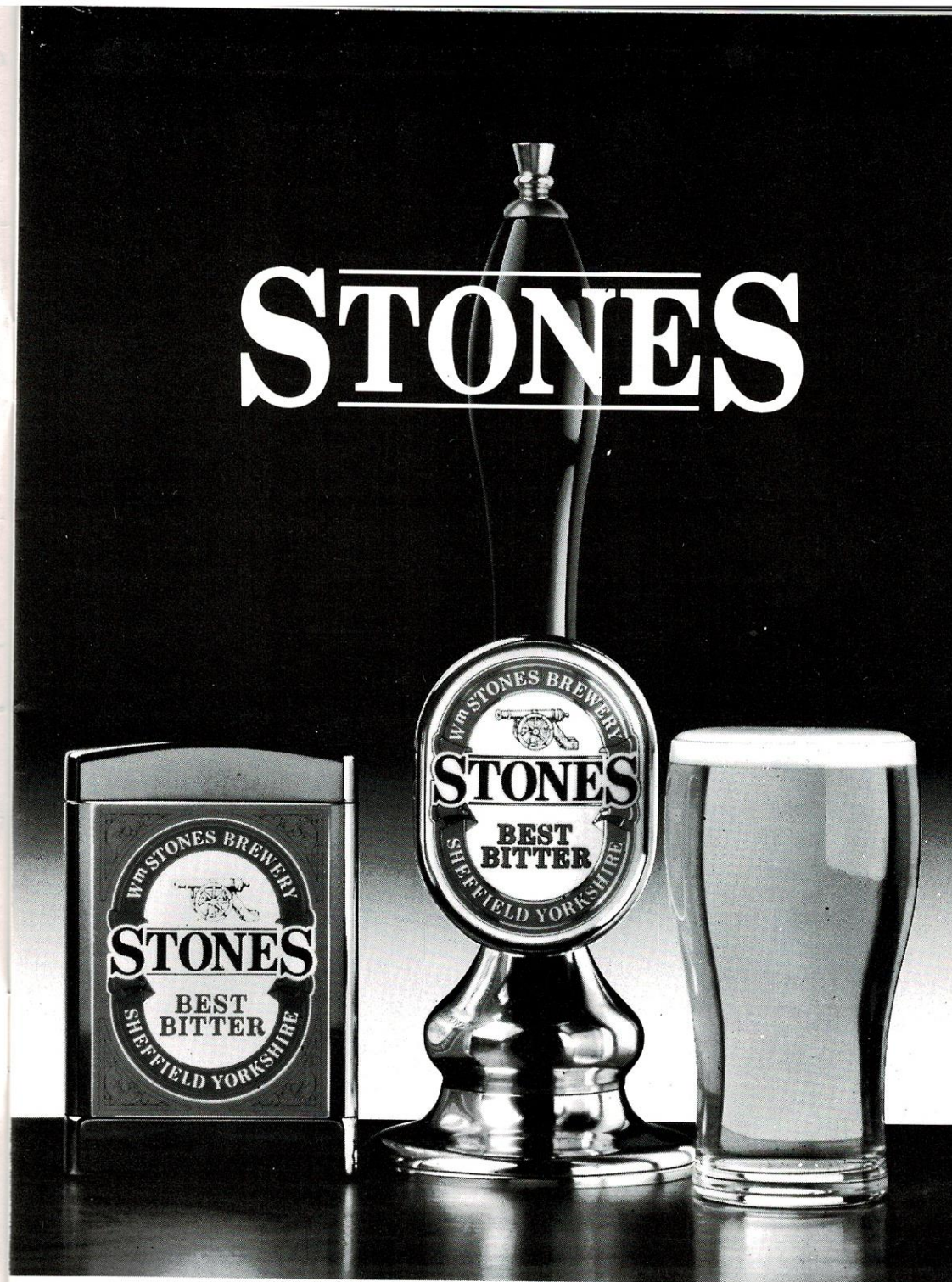
Ian Sherratt: Former Oldham and Lancashire Schoolboy. Left Oldham for Salford and returned last season. A hard grafting prop forward.

Richard Russell: A local lad who arrived home at Watersheddings via Wigan. Played for Wigan on the wing in the World Club Championships against Manley, but is now regarded as stand-off or loose forward. Captain of the side, a creative player with a good pair of hands.

Barrie McDermott: Strong and powerful despite his twenty years, local lad Barrie is yet another member of the BARLA squad to throw in his lot with Oldham. He is a dedicated young professional and has quickly made enough impression to earn a place in the first team squad.

Tommy Martyn: A player of exciting potential, he is a stand-off or centre who can 'sniff' tries out of nothing - 'Poacher' of the Rugby League variety who can turn a match at a stroke.

Wally Gibson: Australian full-back or stand-off signed from Huddersfield. Very exciting player with a habit of scoring regularly.



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looking back

Boxing Day 1989, an all-ticket crowd of 8,150 at Spotland and a final score of Rochdale Hornets 24 Oldham 12 - a day of high passion, incredible atmosphere and a man called Dean Lonergan.

Lonergan, a massive New Zealander, returned from a four week lay-off, which had included the previous week's shock home defeat at the hands of Bramley and was to be involved in one of the most spectacular tries seen at Spotland.

John Woods was the Man of the Match, revelling in the big match atmosphere of second against third in the League, whilst scrum-half Andy Sullivan proved the perfect foil to his big name partner.

Sullivan it was who set the ball rolling as he found Lonergan lurking inside his own half, the second-rower setting off like a winger down the touchline and sold an outrageous dummy to beat fullback Gary Hyde before flopping over the line, Woods adding the conversion from the far touchline.

Oldham then capitalised on some careless Rochdale passing as Charlie McAlister scored in the corner, the winger converting his own try and a later penalty for offside.

Paul Lord dropped the ball when he seemed destined to score, while at the other end Woods worked space with two typical dummies, but slipped trying to round the last line of the Oldham defence - a certain Brett Clark.

On the stroke of half-time there was no mistake from Woods as he outpaced the defence to score.

The try set up an incredible second-half Hornets' onslaught as Oldham found Sullivan's kicking game too hot to handle.

Keith Atkinson coughed up the ball in the tackle and good drives by Mark Lord and John Higgins set up the position from which Paul Gamble dived over between the posts.

Steve Turner kicked the conversion and a penalty after Oldham were caught offside.

Victory was sealed 11 minutes from time when Sullivan's towering kick slipped through the hands of Hyde and Paul McDermott, Hornets' sniffer extraordinaire, pounced for a try which Turner again improved.

Paul Lord grabbed a consolation try for Oldham in the last minute, but Hornets were well with their victory.

Hornets went on to finish third in the Division that year, one place behind Oldham, with Hull KR leading the race for promotion.

Of the teams on show that day, only Karl Marriott and substitutes

Steve Turner and Bob Marsden stand a chance of being on show today, while Brett Clark has since swapped allegiance.

On the Oldham side, Richard Russell will be hoping to recover in time to face Hornets again.

Hornets: C Myler, J Higgins, M Lord, M Nixon, K Marriott, J Woods, A Sullivan, P Gamble, M Hall, N Cowie, D Lonergan, T Humphries, P McDermott. Subs: S Turner, R Marsden.

Oldham: G Hyde, C McAlister, D Foy, R Irving, P Lord, B Clark, M Ford, J Fairbank, R Russell, J Fieldhouse, K Newton, T Croston, J Cogger. Subs: K Meadows, K Atkinson.

Attendance: 8,150.



DEAN LONERGAN



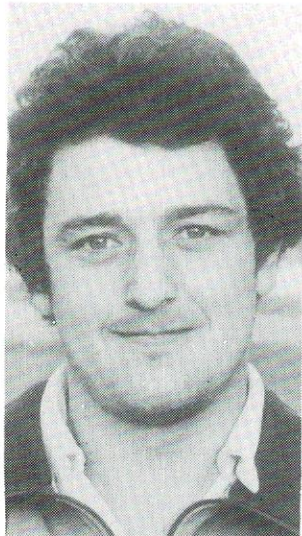
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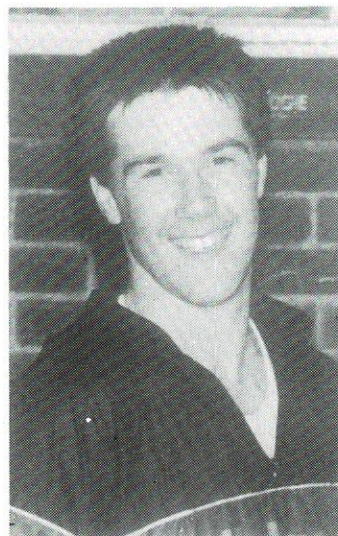
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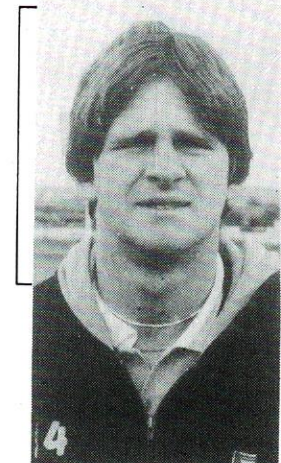
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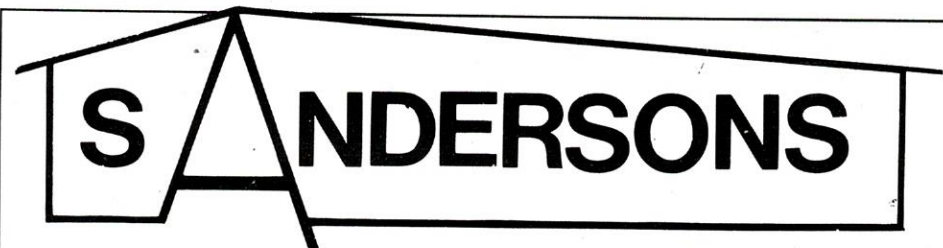
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5 mins M62 — Exit 19

The *profile*



NAME:..... Mark 'I'm the kit manager' Archibald
 Desmond Reynolds
 DATE OF BIRTH:..... 25th December (years ago)
 PLACE OF BIRTH:..... Bethlehem
 EMPLOYMENT:..... none: I work for the council
 YEARS AS PRO:..... 12
 BEST POSITION:..... Sat in the dugout
 PREVIOUS CLUBS:..... Spotland Con. Club
 HONOURS:..... I was once dropped from Hornet 'A' Team
 BIGGEST INFLUENCE:..... Julian Clary
 FAVOURITE PLAYER:..... Bryan Robson, Jockie Wilson
 FAVOURITE GROUND:..... Heywood Sports centre
 MOST MEMORABLE MATCH
 AS A PLAYER/COACH:..... An 'A' team game. I touched the ball
 AS A SPECTATOR:..... This seasons premiership final (when we win it)
 OTHER SPORTS:..... Snooker, Darts, Bowls, Hide & Seek
 MEANS OF RELAXING:..... Listening to Steve Gartland (it sends me to sleep)
 FAVOURITE FOOD:..... Fish & Chips with Tripe & Onions
 FAVOURITE DRINK:..... Babycham & Cherryade
 WHICH PERSON WOULD YOU
 MOST LIKE TO MEET:..... Julian Clary
 3 FAVOURITE FILMS:..... Carry on Hornets, Carry on Hornets II, Carry on Hornets III.
 3 FAVOURITE LP'S/CD'S:..... Home & Away theme tune, Oklahoma, Thunderbirds soundtrack
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 SEE THE GAME CHANGED:..... I should be allowed on the pitch whenever I feel like it.



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fixtures 92/93

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	Attend	Match Sponsor	Matchball Sponsor
30.8.92	Swinton	A	14-10	1873		
6.9.92	London Crusaders	A	10-30	750		
11.9.92	Wigan (GLC Round 1)	Salford	8-36	2936	Greenalls	Greenalls
20.9.92	Featherstone Rovers	H	26-22	1695	Supp Club	Supp Club
27.9.92	Bramley	A	20-12	1035		
4.10.92	Carlisle	A	12-24	580		
11.10.92	Oldham	H	20-21	2740	Jo Jo's/Bardsley Bldg.	Geldhome Chemists
18.10.92	Huddersfield	A	22-14	1548		
24.10.92	World Cup Final	Wembley	-----	-----		
25.10.92	London Crusaders	A	24-12	800		
1.11.92	Bramley	H	29-22	1116	Safer Cities Project	Wheatsheaf Centre
8.11.92	X111 Catalan (R T Round 1)	H	32-16	1700 (EST)	Imperial Tobacco	Imperial Tobacco
15.11.92	London Crusaders	H	25-16	1222	Jordans Poultry	Tap & Spile
22.11.92	Featherstone Rovers	A	6-18	2664		
29.11.92	Bramley	H	62-22	1065	Wheatsheaf Centre	Broadfield Hotel
5.12.92	Widnes Regal Trophy Round 2		2-30	3591		
13.12.92	Carlisle	H	26-18	1015	Supporters Club	MMAC
20.12.92	Swinton	A	P-P			
26.12.92	Oldham	A	P-P			
3.1.93	London Crusaders	H	P-P			
6.1.93	Swinton	A	12-14			
10.1.93	Carlisle	A	12-16			
13.1.93	Oldham	A	22-47	2653		
24.1.93	Oldham	A	12-28	2991		
31.1.93	Doncaster (SCCC Round 1)	H	34-13	1072	Silk Cut	Silk Cut
7.2.93	Swinton	H	12-32	1037	Wheatsheaf Centre	Siesta Travel
13.2.93	Leeds (SCCC Round 2)	A	6-68	8219		
21.2.93	Huddersfield	A	17-12	2182		
24.2.93	London Crusaders	H	30-18	850	Gee & Robinson	Geldhome Chemists
28.2.93	Huddersfield	H	24-14	1003	C.I. Power	
7.3.93	Featherstone Rovers	H	27-40	1636	Rochdale M.B.C	M&J Hats
14.3.93	Bramley	A	30-14	746		
21.3.93	Swinton	H	15-24	-	Cook St. P/Lion Spr.	Albany Hotel
28.3.93	Featherstone Rovers	A	22-24	-		
4.4.93	Huddersfield	H	27-38	1415	Carcraft	G.T. Catering
9.4.93	Oldham	H				
18.4.93	Carlisle	H				

loan signings



No it's not the Kray Twins it's Carl Partington (Swinton) and Paul Hourigan (Oldham) who were both signed on loan recently



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golf competition

AM/AM Shotgun Stableford Competition

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We are holding the above open competition on Wednesday 5th May and invite you to Support our club by Sponsoring a team and taking part.

The event will take place at Rochdale Golf Club, which is the premier course in the area and everything will be done to ensure that sponsors and their guests will be properly cared for, including a four-course meal, after dinner entertainment and first draw prizes for the successful teams.

The cost of entering a team is £200 + VAT. We shall also be producing a Golf day programme which you may wish to advertise in.

Trusting you will give your support for what we hope will be an enjoyable day.

Please fill in the form below.

Ian McMahon

General Manager

1. Shot Gun start -1.30pm
2. Stableford competition- 7/8 Handicap
Two best scores from each team to count
Maximum handicap -20
- 3) Refreshments - coffee & biscuits before tee-off
Dinner 7.30 for 8pm
- 4) Prizes to be presented after Dinner
- 5) Prizes - A generous supply of prizes to be won
First, second and third team prizes
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- 6) Would your company like to sponsor a hole?
**See entry form below*

Rochdale Hornets Entry Form RLFC AM/AM Golf Day

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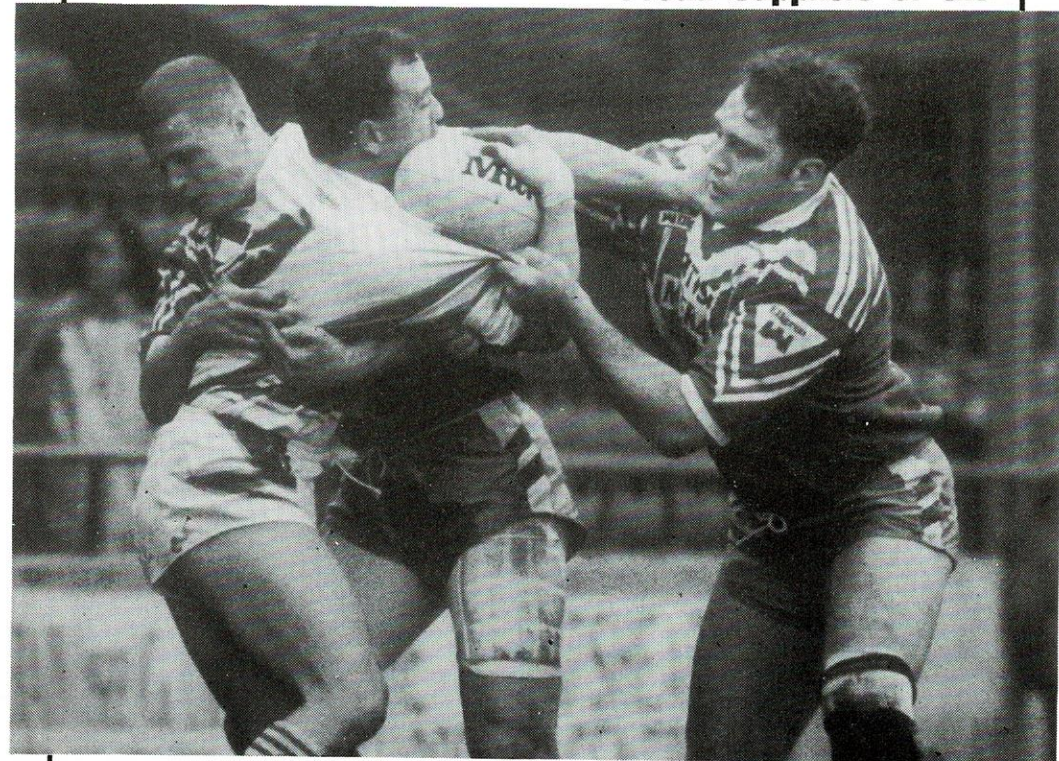
Player no	Handicap	Member of	(Golf Club)
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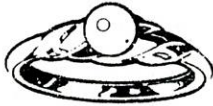
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premiership *finals*

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Redevelopment of Manchester United's famous Stretford End of the Old Trafford stadium will provide an extra 7,300 seats for the Stones Bitter Premiership doubleheader on Sunday 16 May.

Last season's sell out showpiece was limited to 33,000 due to the demolition of the Stretford End, the new seating bringing the 1993 ground capacity to 40,189.

Seat tickets for the 1993 Stones Bitter Premiership Finals are priced £17.50, £14.50 and £11.50 and can be ordered now by telephoning the Ticket Hotline on 0532 629991 Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.

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For the first time, the Stones Bitter Premiership doubleheader will be preceded by the Academy Challenge Cup Final, kicking-off at 11.45 am. As per tradition, the Stones Bitter Divisional Premiership Final starts at 1.30 pm, followed by a 25-minute entertainment programme with the Stones Bitter Premiership Final kicking-off at 3.30 pm.

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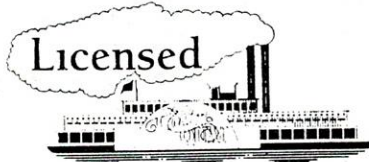


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SEAN TYRER	13
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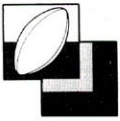
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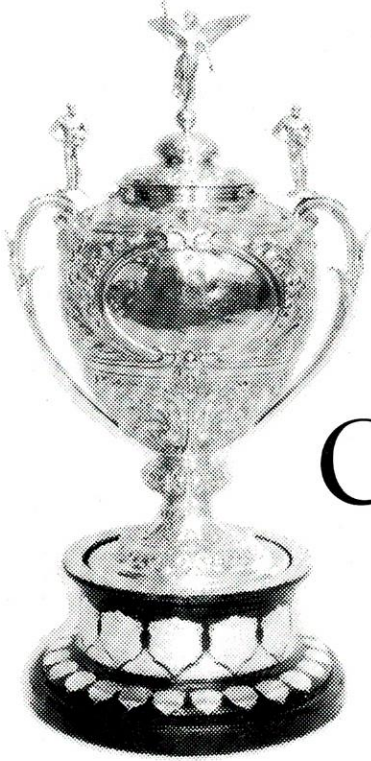


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in touch



TOP TEN TRY SCORERS

1. Shaun Edwards (Wigan)	44
2. Paul Newlove (Featherstone R)	40
3. Owen Simpson (Featherstone R)	32
Ellery Hanley (Leeds)	32
5. Alan Hunte (St Helens)	28
6. Greg Austin (Halifax)	27
7. John Wasyliw (Keighley C)	26
8. Martin Wood (Keighley C)	25
Martin Offiah (Wigan)	25
9. Nick Pinkney (Ryedale-York)	23
John Devereux (Widnes)	23
Mark Preston (Halifax)	23
Martin Pearson (Featherstone R)	23

The 1992-93 top try scorer will receive £30 a try from Stones Bitter.

TOP TEN GOAL SCORERS (Including drop goals)

1. John Wasyliw (Keighley C)	170
2. Frano Botica (Wigan)	160
3. Dean Marwood (Workington T)	152
4. Martin Pearson (Featherstone R)	113
5. Jonathan Davies (Widnes)	106
6. Lee Crooks (Castleford)	105
Paul Bishop (Halifax)	105
8. Steve Gartland (Rochdale H)	97
9. Steve Maguire (Whitehaven)	93
10. Andy Precious (Hunslet)	84

The 1992-93 top goal scorer will receive £10 a try from Stones Bitter.

TOP TEN POINT SCORERS

	T	G	DG	Pts
1. John Wasyliw (Keighley C)	26	170	0	444
2. Frano Botica (Wigan)	14	158	2	374
3. Dean Marwood (Workington T)	12	152	0	352
4. Martin Pearson (Featherstone)	23	113	0	318
5. Jonathan Davies (Widnes)	13	106	0	264
6. Steve Gartland (Rochdale H)	16	97	2	260
7. Paul Bishop (Halifax)	8	104	1	241
8. Lee Crooks (Castleford)	2	105	0	218
9. Steve Maguire (Whitehaven)	4	93	0	202
10. Mark Sims (Doncaster)	14	69	0	194

GREAT BRITAIN RECORDS

Great Britain ran up a world record Test score with their 72-6 defeat of France in the British Coal Test at Headingley. Jonathan Davies equalled the British record of 10 goals in a match.

The previous highest score in a Test or World Cup match was Australia's 70-8 defeat of Papua New Guinea at Wagga on 20 July, 1988. Australia scored 14 tries compared with Britain's 13. Britain's previous highest score came in the 60-4 defeat of France at Headingley on 16 February 1991 when they scored 11 tries.

Others who have kicked 10 goals in a match for Britain are:- Lewis Jones (Leeds) v Australia at Brisbane, 2nd Test, 3 July 1954, John Holmes (Leeds) v New Zealand at Pau, France, World Cup 4 November 1972 Bernard Ganley (Oldham) v France at Wigan, Test, 23 November 1957

GREG AUSTIN

Greg Austin completed his 100th Halifax career try in the 40-6 Stones Bitter Championship home defeat of Widnes. The Australian centre reached a

century of touch downs in 89 matches, including one as substitute, in less than three seasons. Halifax signed Austin from Hull RR over two years ago and the centre made a try scoring debut as a substitute at Bramley in a 56-8 Division Two win on 23 September, 1990. He was in the centre a week later for his full debut in a 26-18 home league win over Ryedale-York. He equalled the Division Two match record with six for Halifax in a 66-26 home defeat of Trafford Borough on 7 April, 1991.

Austin has twice scored five tries in a match for Halifax, four on another occasion, plus five hat-tricks.

He looks certain to finish in the top ten tries list for a fourth successive season, having been second with 38 in 1989-90 while at Hull KR, second the following season with 47 (including seven for Hull KR), and third last season with 33.

Austin has totalled 81 tries with other British Clubs. Formerly with North Sydney, he began his British career at Rochdale Hornets in September 1985 and scored 11 tries for them before moving to Salford a year later.

He totalled 25 tries in two seasons at Salford, joined Manly, Australia, for a year and then signed for Hull KR in September, 1989.

The Australian scored 38 tries in his one full season for Rovers and another seven before joining Halifax. Rovers had released Austin from their overseas quota to make way for New Zealand International forward James Goulding.

FRANO BOTICA

Frano Botica of Wigan is within reach of two club records set by Fred Griffiths who scored 176 goals and 394 points in 1958-59.

New Zealander Botica has scored 160 goals, including two drops goals, this season and added 14 tries for a total of 374 points in 34 matches. He has played in every back position except wing, but mostly at half-back, missing five of Wigan's 39 matches.

Griffiths, a South African, scored 14 tries in his double record-breaking season when he played in 39 of Wigan's 46 matches. He was at full-back 34 times and played five matches at centre.

It was his first full season, having signed for Wigan in December, 1957.

Botica, who made his debut for Wigan in August 1990, recently broke the record for the fastest 1,000 career points when he passed the milestone in his 93rd match on March 3.

DEWSBURY RECORDS

Greg Pearce kicked a club record 13 goals in Dewsbury's biggest ever 90-5 win at Blackpool Gladiators.

The previous goals record of ten was shared by Jim Ledgard v Yorkshire Amateurs, 13 September 1947; Nigel Stephenson v Blackpool Borough, 29 August 1972; Chris Wilkinson v Huddersfield, 27 March 1989.

Dewsbury's previous highest score came in the 15 try 78-2 Division III win at Nottingham City on 29 November last year. They scored 16 tries in Sunday's Division III win.

STEVE MCGOWAN 100

Steve McGowan scored his 100th career try for Bradford Northern in the 50-8 Stones Bitter Championship home defeat of Sheffield Eagles.

ALAN HUNTE 100

Alan Hunte scores his 100th career try for St Helens with the first of two in the 42-8 Stones Bitter Championship home defeat of Leeds.

KEIGHLEY COUGARS RECORD

John Wasyliw of Keighley Cougars is four tries short of equalling the club record of 30 by Joe Sherburn in 1934-35. Martin Wood is five short of the record.

TRY SCORING RUN

Mark Wood of Keighley Cougars has scored at least one try in six successive matches as follows: 1 - 4 - 1 - 2 - 2 - 1

Paul Newlove has scored at least one try in five successive matches for Featherstone Rovers as follows: 1 - 1 - 3 - 3 - 1

He has also scored a hat-trick for Great Britain during the sequence.

POINT SCORING RUN

John Wasyliw of Keighley has the current longest point scoring run. The winger has scored in 40 successive matches, starting with three goals in the 18-16 Stones Bitter Third Division home defeat of Scarborough Pirates on 17 February 1992.

WINNING RUN

Keighley Cougars have the current longest winning run of seven matches, all in the Third Division.

LOSING RUN

Nottingham City have the longest losing run of 24 matches, covering 21 in the Third Division, one Yorkshire Cup, one Regal Trophy and one Silk Cut Challenge Cup tie. City's only win this season was 19-12 at Barrow on 6 September.

MILESTONES

Daryl Powell needs two tries for a career century of touchdowns for Sheffield Eagles.

Les Quirk of St Helens needs three tries for a career century of touchdowns for the club.

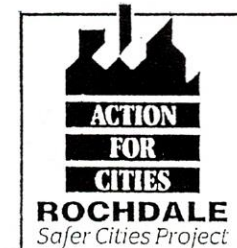
Owen Simpson of Featherstone Rovers needs one try for a career century of touch-downs including 32 at Keighley Cougars.

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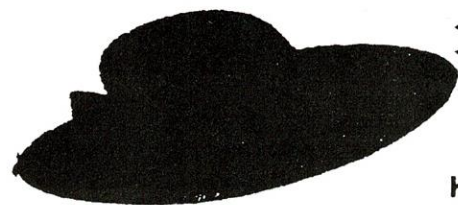
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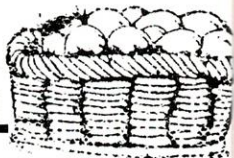
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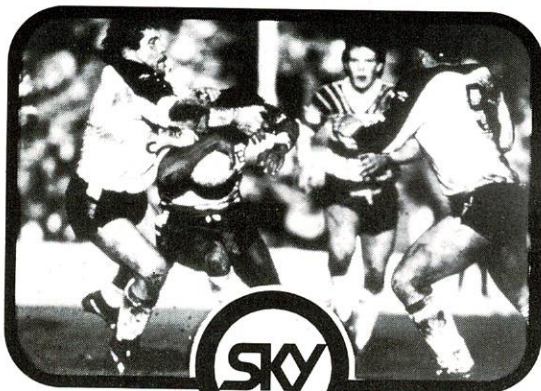


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back stage

After a long season and many changes here at Hornets, we are already planning for next season. We have several new plans for the structure of the club and also how we operate on matchdays.

I am collating information from supporters, sponsors etc. and I would ask for proposals for next season.

With this, we hope to make a day at Hornets even more enjoyable. Please send your comments and ideas to:

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alliance fixtures

Date	Opponents	Venue	Time	Result
28.8.92	Hull K. R.	A	8.00 pm	6-10
4.9.92	Castleford	A	7.30 pm	18-34
10.9.92	Wakefield Trinity	A	7.30 pm	24-26
17.9.92	Featherstone Rovers	A	7.30 pm	28-14
24.9.92	Halifax	H	7.30 pm	10-16
3.10.92	H. Hempstead (Lancs Comb 1)	A	2.30 pm	42-8
6.10.92	Hull K. R.	H	7.30 pm	32-10
16.10.92	Widnes (Lancs Comb 2)	A	7.30 pm	14-20
27.10.92	Wigan	H	7.30 pm	Postponed
10.11.92	Castleford	H	7.30 pm	29-10
13.11.92	Halifax	A	7.30 pm	28-48
19.11.92	Featherstone Rovers	H	7.30 pm	30-18
23.11.92	Wigan	H	7.30 pm	18-22
27.11.92	St. Helens	A	7.30 pm	17-32
2.12.92	Leeds	A	7.30 pm	Postponed
10.12.92	Widnes	H	7.30 pm	24-54
18.12.92	Wigan	A	7.30 pm	20-28
31.12.92	Leeds	H	7.30 pm	Postponed
2.1.93	Leeds	A	7.30 pm	26-29
9.1.93	Wakefield Trinity (YACC 1)	H	7.30 pm	18-28
15.1.93	Bradford Northern	A	7.30 pm	26-30
21.1.93	Wakefield Trinity	H	7.30 pm	16-36
29.1.93	Youngers Alliance CC Rnd 2			
4.2.93	Batley	H	7.30 pm	24-26
11.2.93	Hull F. C.	H	7.30 pm	22-25
18.2.93	Bradford Northern	H	7.30 pm	10-28
26.2.93	Youngers Alliance CC Rnd 3			
26.2.93	Hull F. C.	A	7.30 pm	24-2
5.3.93	Warrington Wizards	A	7.30 pm	16-36
11.3.93	St. Helens	H	7.30 pm	30-22
20.3.93	Batley	A	2.30 pm	22-41
25.3.93	Widnes	A	7.30 pm	
1.4.93	Warrington Wizards	H	7.30 pm	
5.4.93	Leeds	H	7.30 pm	22-22

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The Silver Heart Appeal has been set up to raise \$450,000 for a Coronary Angiogram machine. This is a very specialised machine which takes heart X-rays so as to enable quick diagnosis of heart disease.

The machine would benefit all the surrounding areas of Rochdale (especially Oldham!). The only other machines in the north are at Leeds and Manchester and each of those have a six-month waiting list.

Dr Michael Coupe is the Cardiologist who will be in charge of the Angiogram machine and he tells me that they have already raised !130,000, which is a magnificent effort. However, I am sure you will agree that there is still a long way to go.

Both doctors and nurses will be in the Ground with buckets awaiting your donation. At Half-time, weather permitting, they will walk around the perimeter of the pitch with a blanket for you to throw money into.

Both Rochdale Hornets and the Silver Heart Appeal would like to thank you for any donation you make.

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a bit *by Doddsy*

I know that it has been threatened thousands of times, but is peace really about to break out between the Rugby League and BARLA?

Recent noises appear to be encouraging that the latest kerfuffle, brought about by the introduction of the Academy system, may be reaching agreement.

Sadly, despite all the initiatives over almost a century, the game is still not big enough to be split into two separate governing bodies as is the case now.

Surely the time is right for one body to govern the game from under-9 sides right up to the highest pinnacle of the professional ranks. After all, it's hardly a revolutionary idea - Australia have been doing it for several decades now.

BARLA's original raison d'être came about because of dissatisfaction with the way that amateur sides and let's face it, they account for over 80% of the teams playing the game, were treated by the professional elite.

Professional clubs, they argued, allowed the amateur clubs to bear the expensive burden of taking raw youngsters and turning them into players good enough to earn a living from the game, giving nothing back to the amateurs in return.

Their argument is basically sound, as anyone involved in running a top amateur side will tell you, the costs for putting a team on the field without even having to pay wages, is astronomical.

Surely then, all the more reason for having one

body in control ensuring that grants and money are available to reward those amateurs who provide the life-blood for the professional game - namely, the players.

Then perhaps our much vaunted expansion could become a reality.

Remove the restrictions between amateur and professional and the way is wide open for Uncle Maurice's 'Conference' feeder league.

Events over the past decade, with Kent Invicta, Cardiff, Nottingham and even the artificially floated London, have shown that it is virtually impossible to start from scratch and be successful as a professional club.

Those who have visited Hemel Hempstead cannot fail to be impressed with their go-ahead attitude, but there is no way that they can generate the income to buy competitive players.

It will probably take five or six years to develop local talent and they would have a far better yardstick as to progress if they were to face the cream of the current National Amateur sides in the feeder.

Slow, steady progress would give clubs a chance to come through the system and be better prepared for the rigours of the professional game.

All it needs to go ahead is some cool, clear thinking by the two present governing bodies - is that too much to hope for?

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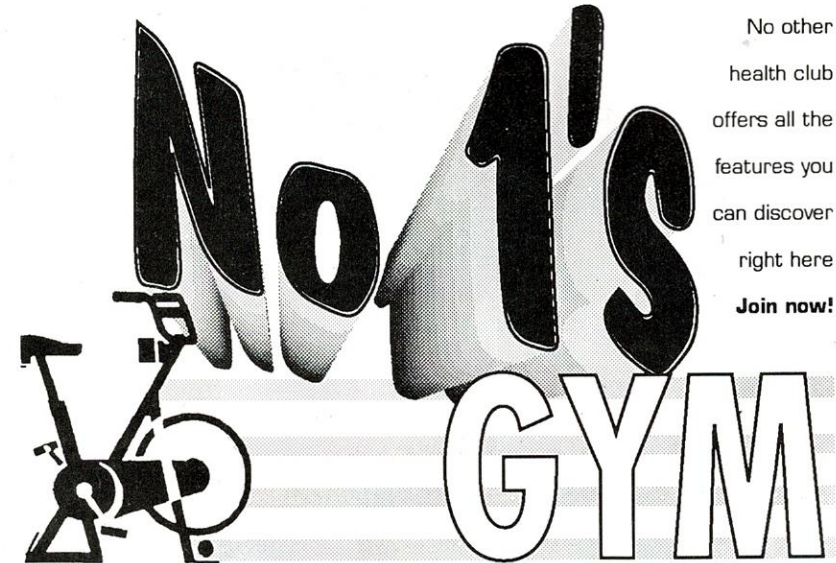
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