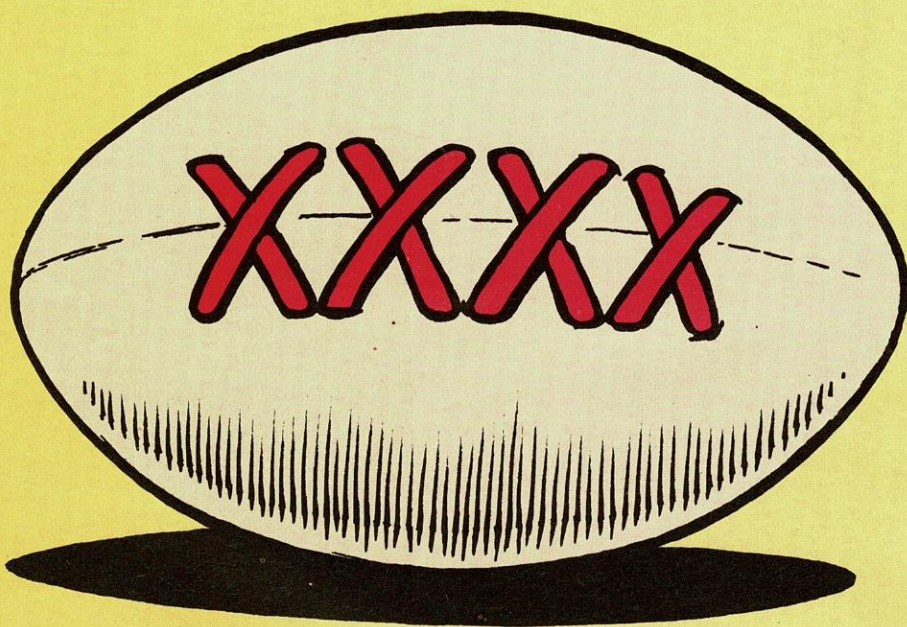


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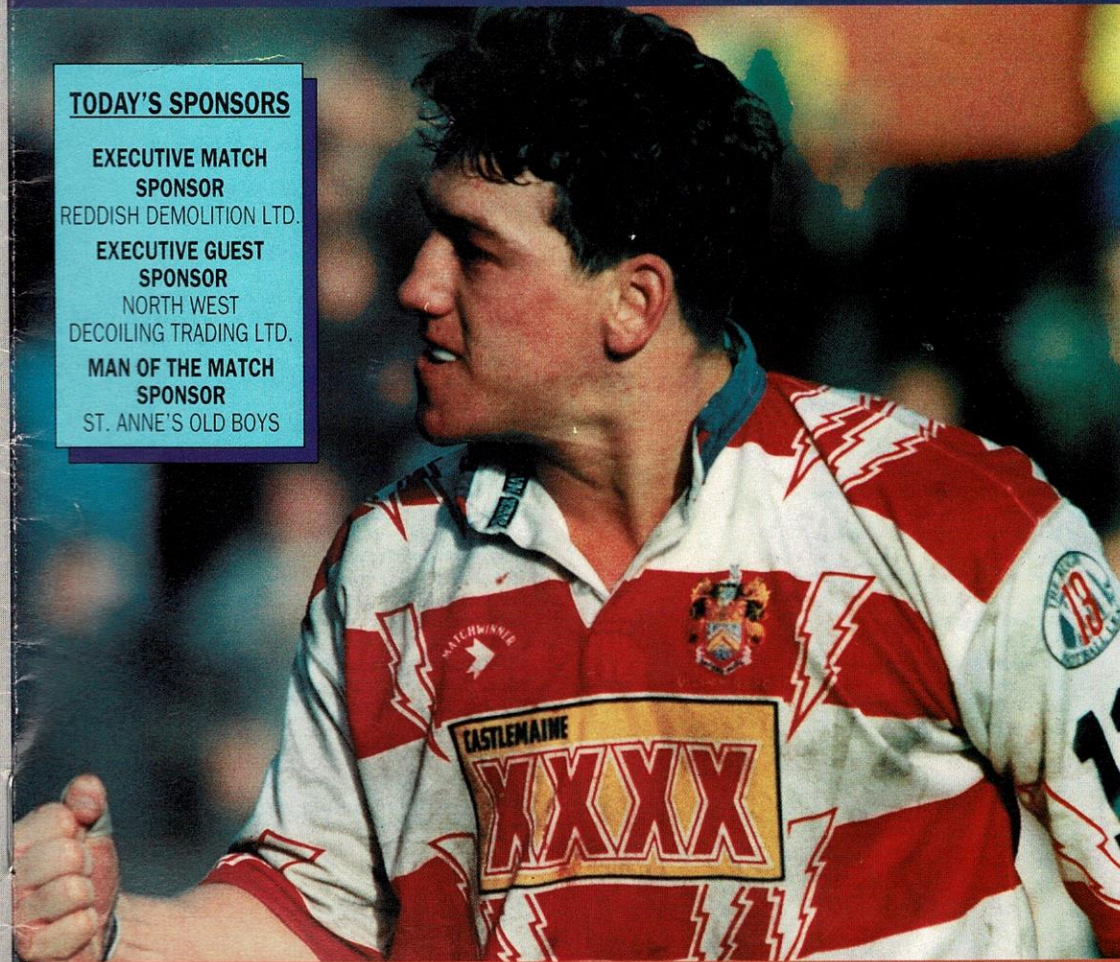
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1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57, 1957-58

Runners-up:

1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24,
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Lancashire Shield Winners:

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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,

24th February, 1912

Record Receipts: £37,505.50 v Wigan,

5th October, 1989

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £70,000 to Halifax

for Tony Anderson, March 1990

Record Try Scorer: Ref 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,

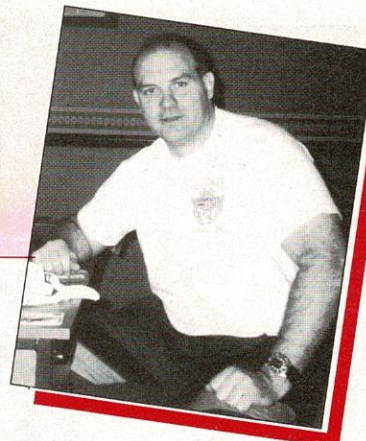
2,881

Most Appearances: Joe Ferguson, 685

Most Tries: Pre 1900, Jach Hirst, 233

Since 1900, Alan Davies, 182

TUNKS' TALKBACK



We are now three games into the campaign and we are beginning to see what is required of us as a First Division side and just how we are shaping up.

Although, as a coach, I will always be interested in recruiting good players to the Oldham team should they become available, I feel that we have assembled a squad that can perform well at the highest level.

Since my last programme notes I would like to welcome to Watersheddings Martin Crompton and Craig Richards and also welcome back Charlie McAlister.

We go into today's game having collected our first points of the season last Sunday at New Craven Park. It was important that after playing so well against Bradford for no reward, that we got something out of the Hull K.R. game. In the end we won convincingly and I know that we will continue to improve as a unit as our new players settle in.

Today's opponents, Warrington, have made a very good start to the season and last weekend they defeated St. Helens in a game shown on Sky T.V.

This season they have added the brilliance of Jonathan Davies to their side and they will fancy their chances this afternoon.

As always we will need to be at our best and we need all Oldham fans to really get behind their team, as we attempt to secure some valuable League points.

Enjoy the game,

Peter Tunks

TUNKS' TEASERS

1. Which two players scored Oldham's tries against the Australians in 1986?
2. What were the two clubs and the player involved in the first R.L. transfer of over £50,000?
3. Who is the only Oldham player to play and score in every match in a season?
4. Which team play at Craven Park?
5. Who was the first team to win the John Player (Regal) Trophy twice?
6. In which season did Newcastle have a team in the Rugby League Championship?
7. What three teams did Oldham play in last season's 'Silk Cut' Challenge Cup?
8. Who was the first forward to win the Lance Todd Trophy?
9. In which season did Oldham win their only ever 1st Division title?
10. Who captained the 1986 Australian Touring team?

ANSWERS ON STATS PAGE

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A Watersheddings Welcome to . . .

WARRINGTON

LEE PENNY. Full back. A first season Academy player who last term made three Alliance appearances (3 tries) then shot into the first team when first David Lyon left for St. Helens, then Rob Myler was injured. He stayed at top level with 21 appearances and six tries, collecting two G.B. Caps at U/21 level against France.

ROB MYLER. Full back/wing. Joined Wire 2.10.89 from Widnes St. Maries ARL. Early season injury cost him the full back spot last season but he came back on the wing after Alliance consistency. Good strike rate at top level with 11 tries from 28 games. Useful goal kicker.

ALLAN BATEMAN. 27 years old centre signed start of 90/91 season after gaining four Welsh R.U. Caps as a Neath player. Now a highly rated League player, 11 tries last season and a rock-like defence, playing well above his weight. Welsh R.L. Caps.

JONATHAN DAVIES. Former Llanelli R.U. and star of the Welsh R.U. International side. Joined Widnes 5th January 1989 producing more headlines than any other R.L. event. Shock transfer to Wilderspool this season. Begins a further stage in a brilliant career with an all-in R.L. record of 141 + 9 apps, producing 1,365 points (89 tries, 502 goals and 5 drop goals).

CHRIS RUDD. 23 years old, 6' Whitehaven born, classy centre signed 1.8.89 from Kells ARL. G.B. U/21 Cap against France. 27 tries and 95 goals from 79 full appearances. Star material but has been unlucky with injuries.

MARK FORSTER. Strongly built local 28 years old wing/centre. Ex Woolston ARL. Testimonial season 92/93. Two full G.B. Caps and 3 U/21. 232 full apps., have produced 94 tries plus three goals.

PAUL WILLIAMSON. 23 years old, 6' 1" centre/wing, came to Wire 1987 from Woolston ARL. Long-term leg injury hindered progress but enjoyed good Alliance season last term, 25 full apps have brought 12 first team tries.

PAUL DARBYSHIRE. 23 years old former BARLA Tour skipper and Wigan St. Pats ARL. Joined Wire December '88. GB U/21

honours. Another career hindered by long-term injury. Has played first team at 1,4,6 and 13 with equal ability and enthusiasm. Needs a good settled run.

KEVIN ELLIS. 28 years old 5' 9" live wire half back. Former Welsh B International when Neath R.U. player. Became pro 30.5.89. Had a good tour of Aussie when partnering Deryck Fox in the G.B. side at stand-off. Irrepressible.

GREG MACKEY. 31 years old Sydney born half-back, ex-South Sydney, Canterbury and Illawarra. Second spell with Wire after two seasons at Hull. Topped the appearances last term with 33.

KELLY SHELFORD. Kiwi International who toured G.B. in 1989. Joined Wire October 1991. Classy playmaker who begins the seasons at No. 6. Figured at 13 in many games last term.

GARY CHAMBERS. 23 years old 6' Whitehaven born prop, now powerfully built. Ex Kells ARL 1.9.89. Steady progress earned him U/21 honours. Good last season. Ready replacement for Neil Harmon.

BOB JACKSON. 31 years old 6' 1" prop/second row Sydney born, G.B. domiciled. Joined Wire 1984 from Fulham. Had a break from the game in 1988 after injury but returned 1990 to continue as one of the best value for money players in the club. Skipper, inspirational leader, well respected and tremendously popular on the terraces.

ROWLAND PHILLIPS. 28 years old 6' 1" 16 stone prop. Neath and Welsh R.U. International. Joined Wire 1990/91. Welsh R.L. International and great crowd favourite whose R.L. career has not yet taken off. Early season form could change all that. Has had loan spells with other clubs. Wilderspool fans want him at Wilderspool.

GARY SANDERSON. 26 years old second row/loose forward. Ex-Thatto Heath ARL. Joined Wire December 1985 with almost instant promotion to first team. Has maintained consistent form as the work horse in the pack and a good one GB U/21 four times in 87/88. Missed 91/92 with injury but returned with 32 apps last season and

became club's Player of the Year.

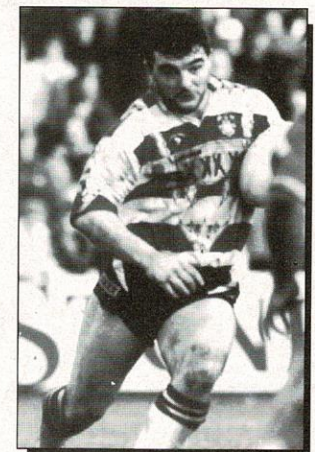
JOHN THURSFIELD. Warrington born 23 years old hooker, ex-Woolston ARL. Joined October 1986. Consistently good player in the Alliance. Arrival of the super-fit World Class Duane Mann in December '89 left him few chances. Duane has now gone. This could be John's year.

MIKE GREGORY. 29 years old, 5' 11" signed from Wigan St. Pats 1982. Superb player who became established as GB back three player 1987/89. Captained G.B. Tour party to N.Z. and Papua N.G. 1990. Has endured two torturous seasons of injuries and operations. Has returned this season looking strong. Gaining match practice but his class demands a place. A great pro. Testimonial year.

PAUL CULLEN. 30 years old 5' 10", signed 20.11.80., from Crosfields ARL. Toured Austria with GB Colts 1982. Former centre and half back. More recently at 12 or 13. Enjoying the best rugby of his career. Totally committed on or off the field and currently the Club's longest serving player. A fine clubman who deserved his club record Testimonial in 1992.

TONY THORNLEY. 26 years old 6' 1" strongly built centre. Joined 1986 from Woolston ARL. With 48 tries from 109 full apps has a good strike rate for a centre. Injuries when in good form have hindered progress. Useful kicker.

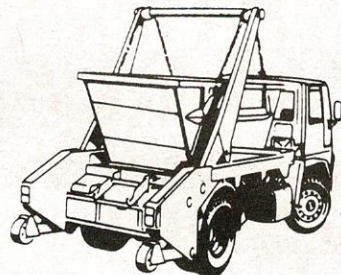
CRAIG TEITZEL. Arrived September 8th from Illawarra Steelers where is the established No. 8. At 6' 2" and powerfully framed, he joins Wire on a one-year contract. Big things are expected from him.



Rowland Phillips during his loan spell at Oldham last season.

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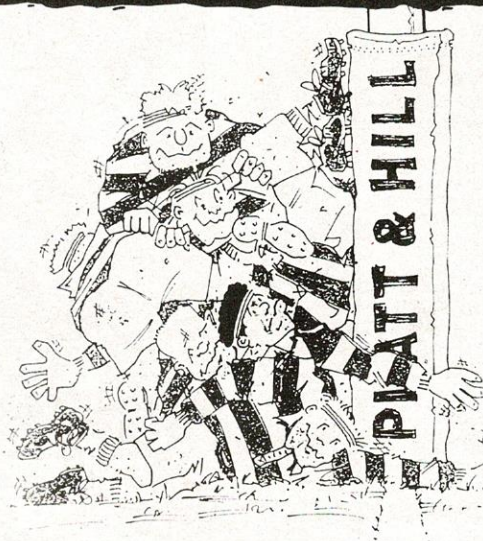
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Roughy 'eds Recalled

No. 2 ALF WOOD



Bristol born, Alf Wood came to Oldham from Cheltenham Rugby Union club in July 1908 and by the time he played his last match for the "Roughyeds" on Christmas Day 1920 against Swinton, he had become one of the club's "all-time greats" and was recognised as being one of the true heroes of British Rugby League.

That last remark refers, of course to the fact that Alf was the full-back in the legendary "Rourke's Drift" Test Match played in Sydney in 1914, when, although the British team was reduced (through injuries) to only 10 play-

ers and 1911.

ers for a substantial part of the game, the Lions held out to win by 14 points to 6. As well as providing a resolute last line of defence, Alf also contributed 4 goals in this, the most famous of G.B./Australia encounters. For his club also Alf was outstanding, helping Oldham to consecutive Championships in 1910

and 1911. In all Alf played 244 first class games for Oldham and kicked 342 goals, a total restricted by the break from competitive rugby during the First World War.

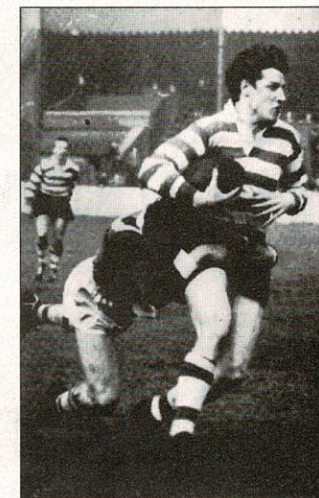
A good pointer to the consistency of this great player was the fact that he was again selected to tour Australia in 1920 when in the twilight of his career.

No. 3 JOHN DONOVAN

Signed from St. Helens in January 1963, John was a centre or stand off half, who figured prominently in the Oldham back division, when they won the Second Division title in 1963-64 season.

He won one Lancashire cap and was a regular in the Oldham first team until his transfer to Bradford Northern in 1968, playing over 150 games for the club.

Scored Oldham's only try in the 1966 Lancashire



Cup Final when Wigan defeated the "Roughyeds" by 16 points to 13.

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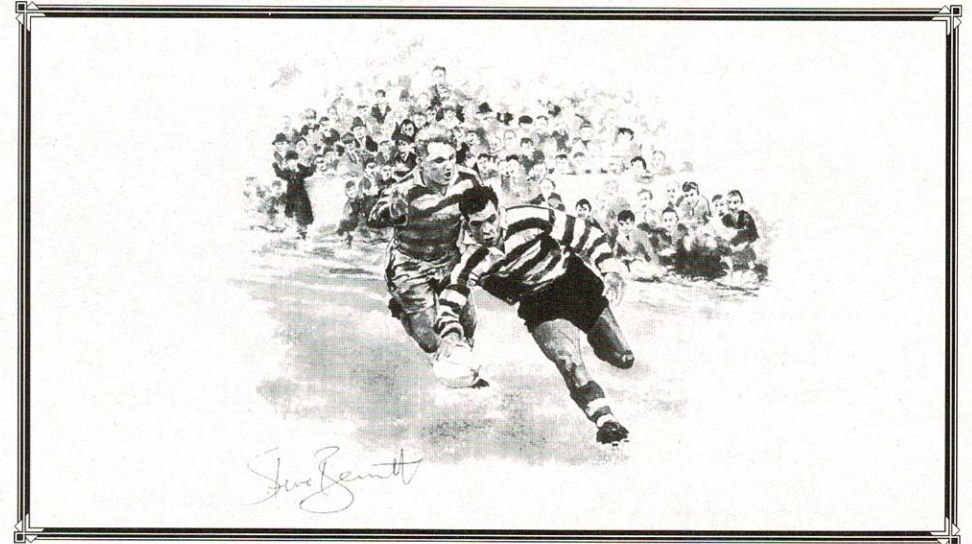
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ACTION GALLERY



ACTION GALLERY No. 2 ALAN DAVIES – Oldham's 'Prince of Centres', ALAN DAVIES evades the covering Wigan second row forward, Norman Cherrington, to touch down at Watersheddings in the 14 points to 6 victory over the men from Central Park on March 30th, 1957.

This was the 12th in an amazing run of 14 consecutive wins over Wigan and Oldham remained undefeated for the rest of the season, eventually beating Hull in the Championship Final at Odsal on May 18th.

Action Gallery

To coincide with their return to the First Division of the Rugby League, Oldham R.L.F.C. are introducing this special new feature into the matchday programme for the the 1993-94 season.

The ACTION GALLERY is a set of excellent water colour paintings, that depict some of the star players and dramatic moments in the club's history on the field of play.

With the centenary of the Rugby League now just two years away the ACTION GALLERY will cover the full time-span of almost 100 years of professional Rugby League in Oldham, from the early days of the "Northern Union" right up to the intense, high pressure atmosphere of the game in the 1990's.

The team that dominated the R.L. Championship in the 1906-1911 era; the cup specialists of the mid 1920's; the "great" entertaining team of the late 50's, all of these are sure to feature in this unique series which is a must for collectors of Oldham and Rugby League memorabilia in general.

FULL COLOUR copies (size 11 1/2" x 8") are to be made available and will come complete with a detailed narrative giving particulars of the player or incident depicted in the painting. The copies will cost £3.20 each (add 80p if requiring the copies to be sent by post) and can be obtained from **Mr M. Turner, 158 Balfour Street, Oldham, OL4 1NS.**

Please note that the ACTION GALLERY series are not fabricated images and have all been painted from actual photographs.

A limited number will be available in the club shop for 30 minutes after the match.

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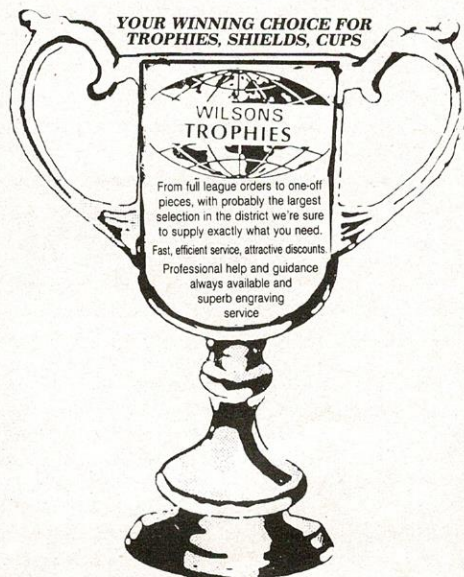
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A-TEAM NEWS

OLDHAM 'A' 30 v. ROCHDALE 'A' 18

A hat-trick of tries from young centre Martin Holden helped Oldham to a win which, on the balance of play, should have been more convincing. The game saw the debut of 18 year-old BARLA star Alfie Gouldbourne who scored a try with his first touch of the ball.

Forwards Ben Olsen and Iyan Green all also got on the scoresheet and Scott Ranson and John Clarke produced performances which pushed them into first team contention.

OLDHAM 'A' 32 v. HULL K.R. 12

A strong Alliance team found the going tough in the first half of this match but came storming through in the second period to win convincingly. Two Steve Kerry penalty goals put Oldham in front before Alfie Goldbourne went over following good work from John Clarke. Iyan Green was next to score as he seized onto a Sean Devine chip-kick.

A tremendous run and pass from Mark Hudspith put Charlie McAlister in at the corner.

Oldham were now totally in control and a very impressive display from substitute Paul Norman was rewarded with him scoring a couple of tries. David Bradbury completed the scoring.

OLDHAM "A": Fletcher, Trailist, Holden, McAlister, Hudspith, Devine, Kerry, Olsen, Clarke, Graziano, Bradbury, Tupaea, Green. Subs: Gouldbourne, Norman.



YOUNGERS ALLIANCE SECOND DIVISION FIXTURES SEASON 1993/94

AUGUST					
Saturday	28th	Workington	H	(W)	44-16
SEPTEMBER					
Saturday	4th	Rochdale	A	(W)	30-18
Thursday	9th	Hull K.R.	H	(W)	32-12
Thursday	16th	Hunslet	A		
Saturday	25th	Doncaster	A		
OCTOBER					
Friday	1st	LCCS - Round 1			
Thursday	7th	Leigh	H		
Friday	22nd	LCCS - Round 2			
Saturday	30th	Swinton	A		
Sunday	31st	Regal Trophy - Round 1			
NOVEMBER					
Saturday	6th	London	H		
Saturday	13th	Youngers ASDC - Round 1			
Thursday	18th	Huddersfield	H		
Saturday	27th	Youngers ASDC - Round 2			
DECEMBER					
Saturday	4th	Leigh	A		
Saturday	11th	Barrow	H		
Saturday	18th	Bramley	A		
Wednesday	22nd	Carlisle	H		
JANUARY					
Friday	7th	Youngers ACC - Round 1			
Friday	14th	Huddersfield	A		
Saturday	22nd	Barrow	A		
Friday	28th	Youngers ACC - Round 2			
FEBRUARY					
Thursday	3rd	Rochdale	H		
Thursday	10th	Keighley	H		
Friday	18th	Youngers ACC - Round 3			
Monday	21st	Sheffield	A		
Saturday	26th	Carlisle	A		
MARCH					
Saturday	5th	London	A		
Thursday	10th	Dewsbury	H		
Friday	11th	Youngers ACC - Semi-final			
Thursday	17th	Swinton	H		
APRIL					
Thursday	14th	Youngers ACC - Final			

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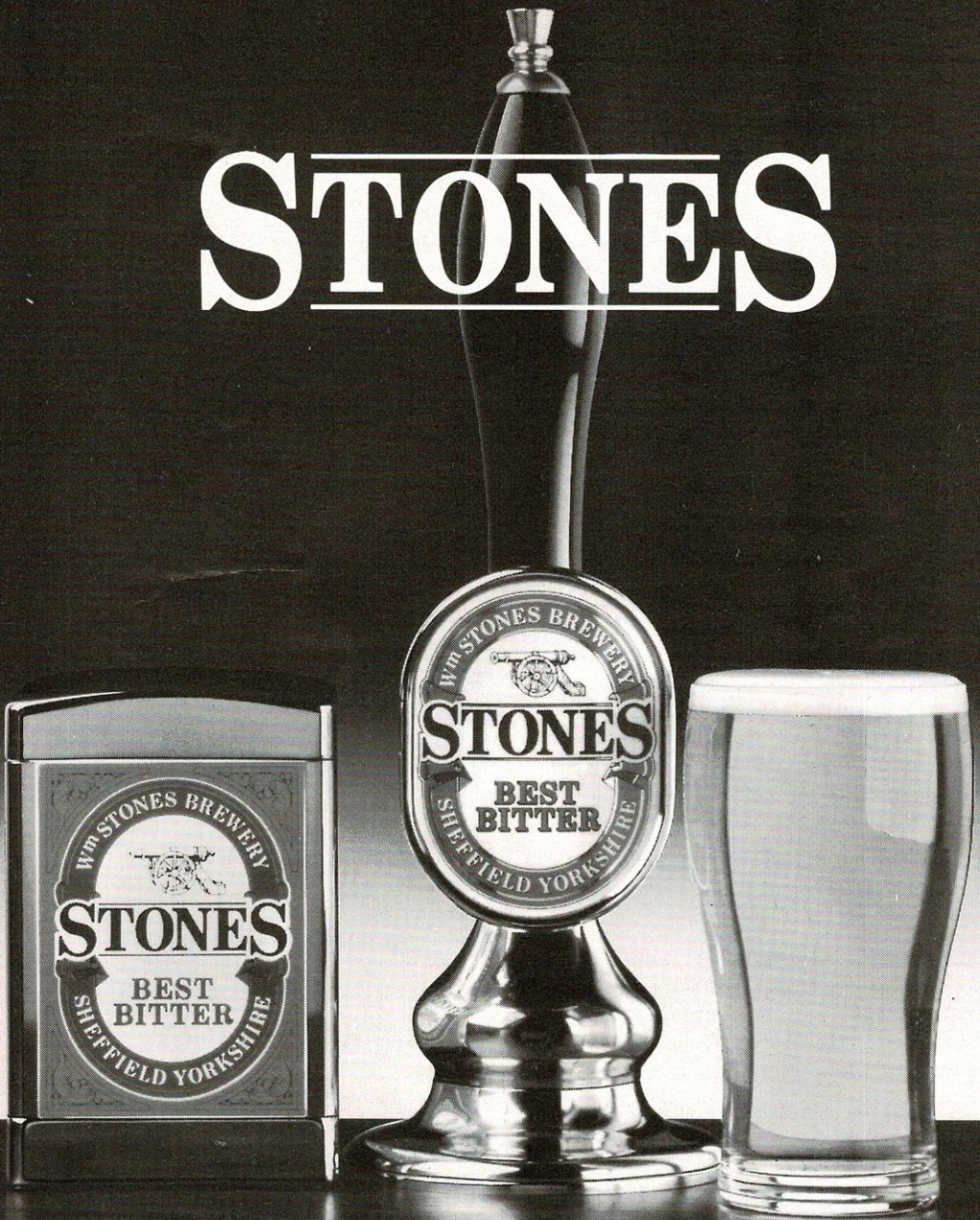


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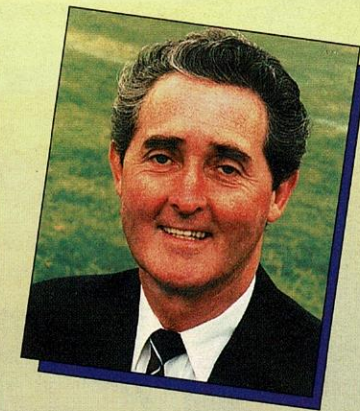
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FROM the BOARDROOM

by CHAIRMAN JAMES QUINN



Our win at Hull KR last Sunday, following an unlucky, last-gasp defeat by Bradford Northern on BSKyB the previous week, was encouraging to everyone associated with trying to establish our club as a respected member of the Stones Bitter Championship (First Division).

To help us in our aim, our coach Peter Tunks has brought in a lot of experienced First Division players, several of them in swaps which have taken promising Second Division players to First Division clubs.

The amount of work done by Peter during the summer and in recent weeks has been well documented on many occasions and does not require repeating again.

Suffice to say, however, that he has completely reshaped the side that won promotion for us last season and I am delighted to report that, after all the comings and goings, we are showing a profit on his dealings.

The surplus on Peter's wheeling and dealing was enough to pay for Bob Lindner, so I think you will all agree that this was excellent business, for which a great deal of the credit must go to Peter.

It is far too early to start getting too excited merely because we played well against Bradford

and Hull KR, but I think it is realistic to deduce that the signs are promising.

The hard work behind the scenes looks to be paying off, we look as though we might develop into a very good side given the time for all the new players to blend into a unit. Indeed, I think we can look forward to a good season of rugby league at all three levels within the club – first team, Youngers Alliance side and Academy.

The Academy lads have made a useful start, losing away from home at Leeds and Wakefield, but scoring two very impressive home wins over Batley and Featherstone: a good achievement for a side that is still in its infancy.

The defeat of Featherstone was particularly pleasing to the lads and their coaching staff, who are working hard to develop a squad that is already showing signs of producing some very good players.

Our Alliance Second Division team would give many a Second Division side a run for its money and it travelled to Hunslet on Thursday boasting a 100 per cent record from three wins out of three games played.

Peter (Tunks) is very keen for the 'A' team to win promotion

this season because he feels the jump from the Second Division of the Alliance to the First Division of the Stones Bitter Championship is a massive hurdle for any player to negotiate.

Barring any unforeseen or major setback, our fans should be able to look ahead to a good season on all three fronts.

We hope you like what you see today and that you will return in numbers next week for the visit of Sheffield Eagles to Watersheddings. If possible, try and bring a friend or introduce a workmate to rugby league.

Despite our financial hardships we have not lost sight of this season's top priority, which is to stay in the First Division and, in so doing, to win back the support and confidence of the town.

If we can achieve our goal – and the early signs are promising – the revenue generated during the season will enable us to service the club's debt.

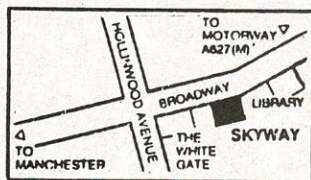
The future looks good, but we do need YOUR support and the support of a neighbour, friend or workmate, to enable us to chip away at the debt and ensure the return of the good times to Watersheddings.

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EX-PLAYERS RE-UNION

The Annual ex-players re-union will take place next Sunday when we are at home to Sheffield Eagles. All ex-players are welcome to be guests of the club. Please contact Judy on 061-624 4865.

**LOOK OUT FOR OUR GOLDEN GAMBLE
GIRLS AND BOYS**

Tickets for the Golden Gamble will be available before today's game. They cost just £1 each and we will be making the draw at half-time. The holder of the winning ticket will receive a cash prize of half the proceeds. The Golden Gamble winner at our last game was Audrey Perrins.

LIFELINE & CASHLINE WINNERS

**WEEK No. 32
£500 SUPER BONUS WINNER**
Winner: C 6576, C. Halstead
Agent: 124 Oldham Chronicle

MONDAY	£100	Winner: G 6219, J. Whitmore	Agent: 20 Comid Eng.
TUESDAY	£100	Winner: A 6401, A. Preston	Agent: 251 Calor Gas
WEDNESDAY	£100	Winner: B 4997, S. Waterworth	Agent: 37 Salem News
THURSDAY	£100	Winner: E 2536, R. Barker	Agent: 180 T. Givvons
FRIDAY	£100	Winner: D 0056, G. Parrinello	Agent: 40 Lamba News
SATURDAY	£100	Winner: B 1557, C. Lanham	Agent: 58 The Manor Inn
SUNDAY	£100	Winner: A 3079, A. Bainbridge	Agent: 139 Werneth Cricket

AGENTS FREE WEEKLY DRAW FOR £50 Agent No: 052 G. & S. Watts

LIFELINE WINNERS

WEEK No: 48 **£1000:** 3029 – M. BITHELL/J. SPINKS (c/o Royton Tigers A.R.L.F.C.)

£50: 2740 – B. WHITELEY (c/o Kath's Greengrocers, Shaw)

Special Prize: C.D. System **Winner:** 2603 – Mr. Lawton & Mr. Illing (c/o MCMS CONVEYORS)

LEADING SCORERS

Stuart Spruce of Widnes is the early season leading try scorer with 5 after 3 matches.

Franco Botica of Wigan heads the goals chart with 16 in 3 matches.

John Gallagher of London Crusaders has scored most points with 42 from 3 tries and 15 goals.

SCORING SEQUENCES

John Wasyliw's scoring run ended at 46 matches, when he failed to score in the 16-14 win at Rochdale Hornets. The winger was injured and replaced in the 19th minute.

Paul Bishop of Halifax now has the longest scoring sequence, having scored in every match since joining them from St. Helens for the start of last season. The scrum half's scoring run covers 36 matches.

WINNING RUN

Featherstone Rover's winning run ended at 7 matches, when they lost 8-32 at Halifax.

There is now no team with a winning run of 5 or more but London Crusaders are unbeaten in their last 6 matches, including a draw.

LOSING RUN


Bramley have the longest losing run covering 10 matches all in the Second Division.

MILESTONES

Daryl Powell of Sheffield Eagles

CASTLEMAINE

XXXXX



XXXXX

TEAM CHECK

SUNDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER, 1993

OLDHAM Team Changes

SPONSORED BY

1. Wally Gibson
2. Scott Ransom
3. Shaun Irwin
4. Darren Abram
5. Nigel Heslop
6. Paul Topping
7. Martin Crompton
8. Tiny Solomona
9. Paul Groves
10. Ian Sherratt
11. Bob Lindner SPECSAVERS
12. Andy Goodway SHEILA & DENNIS COUPE
13. Mike Kuiti
14. Martin Strett
15. Craig Richards

Why not sponsor the player of your choice - call Miriam Lewis on 061-624 4865.

WARRINGTON Team Changes

1. Lee Penny
2. Mark Forster
3. Allan Bateman
4. Jonathan Davies
5. Paul Williamson
6. Kelly Shelford
7. Greg Mackey
8. Bob Jackson
9. John Thursfield
10. Rowland Phillips
11. Mike Gregory
12. Gary Sanderson
13. Paul Cullen
14. Kevin Ellis
15. Craig Teitzel

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

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: S. NICHOLSON

Touch Judges: J. J. Beech (Red Flag)
R. Southward (Yellow Flag)

needs one try to become the first player to total a career century of touchdowns for the club.

JOHN DEVEREUX

John Devereux of Widnes needs 2 tries for a career century of club and representative match touchdowns. The threequarter's total of 98 comes from 89 for Widnes and nine in representative matches, including three tries in Tests for Great Britain.

A former Bridgend, Wales and British Lions Rugby Union player, Devereux made his senior Rugby League debut as a Widnes substitute in a 28-6 Lancashire Cup semi-final defeat at Warrington on 10th October, 1989.

He made one other substitute appearance, before playing on the left wing, in a 16-18 Division One home defeat against Leigh on 12th November, 1989.

Devereux, who has played mostly on the wing but occasionally at centre, has scored five hat-tricks, including two four-try feats.

His most prolific season was 1991-92 when he totalled 35 tries, including one each for Wales and Great Britain, to finish second in the try chart.

He also finished in the top ten with 23 in 1990-91.

CASTLEMAINE

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S. NICHOLSON

(Whitehaven)

Date of Birth:

5.4.61

Became a Grade One
referee in
1992/93 season.

IN TOUCH with H.O.

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GREAT BRITAIN V. NEW ZEALAND ADVANCE BOOKINGS



Unanimous choices . . . Great Britain and Wigan duo Andy Platt (left) and Phil Clarke read about their inclusion in the Rothmans Coaches Select XIII as the only players to receive 100 per cent support from the coaches of last season's Stones Bitter Championship sides. The Coaches Select XIII is one of a host of features in the 1993-94 Rothmans Rugby League Yearbook, which is the biggest-ever with 448 pages.

Still at last year's price of £14.99, the Rothmans Rugby League Yearbook is now in all good bookshops or can be obtained by post from Rugby League Enterprises, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4HT. Please make cheques payable to Rugby League Enterprises and enclose £1.50 to cover postage and packing.

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Last Time Out . . .

with ROGER HALSTEAD

An extract from Roger Halstead's match report in the Oldham Evening Chronicle of September 14th, 1992

If the basis of a successful Rugby League team is a powerful front-row and backs who can score, Oldham must be building on the right lines judging by their 33-20 win against Warrington in the first round of the Lancashire Cup at Watersheddings yesterday.

Iva Ropati, the Auckland express, did what he has been threatening to do since he joined Oldham by scoring a match-winning hat-trick.

It was the first by an Oldham centre since Des Foy's five against Hunslet in a 48-10 win on January 7th, 1990, but you go back four years to find an Oldham centre who last scored three against First Division opposition and that was Foy's effort in a 54-10 canter at Wakefield on October 26, 1986.

At Watersheddings yesterday it was no canter, but a fiercely-contested tie that could have got out of hand had it not had an experienced referee in Robin Whitfield.

Referees have been told to penalise any challenge above the shoulders, accidental or otherwise.

Whitfield took only a few minutes to warn Oldham and after a series of Warrington offences at the start of the second half he marched prop Neil Harmon after issuing a similar warning to the visitors.

Warrington can blame only themselves because Whitfield penalised Gary Chambers, Gary Sanderson and Harmon in quick succession and his patience was not going to last for ever.

The Wires committed suicide but even at that stage Oldham led 18-10 thanks, in the main, to a stunning performance from their two props, Tiny Solomona and Mark Sheals.

DOMINATED

They dominated the middle of the field in an excellent display of prop power, garnished with some deadly distribution.

They gave a hint of things to come just before half-time when Richard Russell popped up a reverse pass deep inside the Wires quarter, Sheals made the break and Solomona came on his inside to crash over near the posts.

There was more to come within four minutes of Harmon's dismissal when Solomona broke up the middle, Sheals got with him and Ropati held off the cover to score a thrilling try in the scoreboard

corner.

Solomona also played a major role in the third Ropati try when he pushed Russell into a midfield gap and the skipper's overhead pass sent the pacy Kiwi away to his hat-trick.

Sheals, meanwhile, was driving himself to a standstill in his best game for Oldham so far.

With Solomona a great ally, he carried the ball into the heart of the Warrington defence more than any other Oldham forward, blotting his copy book only when he failed to play the ball correctly and the penalty paved the way for the second of Kevin Ellis's two tries for Warrington.

With Solomona and Sheals setting a tremendous lead, all the forwards working hard and Barrie McDermott and Ian Sherratt still to come into the reckoning, coach Peter Tunks has assembled a pack that can cause some shocks this season.

TACKLES

Richard Pachniuk made more than 40 tackles while Ben Olsen, Mark Meadows, skipper Russell and substitutes David Bradbury and Paul Jones contributed much. Jones made his debut in the second half, tackling hard and distributing well, notably when he sent in Sean Tyrer for Oldham's sixth and final try.

Sean Devine was steady at half-back, while Tommy Martyn's kicking was good and his two goals off the touchline rubbed salt into the Warrington's wounds caused by Robert Turner's five failures.

Scott Ranson scored the second Oldham try off a towering Martyn kick and tested Warrington's defence many times in the second half when sent away by Tyrer. Tyrer moved to centre, with Martyn switching to full-back and Russell to stand-off when centre Stuart Cocker was substituted at half-time.

Russell had a splendid game. He led the side quietly and efficiently, worked hard by example and was always looking for the half gap and the telling pass to create play.

Ropati was the star back, however, and he established the pattern in the fifth minute when he latched on to a stray Wires pass in his own half and held off Allan Bateman to score in the corner.



Oldham made mistakes in the first half, failed to control the ball, missed tackles and conceded two scrums against the head. Incredibly, Warrington took each of the eight first half scrums, yet trailed by eight points at the interval - statistics which show how hard Oldham worked to cover up their first half failings.

Mann and Shelford exposed Oldham around the rucks, but the home side tightened up after half-time and was stronger out wide, although Tyrer missed Shelford in the build-up to Myler's try.

Tyrer had the last laugh when he scored in the corner after Martyn and Jones worked the ball to the right flank.

No prizes for guessing who did the spadework. You've guessed it on one - Solomona and Sheals, big men on a big day for Oldham.

Scorers: Oldham - drop goal, Devine; goals, Martyn (4); tries, Ropati (3), Ranson, Solomona, Tyrer.

Warrington - goals, Turner (2); tries, Ellis (2), Shelford, Myler.

OLDHAM: Tyrer, Ranson, Cocker, Ropati, Gumbs, Martyn, Devine; Sheals, Pachniuk, Solomona, Meadows, Olsen, Russell. Subs: Bradbury, Jones.

WARRINGTON: Turner, Kenyon, Bateman, Thorniley, Myler, Mackey, Ellis; Harmon, Mann, Sumner, Sanderson, Cullen, Shelford. Subs: Chambers, Richards.

Ref: Mr. R. Whitfield (Widnes).

Att: 4,041.

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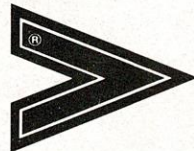
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APPEARANCES & SCORERS

	APP	SUB	TRIES	GOALS	DROP GOALS	POINTS
WALLY GIBSON	3	-	-	-	-	-
NIGEL HESLOP	3	-	1	-	-	4
MARTIN HOLDEN	1	-	-	-	-	-
PAUL TOPPING	3	-	-	5	-	10
SCOTT RANSON	2	-	-	-	-	-
DARREN ABRAM	3	-	1	-	-	4
STEVE KERRY	1	-	-	1	-	2
"TINY" SOLOMONA	3	-	1	-	-	4
PAUL GROVES	3	-	2	-	-	8
IAN SHERRATT	3	-	-	-	-	-
IYAN GREEN	1	-	-	-	-	-
DAVID BRADBURY	1	1	-	-	-	-
MIKE KUITI	3	-	-	-	-	-
DAVID JONES	1	1	-	-	-	-
ANDY GOODWAY	2	1	-	-	-	-
CHARLIE McALISTER	1	1	-	-	-	-
MARTIN STRETT	1	1	-	4	-	8
SHANE TUPAEA	1	-	-	-	-	-
CRAIG RICHARDS	-	2	2	-	-	8
SHAUN IRWIN	1	-	2	-	-	8
MARTIN CROMPTON	1	-	1	-	-	4
BOB LINDNER	1	-	-	-	-	-

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LEAGUE TABLE 1993/94

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
WIGAN	3	3	0	0	88	42	6
BRADFORD N.	3	3	0	0	92	64	6
HALIFAX	3	2	1	0	76	38	5
WARRINGTON	3	2	0	1	68	45	4
CASTLEFORD	3	2	0	1	44	36	4
FEATHERSTONE	3	2	0	1	64	64	4
LEEDS	3	2	0	1	60	63	4
WIDNES	3	1	0	2	71	75	2
OLDHAM	3	1	0	2	60	64	2
SHEFFIELD E.	3	1	0	2	69	76	2
SALFORD	3	1	0	2	67	73	2
ST. HELENS	3	1	0	2	42	47	2
HULL K.R.	3	1	0	2	50	68	2
WAKEFIELD T.	3	1	0	2	40	76	2
HULL	3	0	1	2	30	46	1
LEIGH	3	0	0	3	26	70	0

THE ACADEMY

with Manager
JACK BUCKLEY

The fortunes of our young Academy squad continues to fluctuate in the mixed ability group. A fine home win over Featherstone Rovers was followed by defeat at Wakefield last Saturday. by 16-32.

The fact the most of our squad are 17 years old counts against us when we encounter teams fielding several players with "A" team experience. However, many positive aspects are emerging, includ-

ing the consistently excellent form of stand-off Richard Badby and second row forward Mike Prescott. Oldham supporters who came to the Featherstall game were appreciative of our attacking style of play and the developing skills of the whole team. We would like to thank the many fans who made the trip to

Wakefield and gave the boys plenty of vocal support.

We look forward to seeing as many fans as possible next Tuesday (September 21st) when we entertain Hunslet at Watersheddings. We can promise you that if you like fast, open Rugby you will not be disappointed.

Phase 1 - Fixtures

OPPONENTS	DATE	VENUE	RESULT	F - A
Batley	24.8.93	H	W	76 - 2
Leeds	28.8.93	A	L	4 - 64
Featherstone	1.9.93	H	W	28 - 16
Wakefield	11.9.93	A	L	32 - 16
Hunslet	21.9.93	H		
Bradford	29.9.93	A		
Barrow	1.10.93	H		
Hull	9.10.93	A		

DEVELOPING SCENE

with Development Officer
NIEL WOOD

Today's curtain raiser is between Watersheddings, St. Edward's, St. Joseph's and Parish Church Junior Schools. They will play each other in a 'round robin' festival. Over the coming home matches I am

pleased to announce that many local junior schools will have the opportunity to play at Watersheddings before home games. If you're a teacher at a junior school and you would like to have your school included in the 1993/94 Rugby League Development programme, please contact me at the Rugby League Development Office on 627 0683.

Over the coming season I hope that nearly 30 Junior schools will take

up the chance to play in a curtain raiser. They will also have the chance to play in Junior School Festivals around the town. The first Festival will take place at the end of September.

Town Team football kicked off yesterday at Wigan and I hope that the results will be announced during this afternoon. It's a tough start for the Under 11's, 13's and 16's but a good test.

Oldham Rugby League Development is sponsored by P. CASEY & COMPANY

QUOTE - UNQUOTE

"This season we're looking to establish ourselves as a First Division team and not a team that will go down or just survive. I want a team that can compete in the First Division on a week to week basis and hopefully throughout the season. I will be able to add to the squad with a few more quality players."

Peter Tunks talking about the season ahead

"Peter Tunks and I have ambitions beyond just stopping in the First Division, we would like to think we could settle comfortably in mid-table and also have a good run in both the Regal Trophy and Challenge Cup. If our squad is fit and don't pick up too many injuries, we will have a go in both those competitions."

Jim Quinn on his hopes for the season

Paul Topping had this to say after last Sunday's win at Hull K.R.

"If this is stand-off, put me there every week, you can get stuck in there, you are always involved."

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ACTION PHOTOS

Courtesy of the **OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE**



Paul Groves registers his first try for the club.



Man of the Moment! Top form Tiny Solomona.

BACK PAGES

by **Michael Turner**

Like Oldham, today's visitors Warrington were one of the founder members of the Northern Union, later to become known as the Rugby League.

In the first-ever season of the professional game 1895-96, Oldham managed to do the double on Warrington and ever since there has been many titanic struggles between these two great clubs.

However, whenever the teams have met in major finals, the spoils have always gone to the "Wire" men.

The clubs met in the Challenge Cup Final of 1907 and the Lancashire Cup Finals of 1921 and 1989, each time it was the primrose and blue rather than the red and white ribbons that would be tied to the trophy. This was also the case in the match to be featured today, the 1955 Championship Final.

The match was played at Maine Road, the home of Manchester City A.F.C. on May 14th, 1955.

The final league table saw Warrington and Oldham both with 60 points, with the "Wire" placed at the

top due to a slightly better points difference. In those days the top four teams in the League played off for the right to appear in the Championship Final and while Oldham were defeating Leeds at Watersheddings, Warrington were seeing off Halifax to set up an all red-rose final.

So it was on to Maine Road on a day when the Manchester weather lived up to its rainy reputation, by way of a torrential downpour that reduced the pitch to a quagmire. Such conditions did not make for much free-flowing rugby and a defensive match saw each side

restricted to one try each, Frank Pitchford scoring for Oldham and almost inevitably Brian Bevan touching down for Warrington.

The final difference between the two sides being the two goals kicked by Warrington skipper Harry Bath, giving Warrington a 7 points to 3 victory. The teams that day were:

OLDHAM: Stirrup, Barrow, Cracknell, Davies, O'Grady, Daley, Pitchford, Ogden, Keith, Jackson, Winslade, Little, Goldswain.

WARRINGTON: Frodsham, Bevan, Challinor, A. Naughton, Horton, Honey, Helme, D. Naughton, McKinney, Lowe, Phillips, Bath, Ryan.

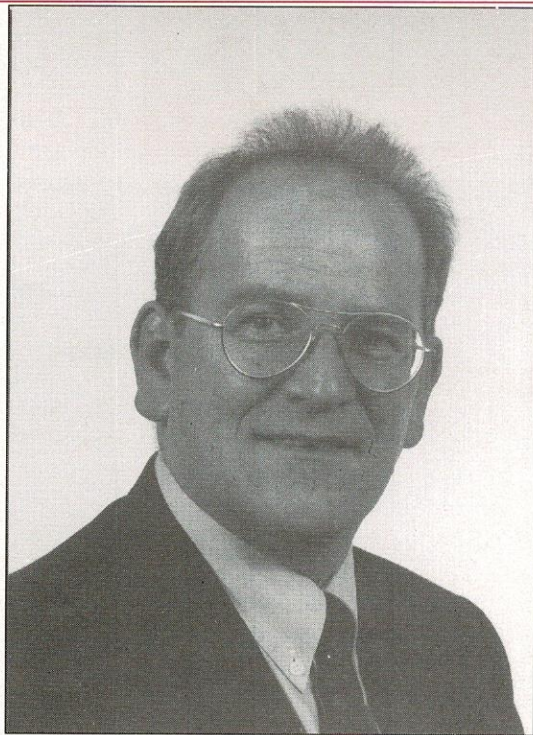


Action from another close Oldham v. Warrington match shows prop Leo Casey cutting through the "Wire" defence in the 1990 Challenge Cup semi-final at Wigan.



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SKIPPER'S SPOT

With Oldham Captain
BOBBY LINDNER



It was very satisfying to leave Hull K.R. on Sunday with our first two competition points.

After such a promising performance against Bradford Northern the week before it would have been a tragedy not to have kept the momentum going.

With so many new players coming into the club this season the team is still obviously feeling its way and will continue to do so for the next few more weeks yet. It will

take time for the players to familiarise themselves with each others traits before the full potential of the team will be realised.

The main objective throughout the teething period is to keep winning and keep ourselves in touch with the competition leaders.

After a good look at the opportunities created against Hull K.R. on Sunday. I have no doubt that the team is more than capable of achieving that task.

I would like to thank the Oldham supporters and staff for the welcome given to myself and to my family. We are starting to settle in now as we get to know people and get to know our way around.

It won't be long before my youngsters are speaking with Lancashire accents.

Enjoy your Rugby

Bob Lindner

