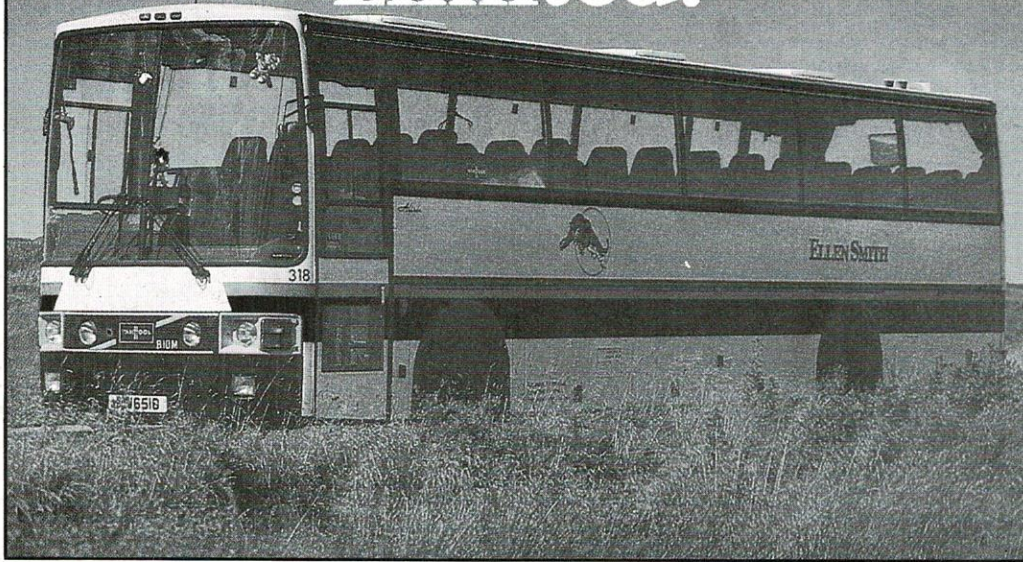


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Attendance: 26,664 v Oldham (R.L. Cup)

25th March, 1922

Tries in a Match:

5: J. Corsi v Barrow 31st Dec. 1921

& v Broughton Moor 25th Feb. 1922

J. Williams v St. Helens 4th April 1933

N. Brelsford v Whitehaven 3rd Sept. 1972

Tries in a Season:

30 by J. Williams 1934-35

Goals in a Match:

14 by Steve Turner v Runcorn H.

5th Nov. 1989

Goals in a Season:

115 by K. Harcombe 1985/86

Points in a Season:

S. Gartland 1992-93

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Stones Bitter Championship Div. 2

Runners-Up: 1989/90

John Player Trophy

Runners-Up: 1973/74

BBC Floodlit Trophy

Runners-Up 1971/72

Salford 7's Winners: 1990

from the DUGOUT



Welcome back to a new season to all our loyal supporters and to our entertaining visitors from Oldham.

The close season has seen a hive of activity, but the sound financial policy adopted by the board has meant (that at the time of going to press) all our signings have been from the amateur ranks and that we have not made any acquisitions from other professional clubs other than free agent Alex Melling. Today you'll get a chance to see several of them in action and I'm sure you'll help them to settle quickly.

So welcome to the club — Sean Whitehead and Steve Mawdesley from Saddleworth, Martin Bunce from Wigan Academy, Brian Fish from Higginshaw, Lee Atherton and Nick Robey from Orrell, Chris and Tony Hilton from Mayfield and Martin Swan from St. Annes.

I'm sure you'll also like to join me in wishing all the players who have left the club success at their new clubs.

GIBBO

COMMERCIALY SPEAKING

LYNTON CONNOLLY

Well, where has the closed season gone? I hope everyone had good holiday and you are now ready for a good seasons rugby. Please feel free to call in to see me or ring me in the office (48004) if you have any ideas or ways to help the never ending job of fund-raising. There are still a few players available for sponsorship, and our ever growing Saturday Yankee always needs good agents and new members, anyone who hasn't joined please fill in the form in this programme and hand it in to the office or shop — You can't win unless you're in!!

We still need a couple more good sellers for Golden Gamble, about half an hour of your time before each home game, please see me if you can help. For anyone who doesn't know excellent three-course meals are available in the main bar before games at very reasonable prices — again please ring me to book.

The shop is open on matchdays before and after the game and also Monday to Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday 9.30 - 1 p.m. — new stock will be arriving throughout the season and new team photos will shortly be available. I hope everyone will attend and enjoy the Race Night after today's game starting at 6 p.m. in the main bar.

A big thank you to everyone who attended 'Chris's Do' at the Spotland Suite it was a great success and we managed to raise £750 towards Chris's computer, once again thanks a lot to everyone. The bucket collection today is also to help towards Chris's computer. He suffers from Arthrogyphosis but despite everything manages very well and is a great Hornets supporter. He is opening our season today by being the mascot.

On Friday 16th September we are holding a Cabaret Dinner at Rochdale Rugby Union Club, Bamford, 7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m. Tickets £20.00 available from me at the office.



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4

IN TOWN TODAY OLDHAM

NIGEL HESLOP: Former England R.U. winger who won 10 caps for his country. Signed for Oldham from Orrell R.U. club in February '93 after losing his place in England's Five Nation Cup squad for 1993. Represented England in the World Cup '91 and was a member of two Grand Slam winning squads.

MARTIN HOLDEN: Joined Oldham from Wigan St. Pats in 1993. Can play wing or centre with equal ability. A strong runner he won BARLA Open Age International honours before taking the professional ticket with Oldham.

SHAUN IRWIN: joined Oldham from Castleford in 1992 in the move that took Richard Russell to Wheldon Road. A former member of Mal Reilly's Great Britain squad, Shaun is a vastly experienced inside back, sound in defence and with a deceptive turn of pace as proved when scoring a long range try at Featherstone in the 1993/94 season.

MIKE KUITI: A New Zealand International of great repute.

Played in Great Britain and France with the New Zealand Tourists in 1989. Selected for the Test Team 8 times, playing in Great Britain, France and New Guinea, but not Australia. A strong loose forward or second rower. At the pinnacle of his career, has played for Rochdale, Swinton, Leeds and Rochdale again.

GARY LORD: A newcomer to Oldham last season, Gary started his career with Castleford and moved to Leeds before Oldham signed him from Halifax for a £35,000 fee fixed by tribunal. The brother of former Oldham winger Paul Lord Gary began life as a full back but now plays in the pack mainly at second row.

CHRIS PARR: A prop forward from the Wigan area Chris began his professional career with Huddersfield where he gained G.B. Under-21 honours. A move to Swinton did not work out for him but Swinton's loss was Oldham's gain when Parr moved to Watersheddings in exchange for John Maxwell.

CRAIG RICHARDS: Joined Oldham for £25,000 from Bradford Northern a year ago and produced a stunning debut to score tries against his former club. Had spells on loan last season with Workington and Featherstone, but has prepared extremely well under Andy Goodways coaching this summer and big things are expected of him in 1994/95.

SCOTT RANSON: Twenty five year old St. Helens player and the top try scorer for his former club Swinton. Signed for Oldham in March 1992.

IAN SHERRATT: Former Oldham and Lancashire Schoolboy. Left Oldham for Salford. A hard grafting prop-forward, who won Oldham's 'Player of the Season' for 1993/94.



DAVID STEPHENSON: Like his fellow hooker from the Leeds area John Clarke, David learnt his rugby league in the Yorkshire city and also won BARLA youth honours. A good hooker and a clever play maker in the loose, Stephenson is highly regarded at Watersheddings. Oldham are fortunate to have two young hookers with the ability of Stephenson and Clarke.

PAUL DAVIDSON: Joined Oldham this summer in a £17,000 deal with Widnes. A Cumbrian who formerly played with Hensingham, Paul signed for Widnes three years ago and has had considerable senior experience at Naughton Park.

MICHAEL EDWARDS: Signed from Parkside Goldbourne at the age of 17 after receiving honours from Lancashire and England schoolboys. Now at the age of 20 deservedly retains his place consistently in the Alliance team and will be pushing this season for a first team appearance.

STEVE GARTLAND: Needs no introduction to league fans in the Oldham - Rochdale area. A clever stand-off aged 23, he signed for Rochdale from Oldham amateur club St. Annes in 1990 and established a Rochdale club record of 278 points in a season in 1992/93. A useful goal-kicker he is the son of Brian Gartland Oldham Town team coach and a former member of the Watersheddings coaching staff.

DARREN ABRAM: His first professional club was Warrington and then moved to Trafford Borough from where he joined Rochdale for £40,000 in '91. Earned a reputation at Rochdale as a prolific try scorer and when listed for £70,000 was sought by several clubs including Salford, Featherstone and Wakefield before joining Oldham in February '93.

DAMIEN AINGE: Signed after trails from Rugby Union in the Fylde area. A former England Student International, who also played for Leeds Polytechnic. Damien is a goal kicking full back who has also had experience of Rugby League in Australia.

JOHN CLARKE: A sturdy little hooker who came straight out of BARLA youth rugby last season and made the Oldham No. 9 shirt his own in the First Division of the Stones Bitter Championship. From Leeds, John is the only player ever to have won BARLA'S 'Young Player of the Year' award more than once. He toured Australia with the BARLA Young Lions of 1993 and quickly signed for Oldham on his return from 'Down Under.'

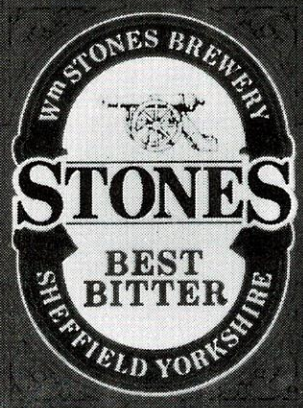
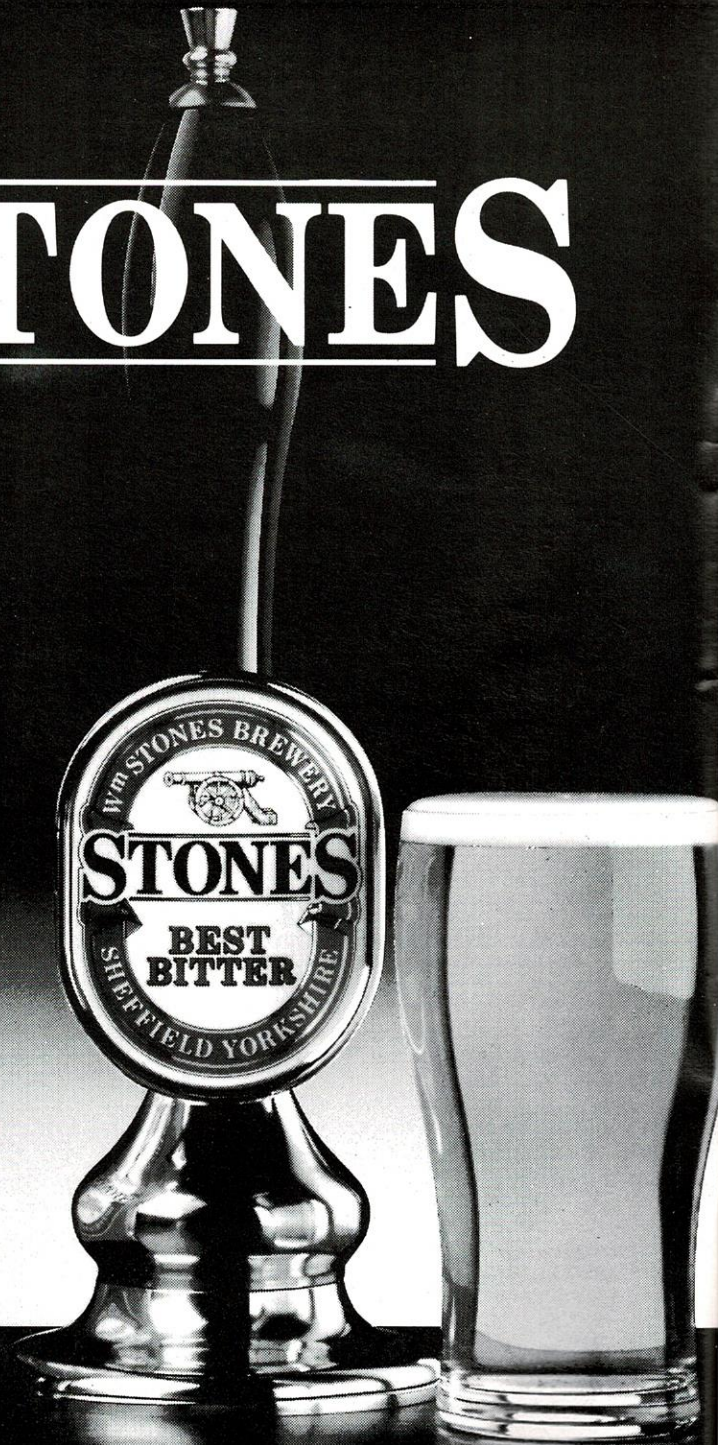
MARTIN CROMPTON: A £35,000 buy from Wigan early last season, Martin was troubled by injury in the early part of the campaign but came through magnificently last season to play a crucial roll in Oldham's team which saw off the threat of relegation.

PAUL TOPPING: Paul joined Oldham from Leigh in the summer of 1993 after starting his career as a full back with Swinton. Oldham's top point scorer last season he is a useful goal kicker who can play equally well at full back, centre or even loose forward. A groin injury caused his problems last season but he has recovered remarkably well after surgery and is raring to go into 1994/95.

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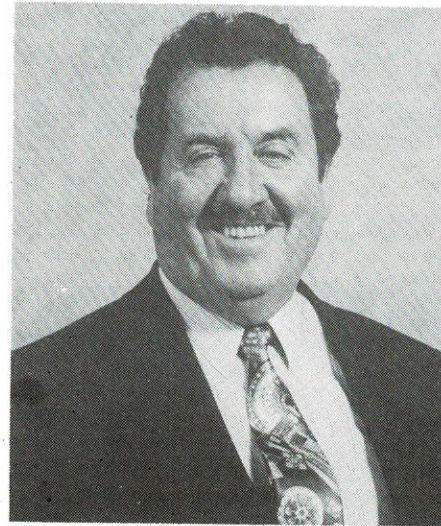
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STONES



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FROM THE BOARDROOM



On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to welcome you all to this afternoons opening match of the 1994/95 campaign, all be it a friendly we expect a hard game versus our local rivals Oldham. In the close season there has been the usual coming and goings amongst the playing staff and despite our best efforts we were unable to keep hold of the likes of Steve Gartland, Jason Green and Cliff Eccles, we hope however that the squad in general will be improved by the introduction of new players arriving at the club. We are optimistic that following Steve Gibsons trip to Australia the team will be further strengthened by three Western Reds. Fans this season will have the opportunity to support three Hornets teams due to the introduction of the Academy

side, who will play most of their fixtures at Spotland. A great deal of hard work has gone into compiling this squad of twenty players and coaching staff. We hope this will prove a success for the future of the club.

Thanks to Ray Clark and Ian McCorquadale for all their efforts getting the Academy side together. We have been active regarding good quality local and amateur players.

Enjoy today's game.

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IN TOUCH

JOHN SMITH'S TOUR BY AUSTRALIA 1994

● The 1994 John Smith's Tourists will be the 18th Kangaroo squad to visit Britain.

● The 1994 John Smith's Tour will feature 14 games, the least number of games being 13 on both the 1988 and 1990 tours.

● The longest Kangaroo tour was 1908-09 – the first ever – with 45 matches, the first on 3rd October and the last on 8th March.

● Great Britain have won nine of the 17 Anglo-Aussie Test series in Britain. Of the eight Australian series triumphs, seven are in current succession from 1963 to 1990 inclusive.

● Great Britain have been twice undefeated in Anglo-Aussie Test series, winning 3-0 in 1933 and 1948, while Australia have achieved the feat three times, winning 3-0 in 1982 and 1986, winning two Tests and drawing one in 1911-12.

● Australia won 37 consecutive matches spanning four Kangaroo tours, made up of the last four games of the 1978 Tour, the whole of the 1982 and 1988 tours, and the first five matches of the 1990 Tour.

● Non-Rugby League grounds have hosted 16 Anglo-Aussie Tests – including the first six in succession – the venues featuring London's Wembley, White City and QPR plus Newcastle, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Hull City F.C. Manchester United F.C. and Elland Road, the home of both Leeds United and Hunslet.

● An innovative will be the BBC televising live Australians' meeting with Champions Wigan in the third game of the 14-match John Smith's Tour itinerary on Saturday 8th October.

● The Welsh game at Cardiff FC will be Wales' eighth tour fixture with Australia, the last also at Ninian Park, Cardiff in 1982. The 30th October encounter will be Wales' third fixture at Ninian Park, having beaten France last March.

● Gateshead International Stadium, venue for the Charity Shield encounters in 1991 and 1992, will host the Under-21 fixture, the first time the Young Lions have met the Kangaroos since 1978.

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Results for last week August 6th

Race	Winner	No.
1	GOLDEN BALL	7
2	AVISHAYES	3
3	NO EXTRAS f.p.t.p.	8
4	ALANES	1
Winning Yankee		7381

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Race 1 was void, (less than 10 declared)
Reserve Race "A" was used in substitution

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JUNIOR HORNETS CLUB

Welcome to all our supporters and visitors to our game with Oldham. A special day today to our Mascot Christopher Hand. We held a get together for Christopher last weekend and raised the sum of £750.00 which will go towards a computer for Chris.

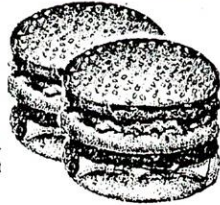
All Juniors are reminded to keep an eye on the programme for forthcoming events, for example our yearly trip to Blackpool Lights, a date which will be fixed later. A special thanks to all who attended last Saturday's get together — well done.

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IN SUPPORT



Dear Supporter,

Welcome to another season. We have lost some of last seasons players and gained some new ones — lets hope that with the coaches skills and our support this season will be a successful one.

In May we had our Annual Supporters 'Player of the Season' Award Lunch, yet again it is proving to be a very popular occasion, unfortunately it has been the 'kiss of death' to the successful player again, but I'm sure we all wish Caville good luck at London. The Supporters Club Chairman's speech was different to say the least, it appeared that no one was safe as Grant Bargh reeled off his speech — I will get you back Grant that is a promise.

May I thank all the supporters who went on the Wembley trip for collecting £60 towards our life saving equipment fund for the club.

Our first away game is against Barrow, as usual we will be stopping on the way for lunch if you wish to go on our popular Cumbrian trips please ring me on 354086. The coach will leave the Town Hall at 9.00 a.m.

Last Saturday 6th August Lynton arranged a 60-s Night for one of our young disabled supporters (who is todays Mascot) Chris Hands. Over £700 was raised towards a special computer that Chris will be able to work with his mouth. Today there is

a bucket collection for Chris please give generously he is nearing his goal of £2,000.

Congratulations to Carole Rogers who gave birth to a baby girl in June, and to Peter Lowe and Gill who became engaged also in June. If you would like to have mentioned a special occasion or birthday in the programme please contact me or it can be announced on the day.

The date for the AGM will be Thursday 8th September, 1994.

Regards,
JUDITH SAVIN



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Henry Hornet's INSIDE BUZZ...

A new Winter of rugby is underway and perhaps we should make the most of it as the voices for making ours a Summer sport seem to be building up more and more momentum.

Having had plenty of time to muse the arguments while shivering in cold pavilions and sheltering from the monsoon rain at local cricket matches (you may like to note that the glorious Summer weather which will bring the crowds rolling back has accounted for nine days of play in the CLL) I have reluctantly come to the conclusion that it is still a load of rubbish.

Rather than the revolutionary way forward outlined by its supporters it is indeed the panic of lazy men who are not prepared to promote the game.

Ten years ago soccer was threatening to go along the same path as an answer to falling crowds.

They ummed and arred long enough for an inspired move — the formation of the Premiership and its aggressive marketing and the subsequent re-organisation of the Football League, and a tragic accident — Hillsborough to combine and change the face of the game.

Forced by the Taylor Report to bring facilities at grounds into the 20th Century soccer stands accused of pricing the common fan out but at the same time has discovered a new breed who wishes to watch the sport in safety and comfort and who would never have shivered on a freezing, uncovered terrace in pouring rain. A lesson perhaps albeit with more thought to pricing structures.

No it seems that Summer will revolutionise the game because Rugby League supporters will no longer have their holidays, will not

take their children on a trip to the seaside when the weather threatens to melt the roads but they will flock through the turnstiles to watch players totally unaffected by 90 degree heat and rock-hard grounds play Rugby League.

And of course the game will enjoy coverage on TV, radio and in the National newspapers never before dreamt of because there is no competition is there.

Apart from the Olympics, World Athletic Championships, World Cup, European Cup, Test Match Cricket, a soccer season which only closes down for three months, a years horse racing, golf, that is.

Am I alone in thinking there is something more sinister behind the move to Summer rugby?

You see pitches cannot stand up to 12-months wear and tear, so clubs who are tenants, especially of football teams can expect eviction notices.

So goodbye Highfield, Sheffield, Bramley, Huddersfield, London, Swinton, Leigh, Bradford and trouble looms for us at Rochdale.

Now what do we have 23 professional teams — now would that be one league of ten clubs and one of 13 — less games to play for the big boys? No you're right I've got carried away, no-one in this glorious game would be so sneaky and manipulative.

Please leave us in Winter but improve facilities and market the game aggressively, leave Summer to those strange people in white who chase a ball around the outfield — on the few days it's not raining.

Finally the launch of a new competition — spot an edition of Rochdale Observer without a picture of Peter Rush in it, and win an autographed mugshot of the Chairman.

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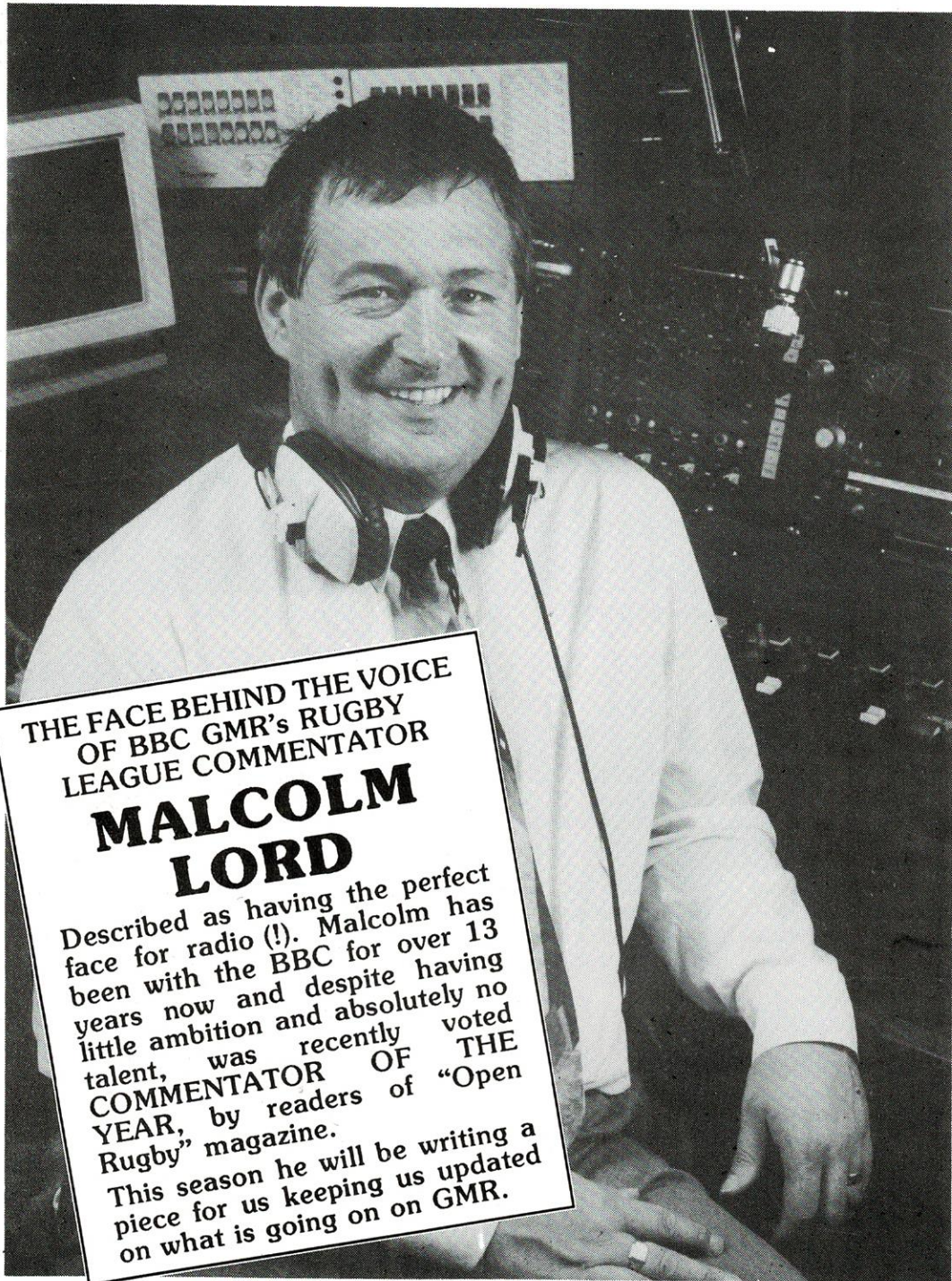
Cavill Heugh receiving the 1993-94 'Player of the Year' Award
at the Supporters Club Lunch

THE LAW CUP

Results of Previous Encounters (Winners in CAPITALS)

1921	Rochdale	0	Oldham	0	1952	OLDHAM	25	Rochdale	8
replay	OLDHAM	12	Rochdale	2	1953	ROCHDALE	31	Oldham	19
1922	OLDHAM	12	Rochdale	8	1954	OLDHAM	17	ROCHDALE	17
1923	ROCHDALE	13	Oldham	5	1955	ROCHDALE	23	Oldham	17
1924	OLDHAM	15	Rochdale	4	1956	OLDHAM	34	Rochdale	5
1925	ROCHDALE	27	Oldham	15	1957	Rochdale	5	OLDHAM	31
1926	OLDHAM	34	Rochdale	0	1958	ROCHDALE	25	Oldham	10
1927	ROCHDALE	11	Oldham	0	1959	OLDHAM	28	Rochdale	11
1928	OLDHAM	18	Rochdale	0	1960	Rochdale	11	OLDHAM	35
1929	Rochdale	2	OLDHAM	15	1961	OLDHAM	53	Rochdale	13
1930	OLDHAM	14	Rochdale	7	1962	Rochdale	2	OLDHAM	24
1931	Rochdale	11	OLDHAM	29	1963	OLDHAM	29	Rochdale	13
1932	OLDHAM	24	Rochdale	3	1964	Rochdale	7	OLDHAM	39
1933	ROCHDALE	28	Oldham	8	1965	Oldham	14	ROCHDALE	19
1934	OLDHAM	20	Rochdale	7	1966	ROCHDALE	13	Oldham	5
1935	Rochdale	14	OLDHAM	15	1972	OLDHAM	18	Rochdale	16
1936	OLDHAM	12	Rochdale	4	1973	ROCHDALE	30	Oldham	14
1937	Rochdale	4	OLDHAM	9	1974	OLDHAM	27	Rochdale	15
1938	OLDHAM	18	Rochdale	8	1975	Rochdale	2	OLDHAM	29
1946	Rochdale	8	OLDHAM	14	1976	OLDHAM	21	ROCHDALE	21
1947	Oldham	17	ROCHDALE	18	1977	ROCHDALE	14	Oldham	5
1948	ROCHDALE	9	Oldham	2	1978	OLDHAM	26	Rochdale	8
1949	Rochdale	2	OLDHAM	35	1979	Rochdale	9	OLDHAM	14
1950	OLDHAM	10	Rochdale	9	1980	OLDHAM	32	Rochdale	15
1951	Rochdale	7	OLDHAM	18	1981	Rochdale	15	OLDHAM	31
					1993	OLDHAM	28	Rochdale	26

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Alliance Fixtures

DATE	OPPONENTS	RESULT	K-O
AUG			
26th	Widnes	A	7.30
SEPT			
3rd	BARROW	H	3.00
10th	Carlisle	A	12.00
17th	London Broncos	A	2.30
24th	First Round Lane Shield		
OCT			
1st	BATLEY	H	2.00
8th	Second Round Lane Sheild		
13th	Leigh	A	7.30
29th	WIDNES	H	2.00
NOV			
4th	Barrow	A	7.30
11th	Keighley Cougars	A	7.30
19th	HUDDERSFIELD	H	2.00
26th	Swinton	A	2.30
DEC			
3rd	LEIGH	H	2.00
10th	WHITEHAVEN	H	2.00
17th	SWINTON	H	2.00
31st	LONDON BRONCOS	H	2.00
JAN 95			
7th	Alliance Cup First Round		
13th	Hull K.R.	A	7.30
21st	Sheffield Eagles	A	2.30
29th	Alliance Cup Second Round		
FEB			
4th	HUNSLET	H	2.00
11th	DONCASTER	H	2.00
17th	Huddersfield	A	7.30
25th	Whitehaven	A	2.30
MAR			
4th	WORKINGTON	H	2.00

THE JJB SPORTS ACADEMY FIXTURES FIRST PHASE

SEPT			
5th	BATLEY	H	7.30
12th	RYEDALE YORK	H	7.30
17th	Huddersfield	A	2.00
26th	DONCASTER	H	7.30
OCT			
1st	Hunslet	A	2.30

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QUIZ TEASER No.1

1. Name the Hornets Chairman from the 1960's who later became Chairman of Oldham?
2. Hornets record gate for a first team game was a Third Round Challenge Cup tie against Oldham - What year did this match take place?
3. Name the Oldham forward from the 1950's who later coached Hornets?
4. Name the Great Britian centre from the 1960's who Hornets signed from Oldham.
5. The record attendance for any game at the Athletic Grounds was 41,831 - name the teams and the occasion.
6. Oldham were Hornets opponents in the last match on the Athletic Grounds, 1st April 1988. Who scored Hornets final points.

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QUIZ TEASER COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

First all correct entry form drawn out of the bag will win £5 Voucher

ANSWERS

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

NAME OF ENTRANT ADDRESS

..... TEL. No:

Please return your completed form to The Secretary, Rochdale Hornets R.L.F.C., Spotland Stadium, Rochdale. Within the next 3 days. The £10 winner will be notified A.S.A.P. The name of today's prize winner and the answers to today's Quiz Teaser will be published in the next Home Match Programme.

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PLAYER PROFILE

DAVID FELL



NAME: David Fell

DATE OF BIRTH: 25/4/66

PLACE OF BIRTH: Wigan

FORMER CLUBS

AMATEUR: Orrell R.U.F.C.

PROFESSIONAL: Salford

HONOURS AMATEUR:

BUSCARLA Under 19's, Lancs.

Rugby Union 19's, Under 21's. 1st IX.

YEARS AS A PRO: 5

FAVOURITE POSITION: Stand off

BIGGEST INFLUENCE:

Girlfriend/Parents

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Brett Kenny

FAVOURITE GROUND:

Knowsley Road.

OTHER SPORTS: Golf

MEANS OF RELAXING: Reading a good book

FAVOURITE FOOD: Indian

FAVOURITE DRINK: Tetley Mild

PERSON YOU WOULD MOST

LIKE TO MEET: Billy Connolly

FAVOURITE FILM: Presumed

Innocent

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Roy

Orbison and Bruce Springstien

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HORNETS IN ACTION

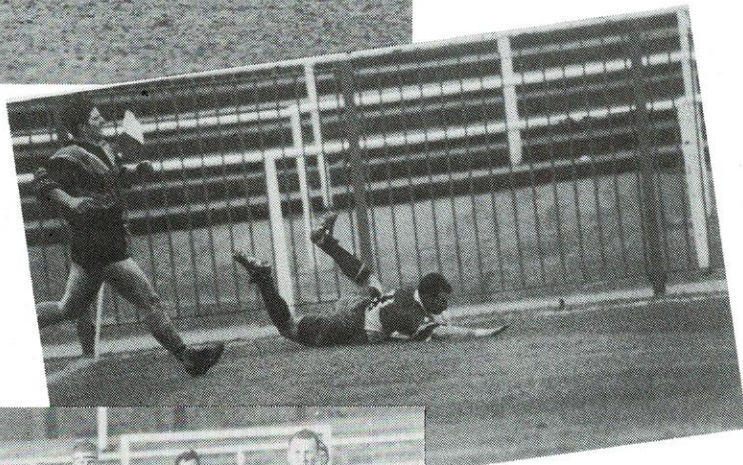


Above: Martin Strett in cup action v Leeds.



Left: Robert Hall on a powerful run.

AT
SPOTLAND
LAST
SEASON



Above: Paul O'Keefe goes over.



Left: Steve Gibson in the "thick of it."

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LOOKING BACK

BY COLIN ATKIN & GRANT BARGH

THE A. J. LAW CUP

On Easter Saturday, 26th March, 1921 Mr. A. J. Law the Member of Parliament for Rochdale presented a cup for competition each year between Hornets and Oldham, the proceeds were to go to the respective Infirmaries of the two towns. The trophy was first displayed in the window of Hardmans Jewellers (now Butterworths) on Drake Street. The original medals which were to be presented to the winners of the match were in solid gold with the Rochdale Coat of Arms on one side and Oldham Coat of Arms on the other side. The players who competed in the competition gave their services free.

The first match was played on 7th May, 1921 at the Athletic Grounds.

HORNETS 0 OLDHAM 0

HORNETS: Blain, Powell, Kynan, Prescott, Joe Corsi, Heaton, Winstanley, Woods, Bennett, Harris, Rodda, Paddon and Carter.

OLDHAM: Knapman, Thomas, Burke, Finnerty, Farrar, Hall, Bates, Marlor, Ferguson, Carter, Collins, Hilton and Fisher.

The replay took place on Friday, 13th May, 1921 at Watersheddings.

OLDHAM 12 HORNETS 2

In the Oldham team. Farrar replaced Thomas and Rix replaced Farrar.

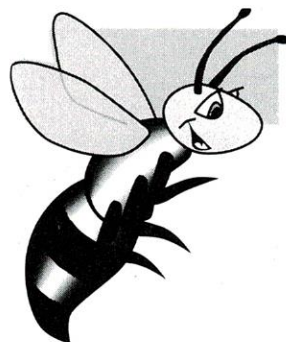
For Hornets Jack Corsi replaced Heaton and Slade replaced Rodda.

SCORERS:

OLDHAM:
Tries — Farrar, Fergusson
Goals — Ferguson 2, Rix.

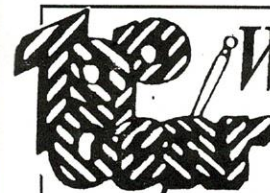
HORNETS:
Goals — Prescott

This was the only occasion when a replay took place. In 1976 when the teams drew 21-21 the trophy was shared.



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