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- 8 IAN SHERRATT
- 9 CRAIG MCKINNY
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- 11 GARY LORD
- 12 DAVID BRADBURY
- 13 PAUL CROOK
- 14 GARY BURNS
- 15 CHRIS PARR
- 16 SHAUN IRWIN
- 17 PAUL NORMAN

SHEFFIELD EAGLES

- 1 WASSILE SOVATABUA
- 2 JOE DAKUTOGE
- 3 LYNTON STOTT
- 4 JEAN-MARC GARCIA
- 5 BRIGHT SODJIE
- 6 DAVID MYCOE
- 7 RYAN SHERIDAN
- 8 PAUL BROADBENT
- 9 JOHN LAWLESS
- 10 DANNY MCALLISTER
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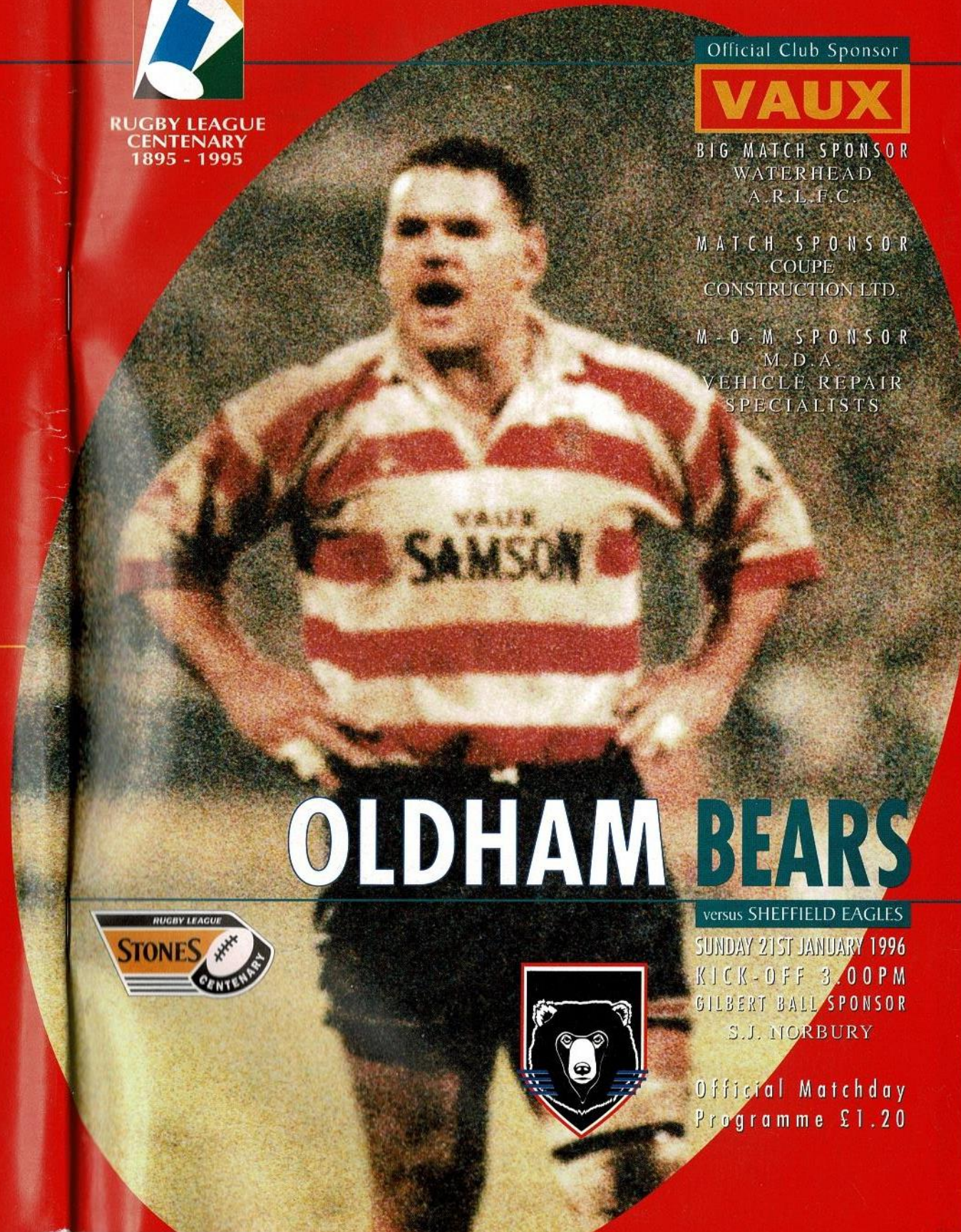
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 Comments in this programme are not necessarily the clubs.

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 Directors: John Chadwick, Roger Norris, Mike Winterbottom

CLUB HONOURS

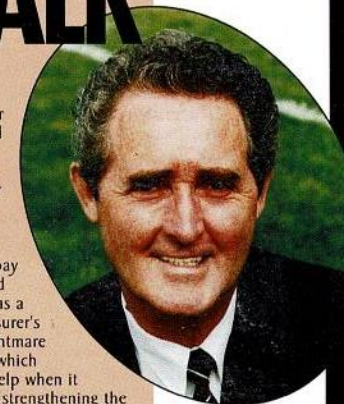
Rugby League Championship Play-off Winners
 1909-10, 1910-11, 1956-57
Runners Up
 1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22, 1954-55
First Division Champions
 1904-05
Second Division Champions
 1963-64, 1981-82, 1987-88
Rugby League Challenge Cup Winners
 1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27
Runners Up
 1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24, 1925-26
Lancashire Cup Winners
 1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59
Runners Up
 1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67, 1968-69, 1986-87, 1989-90
Lancashire Championship Winners
 1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57, 1957-58
Runners Up
 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24, 1954-55
Lancashire Shield Winners
 1975-76, 1979-80
Colts Premiership Trophy
 1979-80, 1989-90
Second Division Premiership
 1987-88
Wigan Sevens Winners
 1991-92

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 Bernard Ganley, 2,881
Highest Number of Points Scored: Joe Ferguson, 685
Most Appearances: Pre 1900 Jach Hirst 233 Since 1900 Alan Davies 182

BOARDROOM TALK

BY OLDHAM RLFC CHAIRMAN JIM QUINN



We bring down the curtain today on the shortened Centenary Championship season. I prefer to look forward to Super League now only ten weeks away rather than look back on the season now ending, but I think it is fair to say that in recent weeks we have produced performances that auger well for the more important battles that lie ahead. We still have the Silk Cut Challenge Cup to come, of course, but in the course of the next few weeks thoughts will inevitably turn to summer rugby and Super League. We kick off, as you will probably have read in the Oldham Evening Chronicle, on Saturday March 30 against Wigan at Boundary Park, kick off 6pm. The game will be televised live by BSkyB, and will be the first Super League game to be held in Britain. Sheffield, our visitors today, start up the European Super League programme on Friday night March 29 but as that game will be played in Paris, we can truly say that Oldham and Wigan will blaze the British trail as far as Super League is concerned. Some fans have expressed the view that we should have stayed at Watersheddings for Super League games until our new stadium is ready during the summer of 1997, but we have responsibilities to the RFL, to Super League, to Sky and to News Corporation to make sure that we present this new concept in the best possible light. The organisers have laid down minimum standards, as I am sure you will know, and they expect clubs to try and meet those standards as soon as possible. On top of that it is important, for our own sakes, that we show off our club and our town to best advantage and to that end we had to try and acquire a stadium that was fit to be shown to a potential world wide TV audience of 700,000,000 but would also provide our supporters and sponsors with the sort of facilities they are right to expect in 1996. I would like to express the club's thanks to Oldham Athletic for accommodating us and link with that the fervent hope that our fans will stick

with us in ever increasing numbers as we proudly take our place among the elite of the game. Gates in the Centenary season have been bitterly disappointing, not only here at Watersheddings, but throughout the Rugby League. While there may well be good reasons for that, we have to be positive and look ahead to all the good things that will come out of Super League and summer rugby. To start with the weather will be better and we won't have any more crazy situations like we experienced over the Christmas period when cancellations and chaos ruled the day. Fine weather will not only attract more people out of their homes, but the fact that we will be playing in summer could arouse the interest of sports lovers who are normally tied up with other things during the winter months. I think of all those who play amateur Rugby League or Rugby Union or play or watch soccer. The dry, firm conditions will also produce good, flowing, top of the ground rugby league in addition to which Super League clubs will be looking to play Academy games as curtain raisers or providing good quality pre match entertainment, as Oldham will be doing at Boundary Park. We are doing everything possible to give ourselves a chance of success in Super League. We have gone into full time professionalism, and I like to think that recent results and performances have indicated that we are moving along nicely on the right lines in the hope that we will peak around Super League time. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that our Super League season tickets are now on sale and contain significant reductions if bought before January 31. All season tickets purchased before that date will also be included in a draw for two places on our Super League trip to Paris for the match in the French capital on Easter Monday. Paris in the Spring. What a difference to those freezing, mid winter days around Christmas and the New Year when such a lot of games were postponed because pitches were frozen solid. Supporters didn't know whether they were

coming or going and clubs couldn't budget or rely on income from the gates to pay wages and bills. It was a club treasurer's worst nightmare and one which doesn't help when it comes to strengthening the side or thinking seriously about spending on new players, whether they be experienced men or youngsters. Hopefully, the switch to summer should put an end to all this uncertainty and allow clubs to run more efficiently and smoothly with a regular flow of income from a fixture list that is not disrupted. We would like to add a touch of extra class to our side, which is young enough for many of the players to be around the scene for several years. We believe the injection of a bit of class now - and it's always better to strengthen when things are going well - will make us a very interesting proposition indeed come the end of March. In closing, I extend a very big welcome today to Gary and Kath Hetherington, the rest of the Sheffield managerial and coaching team and all the players and fans. They have enjoyed a stunning run of form over the course of the last couple of months and this is a major boost for our game and a major boost for Super League. Thanks for all your support during the season and I look forward to seeing you all not only in Super League at the end of March but in the cup tie at Watersheddings against Warrington next Sunday. It should be a cracker, so try and come along and bring a friend. In the meantime try and do the club a favour by spreading the gospel of Oldham Bears and Super League.

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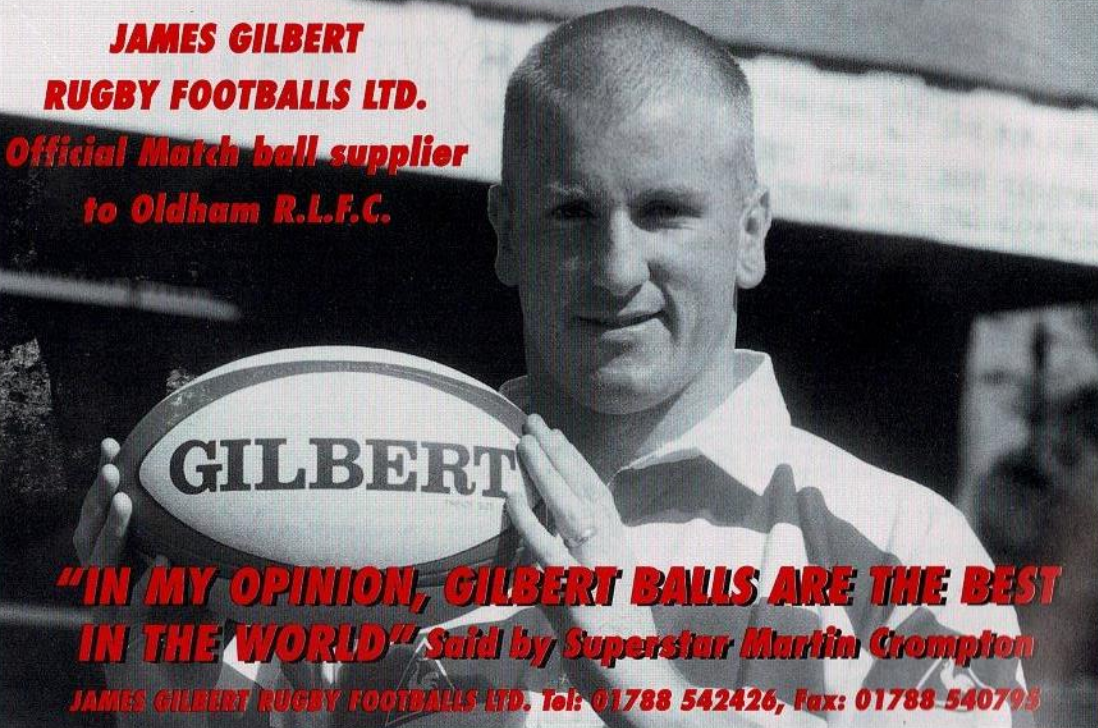
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PAUL BROADBENT
Age 27 Height 6.01 Weight 15.09 England
Caps 1
 Signed from Castleford amateur club Lock Lane U19s in 1987 and has made over 200 appearances for the Eagles and is now captaining the team. He made his England debut against France at Gateshead and scored ten tries for the Eagles throughout the season.

PAUL CARR
Age 27 Height 6.00 Weight 15.07
 Australian forward signed from Hunslet in the 1992 close season. Strong running back row forward whose perceptive backing up brings him many tries. In three seasons with the Eagles he has scored 44 tries including 18 last season. Played for South Sydney in the Winfield Cup for three seasons 1989-91.

ANTHONY FARRELL
Age 25 Height 5.09 Weight 14.02 England
Caps 1
 Eagles' £55,000 then record signing from Huddersfield in 1989, Farrell was unlucky with injuries during the first two seasons at the Eagles. Now settled in the loose forward position he is a powerful force in attack and defence, scoring 28 tries in the Wales in Cardiff last season and he is in the England squad for the World Cup.

MARK GAMSON
Age 30 Height 5.10 Weight 12.10
 The Eagles' second signing, from Leeds Colts, back in the Eagles' formation year, 1984. One of the most versatile players in the squad, only the prop and second row jerseys having eluded him to date. He has played over 300 games for the club, more than any other player and his appearance record includes a then club record run of 76 consecutive appearances between 1989 and 1991. Starred in both the Eagles' Divisional Premiership Finals at Old Trafford and was a try scorer in the Yorkshire Cup final defeat in 1992. He has missed only one game last season and is due to start a well deserved benefit this September.

IAN HUGHES
Age 23 Height 6.02 Weight 15.07 Great Britain U21
Caps 2
 Signed from East Leeds in 1991, Ian has quickly earned a regular place in the Eagles side, playing in 120 games for the Eagles to date. Unfortunately, one of the three games he missed, through injury was the Yorkshire Cup final in 1992, after putting them well on the way to the Final with a sensational 60 yard try in the first round defeat of Halifax. Played in the 1992 Divisional Premiership final and was

selected to play against France U21 at Rochdale in February 1993. He has scored 25 tries for the club to date usually from the second row position.

DAVID MYCOE
Age 24 Height 5.09 Weight 11.07 GB U-21
Caps 3
 Signed from Crigglestone ARLFC in 1989 and was immediately thrust into first team duties in the Eagles' first First Division match against St. Helens. Made himself a fixture in the side, making 144 first team appearances up to the end of the 1992-93 season. Sustained a serious leg injury in February 1993, which prevented him from resuming his duties for almost all of that season. Now back to his best form and he was the teams top points scorer last season with 70 goals and 3 tries.

RICHARD PRICE
Age 26 Height 5.09 Weight 12.00 GB U-21
Caps 2
 He has been an ever present player for the last two seasons and was never substituted. He also holds the club record of 79 consecutive games for the Eagles' a remarkable record. Signed from Hull in March 1991, where he gained U-21 two caps against France in 1989. Played for Hull in the 1989 Premiership Final, staged immediately after the Eagles' own win in the Divisional Final. A classy elusive centre or stand off he scored 10 tries last season and has crossed the line 48 times for the Eagles since 1991.

LYNTON STOTT
Age 24 Height 5.09 Weight 13.07
 Signed from Woolston Rangers in Warrington in December 1992. Regarded as one of the best amateur players after switching to Rugby League in 1989. Previously, Lynton had represented Lancashire schoolboys at Rugby Union and had had trials for England. His pace and ability from full back suggest a very good career in professional Rugby League and he played 63 games for Eagles scoring 27 tries.

RYAN SHERIDAN
Age 20 Height 5.06 Weight 12.07
 Signed from Dewsbury Moor ARLFC in 1991 as an Academy team player. He has represented Great Britain Academy against France and New Zealand and went on this last summers Academy tour to Australia. He is a most promising half back who already has 70 appearances for the first team and he has scored 31 tries to date.

BRIGHT SODJE
Age 26 Height 5.11 Weight 13.0
 Nigerian born winger went to the same London school as Martin Offiah. After a successful Rugby Union career with Blackheath and London Division he changed codes four years ago and joined Hull KR. He scored 23 tries in the 1992-93 season for the Robins and was transfer listed at £120,000 but was swapped instead for David Plange in 1994. Found his form in the second half of last season and ended the season with 10 tries.

ANDY YOUNG
Age 29 Height 6.0 Weight 15.02
 One of the original Eagles having signed in 1988 from Eastmoor amateurs. Played over 100 matches before a serious injury in 1992 threatened his career. Only recently returned to action and has proved to be a valuable member of the team. He has a career total of 32 tries, now plays in the forwards.

SONNY WHAKARAU
Age 29 Height 6.0 Weight 15.07
 Born in Wellington, New Zealand, he played 3 times for the Junior Kiwis's and 5 times for the New Zealand Maoris. Signed in the close season from Doncaster, he has been the mainstay of their playing success over the last two years. A prop forward or second row of strength and good back handling ability.

ANDY HAY
Age 21 Weight 6.2 Weight 15.0 GB Under 21
Caps 2
 Born in Castleford he played for his home town club for 3 seasons becoming one of the most promising second row forwards in the game. Signed by Eagles in the close season for £70,000 he has represented GB Under 21s and is in the England Squad for the World Cup.

JOHN LAWLESS
Age 20 Height 5.9 Weight 14.02 GB Academy
Caps
 Born Halifax and played for home two club Academy side and made 1st team appearances last season. Close season part exchange for Carl Briggs he is a robust hand tackling hooker whose dynamic play has earned him representative honours with the GB Academy team.

DEAN LAWFORD
Age 18 Height 5.8 Weight 13.01
 Signed for Eagles Academy from Dewsbury Moor ARLFC. He is a scrum half in the Andy Gregory mould who made his first team debut against Leeds in the First match of this season.

SHEFFIELD EAGLES

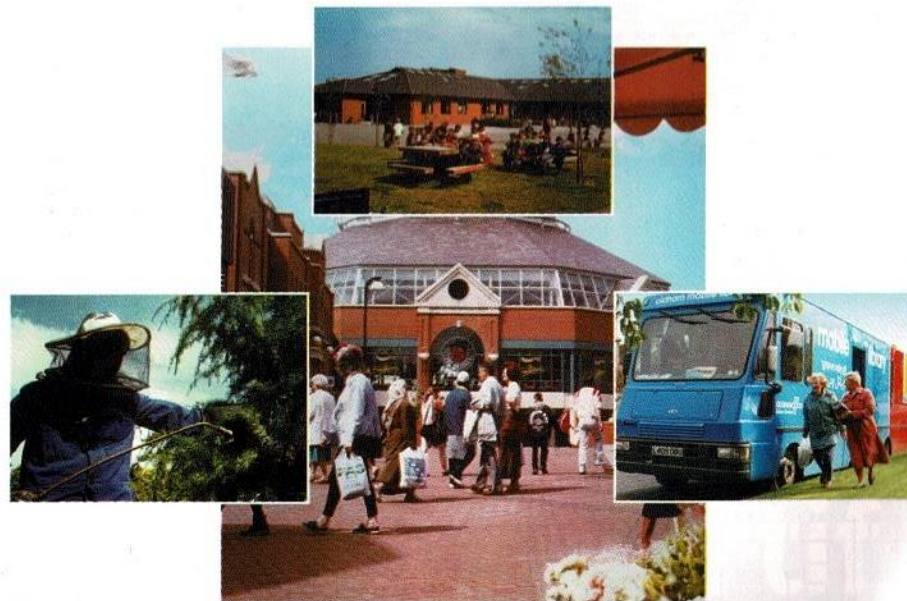
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I WOULD like to welcome all supporters to Watersheddings today for the final game in the Centenary Championship, but a special welcome to all the kids. I hope they really do enjoy the day out.

Free tickets have been made available in clubs and schools to the under-16s and there will be competitions for the best banner in support of the Bears and Super League and for the fastest pair of legs in various age-groups from under-8s to under-13s.

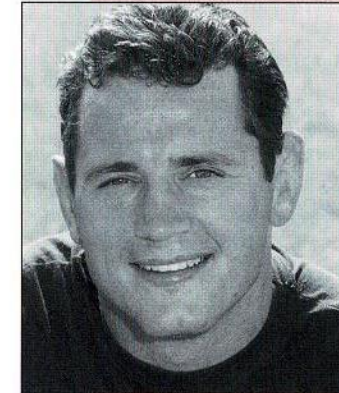
The kids are the future of Rugby League and I know we have loads of interest in the town. It is important that we encourage it and nurture it as we build up towards Super League.

The club has already announced, of course, that there will be free admission to Super League matches for children under 12.

That shows our commitment to the youngsters of the town and to those families who would love to get involved in our great game but find the cost of paying for two, three or even more youngsters prohibitive.

On the playing side I like to think we are continuing to move in the right direction.

We are starting to work well as a unit and in recent games there have been outstanding individual performances. We were unfortunate to lose at Leeds with the last kick of the match, even if we could only blame ourselves in the final reckoning, and we made it three wins out of four with a hard-earned victory at Workington. The spirit is good and the teamwork has been first class.



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We have had a lot of injuries, as you know, but the lads who have come into the side have done a splendid job, as was the case with Paul Crook up at Derwent Park last Sunday.

Because Ian Gildart received a groin pull at Leeds and I didn't want to risk more permanent damage I switched David Bradbury back to second-row and brought in Crook for his full debut at No 13.

He had been substitute on three occasions and many of you will remember how he sold an outrageous dummy at Halifax to clinch our win at Thrum Hall.

He did just as well in the loose-forward berth and I think it shows that you don't always have to pay a fortune or go to the big clubs when you want to sign a good player.

We still have the Silk Cut Challenge Cup to come, of course, but this is the end of the road as far as the Centenary Season is concerned.

You can rest assured that over the course of the next ten weeks we will be working very hard indeed to make sure that we are ready and in fine trim for the start of Super League on March 30.

ANDY GOODWAY

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- Saturday 6th April** - Stop for breakfast before arriving at Paris approx 11.00. Short sight seeing tour. Transfer to hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure.
- Sunday 7th April** - Day at leisure or optional excursion to Disneyland Paris. Evening at leisure or FREE Paris by night excursion.
- Monday 8th April** - Oldham v Paris Rugby match or day free to shop. Evening at leisure or optional farewell party.
- Tuesday 9th April** - Depart from hotel after breakfast for journey home, via Hypermarket. Arrive Oldham approx 23.00

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- Sunday 7th April** - Day at leisure or optional excursion to Disneyland Paris. Evening at leisure or FREE Paris by night excursion.
- Monday 8th April** - Oldham v Paris Rugby match or day free to shop. Evening at leisure or optional farewell party.
- Tuesday 9th April** - Depart from hotel after breakfast for journey home, via Hypermarket. Arrive Oldham approx 23.00

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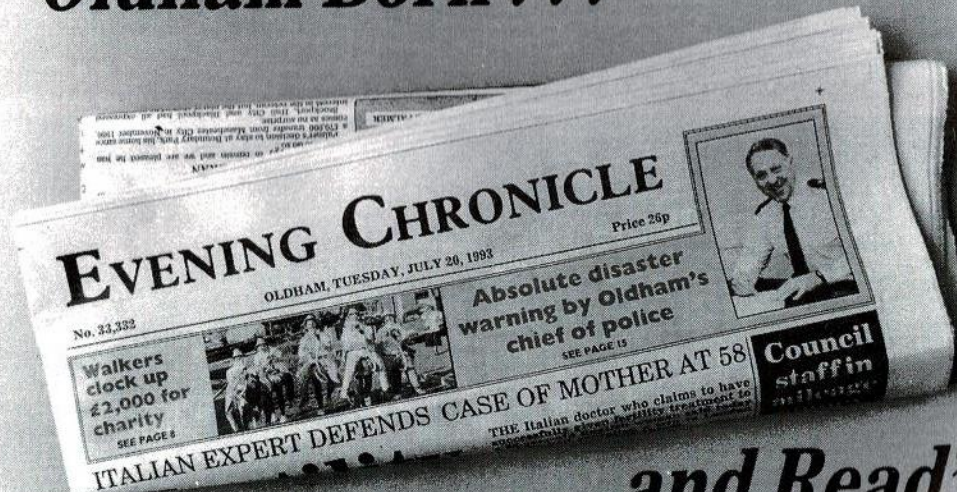


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MEMORY MATCH

Don Yates looks back to a match from yesteryear

This afternoon marks the end of the 1995-96 League campaign, the end of an era and the end of twelve seasons of Rugby League in Sheffield. When the Eagles began operating in the autumn of 1984, many followers of our code had reservations about the future of the game in the steel city. Despite that pessimism, and a few hiccups along the way, the Eagles are not only still with us but enter the summer Super League as one of Yorkshire's leading clubs.

It took the Eagles just five seasons to lift their first trophy and, en route, gain promotion to the First Division. Promotion also meant that they qualified for the 1989 Second Division Premiership competition and they reached the final of that tournament with impressive victories over Doncaster 28-10 at home and Barrow 9-6 away. Sheffield's opponents in the final were Swinton who reached Old Trafford the hard way. Being placed fifth in the table the Lions had to travel first to York and then to Champions Leigh. It took a replay to overcome York, a 4-4 draw followed by a 17-16 home win which led to a magnificent 20-8 victory at Hilton Park.

The attendance at Old Trafford for the Premiership double header was 40,194 with the teams lining up as follows: Sheffield Eagles: Mark Gamson, Phil Cartwright, Andy Dickinson, Darryl Powell, Andy Young, Mark Aston, David Close, Paul Broadbent, Mick Cook, Gary van Bellen, Sonny Nickle, Mark Fleming and Warren Smiles. Substitutes, Steve Evans and Paul McDermott.

Swinton: Paul Topping, Scott Ranson, Mark Viller, Steve Snape, Derek Bate, Tommy Frodsham, Tony Hewitt, Frank Mooney, Alex Melling, Steve O'Neill, Gary Ainsworth, John Allen and John Myler.

Substitutes, Dave Maloney and John Horrocks. Sheffield went into an early lead when Mark Aston dropped a goal to maintain his feat of having played and scored in every Eagles match throughout the campaign. Despite that excellent start, Sheffield found themselves 8-1 behind after 20 minutes but they battled on and slowly began to get on top. Darryl Powell scored the first of his hat trick of tries to reduce the deficit to 8-5 and at that point

Swinton prop Steve O'Neill was sent off for tripping. The Lions, already beginning to lose their grip, could not overcome that handicap on the wide open spaces of Old Trafford. By half-time Eagles led 13-8 and although Swinton hit back to lead briefly 14-13, that second period belonged to the Eagles. Substitute Paul McDermott played the game of his life and must have pushed Mark Aston close for the Tom Bergin Trophy as man of the match. The final score was 43-18. Sheffield scored tries through Darryl Powell (3), Paul Broadbent, Mick Cook, Paul McDermott and Mark Aston who also landed seven goals

and a drop. Tommy Frodsham, Alex Melling and Scott Ranson crossed for the Lions and John Myler landed three goals. That was Sheffield's first trophy success, a feat which was to be repeated against Oldham three years later. When one considers the progress made by the Eagles during the past twelve seasons, it is easy to understand their optimism as they reach out on the Super League World Stage for further glory during the next dozen years or so.

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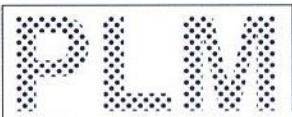


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THE FACE BEHIND THE VOICE OF BBC GMR'S RUGBY LEAGUE COVERAGE

ONE OF THOSE DAYS

I've had days when the lead on the telephone was faulty, I've had days when the BT line was down, I've even had days when the equipment fails, but until last Saturday at Huddersfield I've never had a day when all the lot has happened together, apparently the result was chaotic, the coverage less than acceptable and the impression of Norman Collier none to good.

The bad luck continued after the game when one and a half hours after the final hooter there was still a queue to get away from the ground, as all the traffic turned left I saw these two cars with Wigan stickers in the back turning right. I decided to follow them assuming that they had discovered a short cut back to the motorway.

Six miles later I was horrified when the first car turned on to this driveway and the second car followed, obviously Wigan followers based in Huddersfield. There was no way I could stop and let them have a good laugh at my expense so I carried on driving, trying to create the impression that I knew where I was. My luck finally ran out when a few seconds later I turned into a cul-de-sac, the name of which was "Pratt Lane".

Nevertheless it was an excellent day and a tremendous match, credit to both sides and a superb advert for Rugby League.

I just didn't appreciate this on the day!
Malcolm Lord
BBC GMR



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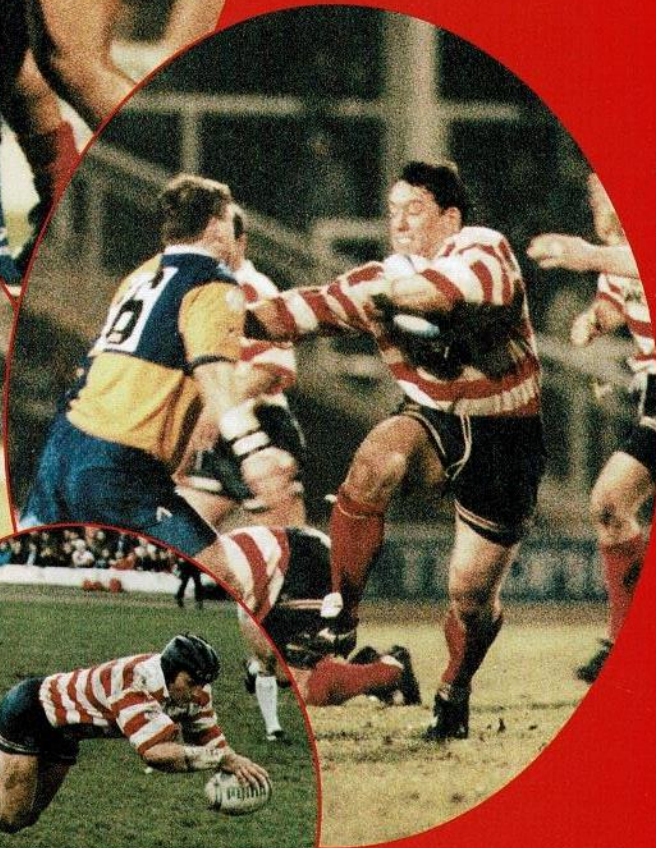
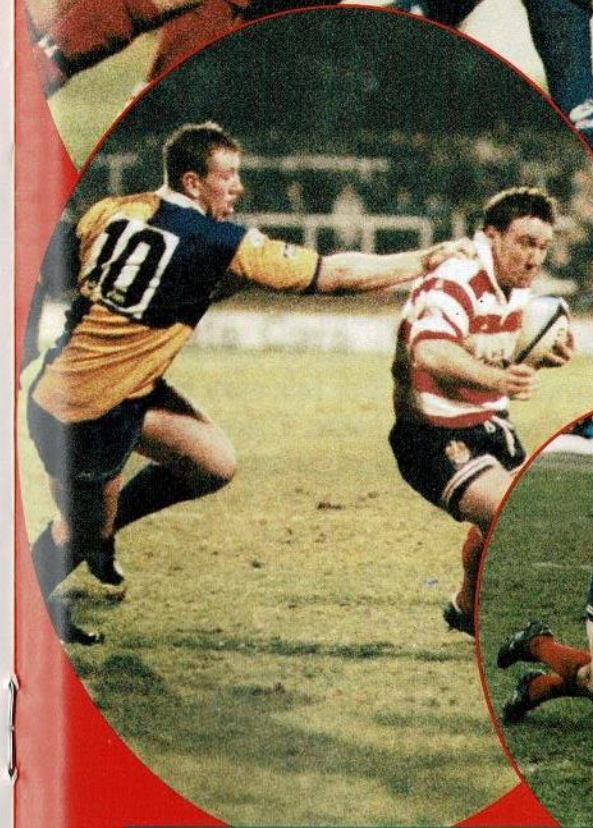
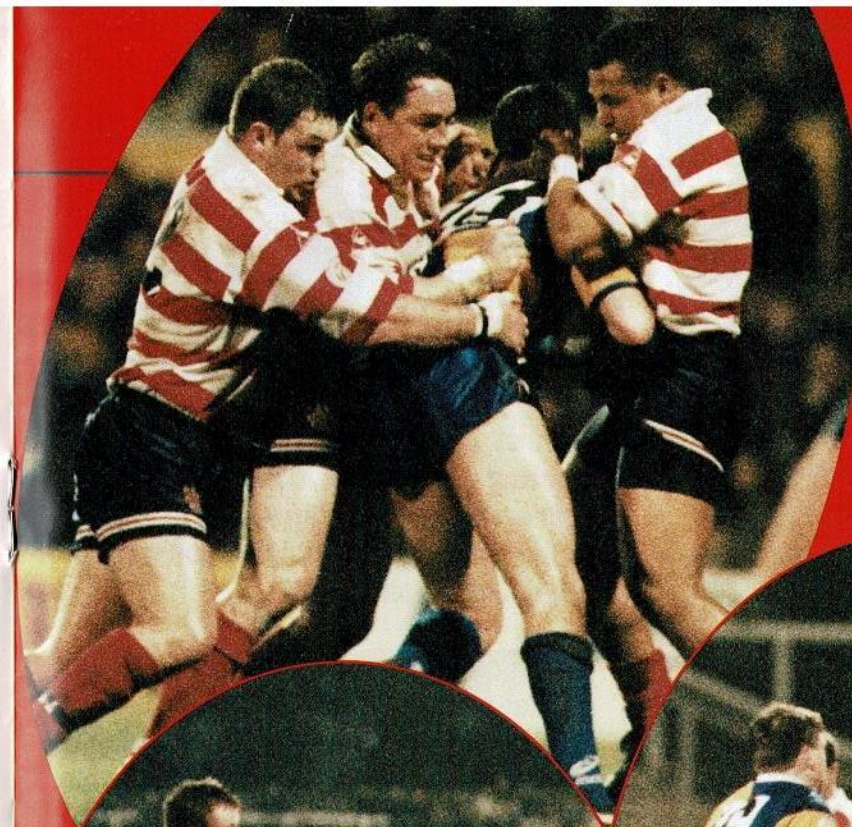
ACTION REPLAY

TOP LEFT - ONE OF THE LEEDS PLAYERS GETTING SOME CLOSE ATTENTION

BOTTOM - GARY LORD GOES IN FOR OUR FIRST TRY AT WORKINGTON

BOTTOM RIGHT - DAVE BRADBURY ON ANOTHER GOOD CHARGE INTO THE LEEDS DEFENCE

BOTTOM LEFT - FRANCIS MALONEY GOING THROUGH THE GAP



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All entries must be received before the closing date, Thursday, 1st February. Draw to be made on Monday, 5th February 1996. A list of winners will be available from 19th February by writing to the address below. There will be one case as a prize for entries from this club programme.

Entrants must be aged 18 years or over. The prize is as described above, no cash alternatives are available.



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RUGBY RECALL

- Which ex-Oldham player signed for Sheffield on 30th March 1992?
- Who was Sheffield's leading try scorer in season 1991/92? (3 against Oldham)
- Name two of Oldham's four try scorers during the 20-34 defeat by Sheffield in the 1992 Second Division Premiership final.
- Name two of the four Sheffield try scorers in the same match.
- In which season did Sheffield join the Rugby League?
- Which Sheffield player scored a try in both of last seasons games against Oldham?
- Which Oldham player won the 'League Express' Man of the Match in last season's home defeat by Sheffield?
- Name two of Oldham's four try scorers in last seasons away win at Sheffield.
- And finally, who was Oldham's 'League Express' Man of the Match in the afore-mentioned match?

1. Charlie McAlister; 2. Iva Kopralic; 3. Paul Byrne; 4. Newton; 5. Powell; 6. Linton; 7. Gary Lord; 8. Bradbury; 9. Jones; 10. Belle; 11. Martin Crompton; 12. Good Luck

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Good luck Oldham, onward together in Super League



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DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Welcome to the final game of the Centenary Season and get ready for Super League. Today I have tried to put forward a day which will whet the appetite for the Super League season.

Welcome to the Teachers and Coaches from the 87 teams who have entered the Renault Oldham Schools Cup. The draw for the first round has been made today and will be announced at half time.

Welcome also to the young supporters from schools and clubs who have taken advantage of the Bears Free Ticket Programme today. We hope to see plenty of banners around the ground trying to win the £100.00 worth of sports goods from James Gilbert (Rugby Footballs) Limited.

At half time we have the Grand Sprint Race for Under 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13's. Each winner will receive a Rugby Ball as a prize. The runners are listed.



	Royton	Saddleworth	Salem	Shaw	St. Annes	Tameside	Waterhead	Watershedding
Under 8	Michael Byrne	Oliver Melling	Jonathan Houghton	Alistair Williams	Kyle Harley			
Under 9	Bobby Bates	Andrew Walker	Stephen Darlington	Ashley Biycott				
Under 10	Paul Hulme	Richard Johnson	Mark Ward		Sinitta Dunkerley	Andy Sharples		
Under 11	John Lockwood	Tony Alberti	Wesley Richardson		John Mitchell	Ross Bowden		Ben Williams
Under 12	Simon Atkinson	Neil Smith			Kieran Warrington	Danny Sharples		
Under 13	Alex Wilkinson	Carl Lewis			James Smith	Thomas Dekney		

The Under 8s and 9s will sprint from half way
The Under 10s and 11s will sprint from the 20 yard line
The Under 12s and 13s will sprint from the try line

Tomorrow at Chapel Road All Weather Pitch there is an Under 14s Touch Rugby Competition from 6.00 to 9.00. This has been kindly sponsored by Puma UK.

Finally in the period between now and Super League don't forget there are lots of Amateur and Junior games to watch so enjoy yourselves

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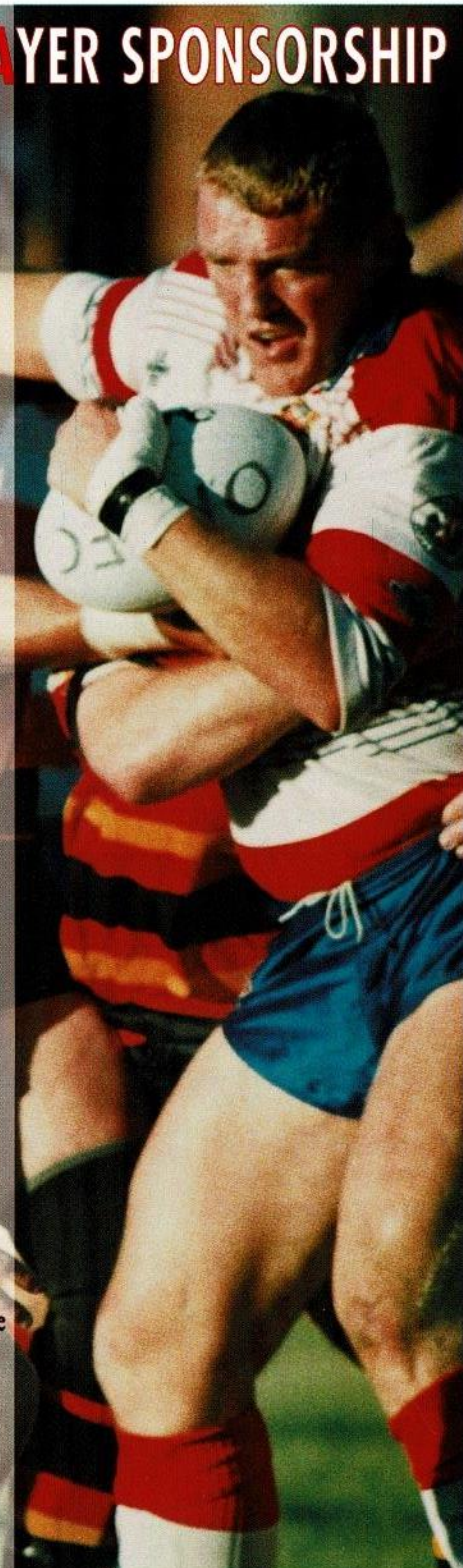
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INJURY UPDATE

INJURY UPDATE

With so many matches being crammed in as the Centenary season draws to a close it is difficult to keep pace with an up to date picture of our injury problems however at the time of writing long term injury victims such as Steve Gartland, Iyan Green, Rob Myler, Scott Ranson, Joe Faimalo, Paul Davidson, Mike Neal and John Clark are still sidelined, however the good news was that Shaun Irwin was back in the squad for the Workington match after his long lay off.

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OLDHAM v SHEFFIELD

How the Roughyeds have fared against the Eagles.

Competition	Played	Won-drawn-lost
League	13	6-1-6
Challenge Cup	1	1-0-0
Premiership	1	0-0-1
Total	15	7-1-7

Results of all previous meetings between the Roughyeds and Eagles. League matches except where stated.

1987-88 Oldham 44	Sheffield 20
Sheffield 15	Oldham 28
1988-89 Sheffield 20	Oldham 32 (Challenge Cup)
1990-91 Sheffield 14	Oldham 24
Oldham 27	Sheffield 20
1991-92 Sheffield 16	Oldham 16
Oldham 12	Sheffield 38
Oldham 18	Sheffield 44
Sheffield 10	Oldham 14
Oldham 20	Sheffield 34
(Minor Premiership Final) at Old Trafford	
1993-94 Oldham 15	Sheffield 22
Sheffield 28	Oldham 14
1994-95 Oldham 12	Sheffield 14
Sheffield 12	Oldham 17
1995-96 Sheffield 36	Oldham 18

Oldham's biggest win at Owlerton
28-15
League in season 1987-88

Sheffield's biggest win at Don Valley Stadium
36-18

League in season 1995-96
Sheffield's biggest win at Watersheddings
44-18
League in season 1991-92
Oldham's biggest win at Watersheddings
44-20

League in season 1987-88

Sheffield's last visit to Watersheddings
Sunday 22nd January 1995

Division One
Oldham 12 Sheffield Eagles 14
half time 10-10 attendance 3,101
Oldham tries: Scott Ranson and Martin Crompton
Goals: Paul Topping (2)
Sheffield tries: Paul Carr and Lynton Stott
Goals: Carl Briggs (2)
Dropped Goals: Daryl Powell (2)

Oldham: Wally Gibson, Adrian Belle, Shaun Irwin, Darren Abram, Scott Ranson, Paul Topping, Martin Crompton, Ian Sherratt, John Clarke, Jason Temu, Gary Lord, Joe Faimalo and Mike Kuiti. Substitutes, David Bradbury and Iyan Green.

Sheffield: Daryl Powell, Keith Senior, Mark Gamson, Richard Price Laurent Lucchese, Carl Briggs, Ryan Sheridan, Paul Broadbent, Lee Jackson, Mick Cook, Ian Hughes and Anthony Farrell. Substitutes, Lynton Stott and Andy Young.

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ALLIANCE UPDATE

WITH ALLIANCE COACH GRAHAM BEALE

Oldham 20 Salford 16

This game was one we wanted to win as relegation was a possibility, with Salford just a point behind us we knew this was going to be tough. We started well with the forwards setting a good platform. Mike Prescott crashed over for the first try with Meade adding the goal. Salford came back strong but the defence held well so play went from end to end, Salford managed to score but failed to add the extra points, we did not let our heads drop and stormed back as Salford struggled to contain us, and gave a

penalty away for holding down. Meade made sure of points as half time approached, 8-4 the second half started well Jimmy Cowans supporting well to go under the posts Meade again was on target. As we expected Salford with Mike Gregory leading the way back Salford scored and kicked the goal, with a sense of urgency Salford started to believe they could win the game, we started to force passes and come up with errors which suited Salford and slack marking saw Salford score and add the goal, to put them in the lead for the first time

and with only ten minutes to go we picked ourselves up and took the game to Salford. Belle and Wilde making good yards, Meade going 70 yards and tripped at the open line, McKinney dropped the ball over the line as Salford were stretched, then came Milling with a try with 2 minutes to go and Meade added the goal to give a nail biting finish. Best for Oldham Crooks, Belle, Meade, Prescott, Richards, McKinney, and Cowans.

QUOTES & HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

Today is the closing day of the 1995-96 league season and as far as the Championship is concerned nothing is at stake. It was a similar scenario at Maryport on this day in 1922 when Cumberland entertained Lancashire in a County Championship match. Yorkshire had already won the Championship so the match was of academic interest only, hence the attendance of only 2,000. Incidentally, Lancashire won 18-7 and Oldham prop Joe Ferguson scored a try and goal for the Cumbrians. Another Oldham player who enjoyed scoring success on this day was winger Richard Irving. He scored a hat trick of tries on this day in 1990 when Oldham won a Second Division match at Chorley by 44-6. On that very same day in 1990 Swinton centre Joe Ropati scored five tries in his sides 46-10 home victory over Nottingham City. Other scorers for Swinton that day included current Roughyeds Paul Topping, 5 goals,

and Scott Ranson, try, whilst Terry Flanagan, signed from Watersheddings earlier that month, also grabbed a try. That Swinton Nottingham match was refereed by Oldham whistler Alan Burke who was born on this day in 1957. Happy 39th birthday Alan! It was on this day in 1989 that Great Britain defeated France 26-10 before a crowd of 8,266 at Central Park, Wigan. A prop for Britain that day was former Oldham forward Hugh Waddell who at that time was playing for Leeds. Players who have been transferred on this day include the current Hunslet second rower cum centre Des Masea who, in 1991, was signed by Sheffield Eagles from the New Zealand club Otahulu. Another Antipoedeian player, half back Anthony Singleton moved from Barrow to Widnes on this day in 1994. Travelling in the true sense, has particular significance on this day for on this day in

1976, concorde made its first supersonic flight, from Heathrow to Bahrain. The inaugural Monte Carlo Rally, the blue riband of endurance motor sport got under way on this day in 1911. Finally exactly twelve months ago today, local amateurs St. Annes registered a 20-0 victory over Dewsbury Celtic in a National Conference First Division match. Paddy O'Reagan, Rich Healing and John Brierley scored the Saints tries with Dean Hamilton landing four goals. Quote of the week come from Marie Osmond who once said, 'If you're going to be able to look back on something and laugh about it, you might as well laugh about it now.' Rugby League television commentator Eddie Waring once commented towards the end of a match, 'There's one minute sixty seconds to go.'

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RUFF E. HEAD

BY IAN WILSON

Although it was annoying not to actually win the game at Leeds, after our second-half performance certainly deserved it, what a treat it has been to watch the effort and commitment of the players over the last few weeks. But it hasn't just been effort. There seems to have been much greater organisation, both defensively and when in possession of the ball. We all suffered for the first part of this silly Centenary season, but there now seems a real prospect that we will enter Super League with a squad and a team which is genuinely competitive at the top level. Let us hope that the off-field side of the club reaches the equivalent standard - Super League - quality administration and marketing, with Super League - quality attendances to match. What is it that motivates a group of people? Some sporting teams always seem to perform at a level where the whole is greater than the sum of the

parts; others do not. Brian Clough's soccer sides were an obvious example, whereas Brian Johnson obviously resigned at Warrington last week because he felt that he was no longer getting through to his players. The subject came to mind early in the second half at Derwent Park last week, when we had already conceded six of our ten-point half-time lead, and had the prospect of another half-hour, in hostile Cumbrian territory, facing a howling gale, to come. The fact that we came through the test, defending heroically at times, and managed two tries into the wind, says an awful lot for what has been achieved already, I feel. So St Helens failed yet again on the big occasion. Wigan were by no means at their best in the Regal final - but they did enough, as nearly always. Their players claim fairly consistently that it is the fear of failure which is their main motivating force nowadays. Perhaps that will mean that, once they do fail to

win one of the big prizes, their run of success will dry up fairly rapidly. The current Challenge Cup campaign would be an ideal time to test the theory! The Challenge Cup apart, this seems likely to be the last time we will meet up here at Watersheddings. It seems difficult to believe, I must say. The memories are legion, in my case beginning from early 1950's days standing on a wooden box in the top storey of the 'penny-rush' so that I could see over the fence! The thirteen names still trip off the tongue very easily - Ganley, Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Ety, Daley, Pitchford, Jackson, Keith, Ogden, Winslade, Little, Turner! (And that ignores Ayres, Stirrup, Goldswain, Vines, and a personal hero, that nice chap Arthur Tomlinson, who, whenever he played, always seemed to be the one who one-eyed referees took a personal dislike to!) But times move on. See you at Boundary Park on 30 March!



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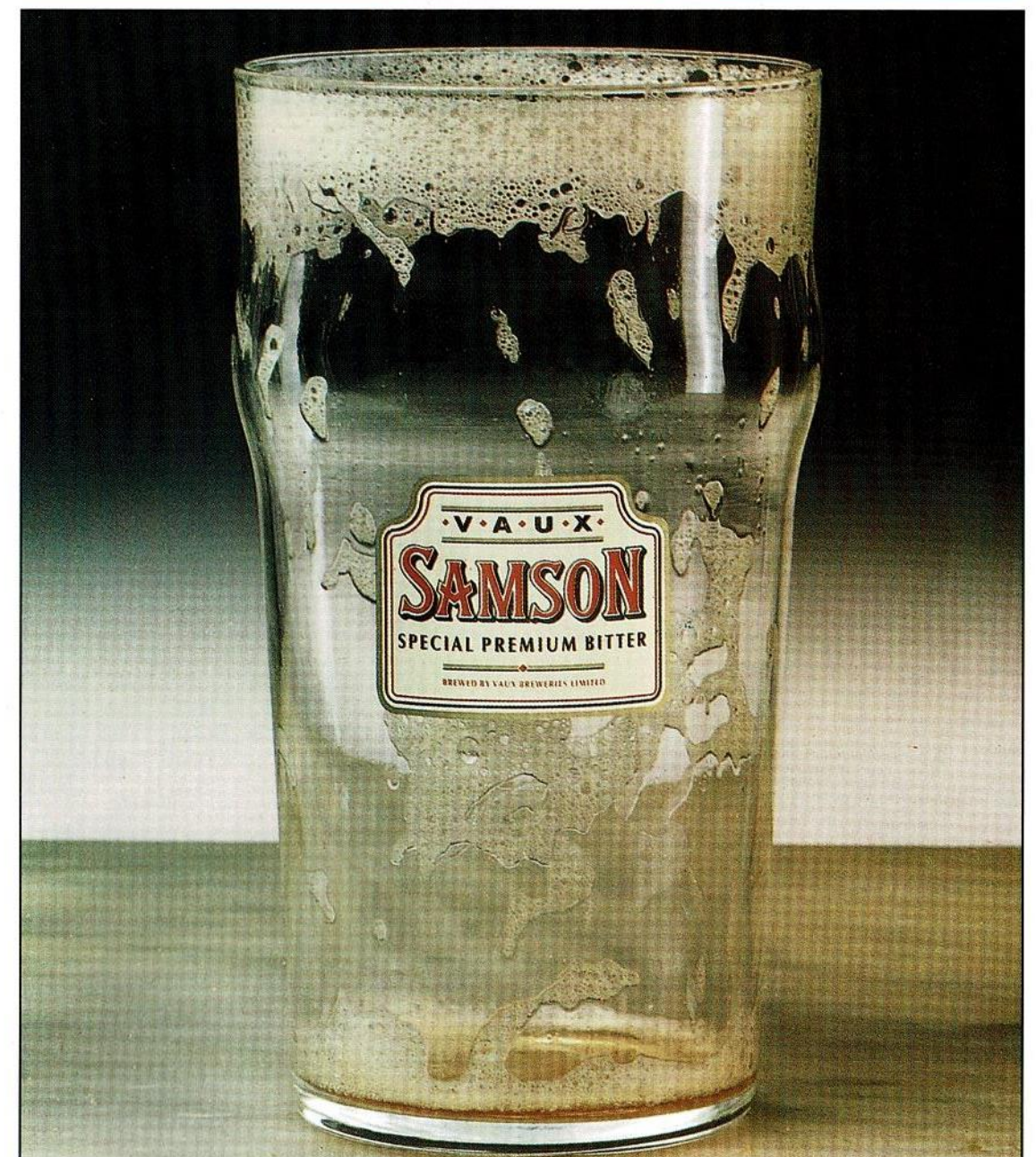
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Big Rugby League Night Out

There is a big Rugby League night planned for Thursday, 15th February at the Willows Variety Centre, Salford. It is a dinner with the main speaker being Malcolm Lord of Radio Manchester fame. Comedian Charlie Ale will provide the laughs and there are the usual raffle prizes etc. Cost, including meal is £20 with all proceeds going to fund the British Police rugby league tour of Australia next June and July. Tickets can be obtained from either Joe Chiappe on 856-3383 or Don Yates on 682-8368.

What to do between now and March 31st

Apart from the Challenge Cup competition, rugby league now shuts down until Wigan visit Boundary Park on March 31st. Or does it? The amateur rugby league game will continue to be played in the winter season and matches scheduled to be played in the Oldham area between now and the visit of Wigan include the following National Conference League matches:
 Saturday 27th January
 Saddleworth Rangers v Millom
 Saturday 10th February
 St.Annes v Askam
 Saturday 24th February
 Saddleworth Rangers v Dudley Hill
 Saturday 9th March
 St.Annes v Blackbrook
 Saturday 16th March
 Saddleworth Rangers v Heworth
 Saturday 23rd March
 St.Annes v East Leeds

Last match programme

Unless the Roughyeds are drawn at home in the Challenge Cup, this is likely to be the last programme produced by Oldham Bears RLFC. Next season a Super League Matchday Magazine will be available which is being issued by Rugby League Headquarters. Goodbye.

STATISTICALLY
THE CENTENARY SEASON FIXTURES

Date	Versus	Time	Score	Att	1	2	3	4	5
AUG 20th	Castleford	A 3.30	L28-22	4341	Gibson	Ranson	TT	Topping	Abram
23rd	ST. HELENS	H 7.30	L18-44	4316	Gibson	Neal	Topping	Abram	Myler
27th	Warrington	A 3.00	L40-8	4064	Gibson	Belle	Atcheson	Abram	Neal
SEPT 1st	HALIFAX	H 7.30	L4-21	2938	Gibson	Belle	Atcheson	Abram	Neal
6th	London Broncos	A 7.30							
10th	BRADFORD BULLS	H 3.00	L24-30	3222	Gibson	Belle	T2	Atcheson	Abram
20th	LONDON BRONCOS	H 7.30	W19-8	3,004	Atcheson	Gibson	Topping	Abram	Ranson
24th	Wigan	A 3.00	L42-12	10,909	Atcheson	Gibson	Topping	Abram	Ranson
OCT 1st	LEEDS	H 3.00	L14-43	3,782	Atcheson	Gibson	Topping	Abram	Ranson
NOV 1st	WORKINGTON	H 7.30	W30-26		Atcheson	Ranson	Levila	Abram	Gibson
5th	Sheffield Eagles	A 3.15	L18-36		Cowans	Ranson	Levila	Abram	Myler
12th	Widnes Regal Round 2	A 3.00	L32-8	3,571	Cowans	Ranson	Levila	Abram	Belle
19th	CASTLEFORD	H 3.00	W25-20		Atcheson	Ranson	Topping	Abram	Gibson
DEC 3rd	Bradford Bulls	A 3.00	L10-14		Atcheson	Gibson	Topping	Abram	Ranson
13th	St. Helens	A 7.30	L22-32		Atcheson	Gibson	Abram	Topping	Myler
17th	WIGAN	H 3.00	W28-26		Atcheson	Belle	Topping	Abram	Levila
JAN 4th	Halifax	A 7.30	W12-4		Atcheson	Levila	Topping	Abram	Gibson
10th	Leeds	A 7.30	L26-28		Atcheson	Belle	Topping	Levila	Gibson
14th	Workington Town	A 3.00	W20-12		Atcheson	Levila	Topping	Abram	Gibson
21st	SHEFFIELD EAGLES	H 3.00							
27th	Silk Cut Challenge Cup - 1st Round								

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SPEAKING 95-96

6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Maloney 3G	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Parr	Lord	Faimalo	Green	Neal	Hill	Gildart	Richards
Maloney 5G	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Parr	Gildart	Faimalo	Lord	Green	Hill	Temu	Atcheson
Topping	Burns	Richards	Edwards	Temu	Green	Davidson	Hill	Parr	Gildart	McKinney	Cowans
Maloney	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Gildart	Lord	Faimalo	Hill	Topping	Richards	Garland	Parr
Maloney 4G	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Richards	Lord	Faimalo	Hill	Topping	Gildart	Temu	Green
Maloney 6G	DG Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Hill	Garland	Parr	Neal	Green
Garland 6G	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Lord	Green	Hill	Neal	Parr	Belle	Davidson
Maloney 3G	Crompton	Parr	Garland	Temu	Lord	Green	Hill	Neal	Belle	Davidson	McKinney
Maloney 2G	Crompton	Parr	Garland	Temu	Lord	Green	Hill	Clarke	Myler	Norman	Davidson
Gibson	Crompton	Norman	Garland	Temu	Davidson	Green	Hill	Edwards	McKilian	McKinney	Belle
Gibson	Crompton	Parr	Garland	Temu	Lord	Davidson	Hill	Green	Sherratt	-	-
Garland 4G	Crompton	Sherratt	Green	Temu	Lord	Davidson	Hill	Myler	Faimalo	Maloney	McKinney
Garland	Crompton	Sherratt	Green	Temu	Lord	Davidson	Hill	Faimalo	Maloney	Myler	Richards
Maloney 3G	Garland	Richards	Green	Temu	Gildart	Bradbury	Hill	Burns	McKinney	Levila	Parr
Maloney 4G	Crompton	Richards	McKinney	Temu	Gildart	Bradbury	Hill	Parr	Burns	Norman	Crook
Maloney 2G	Crompton	Richards	Burns	Temu	Lord	Gildart	Bradbury	Belle	McKinney	Crook	Norman
Maloney 5G	Crompton	Richards	Burns	Temu	Lord	Gildart	Bradbury	McKinney	Abram	Crook	Norman
Maloney 12G	Crompton	Sherratt	McKinney	Temu	Lord	Bradbury	Crook	Burns	Parr	Irwin	Norman

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SUPPORTERS CLUB

Happy New Year (it seems ages ago) and a very warm welcome to all supporters from Sheffield in what is the last league fixture of the Centenary Season, for what promises to be a great match as both teams are currently "in-form".

We eagerly await next Sunday's fixture (28th January - K.O. 3.00pm), when as you are probably aware by now we have drawn Warrington at home in the 4th Round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup (who knows - we did it last season).

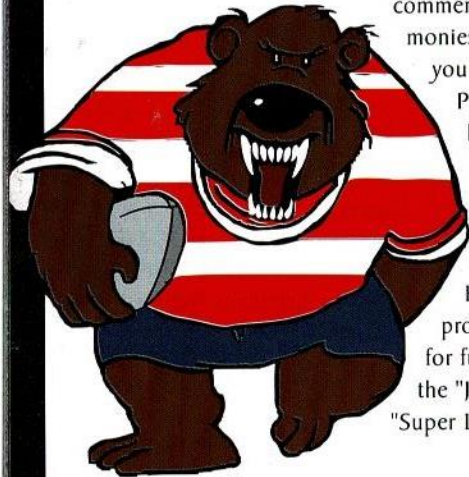
Once again many thanks to everyone who has helped out in any way during the Centenary Season, there is always room for more "helpers" - anyone interested please contact me. Here's hoping for a tremendous match. Alice Collinge

JUNIOR ROUGHYEDS

CALLING ALL YOU JUNIOR ROUGHY'EDS!

Happy New Year to you all and thanks for your support during the Centenary Season.

At half time today we shall be presenting a cheque to our commercial manager, Ray Hill, for monies which you have raised, thank you very much and well done.



Please come along next Sunday, bring a friend for what should be an exciting 4th Round Silk Cut Challenge Cup tie, Oldham v Warrington, with lots of local interest. Keep your eye on future programmes and the local press for further information regarding the "Junior Roughyeds" for the "Super League season".

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ACADEMY NEWS

WITH BRIAN GARTLAND

Well our Academy finished the season on Saturday with a very disappointing result against Widnes losing by 42 points to 6, it was a poor performance by our own standards, but having said that some of our Academy team due to the injury situation at the club have been backing up for the 'A' team and last week some boys played 3 matches which



the Academy is all about. The young amateur Academy lads who played ie Kieran Royales, David Milne and Chris McAndrew, did their chances of making the big time no harm at all. Well done lads and to all the rest of the Academy lads who have done the club proud all season.

is a lot in 7 days. The lads who turned out for us against Warrington 'A' team did the club proud and that is what

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