

FOSTER'S[®]

The Amber Nectar



LONDON

They say there's no place like home, so it'll be great when the boys trot out at The Valley this evening after four games on the road. It's been pretty tough with all the travelling as well as facing unbeaten league leaders St Helens during that period. But I think you can safely say that the Super League version of the Broncos is growing up rapidly.

In this four-game series of awaydays we've gained wins at Leeds and Castleford; went down by just two points in a thriller at Saints when we held a comfortable lead and then, last weekend, lost out to a 78th minute try at Warrington, where we played 55 minutes with 12 men after Evan Cochrane was sent off.

We could have won at Saints if we'd have closed up the game and we would have won at Warrington had Evan not been silly enough to get sent off for stupidly throwing a punch.

It's all part of the learning process but you can be damn sure he won't make that mistake again. It meant his team-mates all had to give another 10 per cent and in the end it proved just beyond us.

We also felt that a couple of refereeing decisions in this match cost us dearly. Those crucial decisions at St Helens which cost us two late tries have been well chronicled, but these latest ones at Wilderspool left me in a very angry mood.

We must hold our hands up to the Cochrane incident. He simply had a brain explosion, threw a punch, and had to go. But twice I felt the man in the middle was guilty of not acting properly when Warrington committed offences.

Once, when Mark Forster landed a high tackle on Greg Barwick, I felt the Warrington man should have walked. The other occasion was when one of their players, whom we hadn't identified at the time of writing, put his knee into Peter Gill's chest clearly after a tackle had been completed. Peter suffered damaged cartilages in his chest and looks as though he'll miss the next six weeks. A great shame as he had

"...I think you can safely say that the Super League version of the Broncos is growing up rapidly..."

been contributing an enormous amount in recent matches.

But we've got to put all these things behind us this evening. Oldham will be smarting after becoming Workington's first victims of the season - and they'll want to take it out on us.

Although they look vulnerable, particularly on their travels, we must not underestimate them. Make no mistake, this is a big game despite the fact that it might not look the most attractive of fixtures on paper.

We've got to show the fans that our good away form isn't just a flash in the pan... and we've also got our 100 per cent home record to maintain, especially as we'll need a confidence-boost before tackling mighty Wigan the following week.

I think we're in the process of building a great little team here... and we're still improving. Tonight we've got to make sure of maintaining our top four challenge.

So enjoy the game. It should be a good one...

Take it away CURRIE



TC



HERE AT THE VALLEY



Yorkshireman Andy Goodway can be satisfied with the progress made by the Bears through the Centenary and Super League seasons. The holder of 23 Gt. Britain test caps has re-built the squad at the Watersheddings, gradually introducing a number of younger players. Injuries and suspensions disrupted the progress made by the east Lancashire club; especially after the Super League campaign resumed following the short break for the Wembley Challenge Cup final.

THE BACKS ...

One of the players to have re-gained his form in the Super League has been the former Widnes and Wigan full back Paul

Injuries and suspensions disrupted the progress made by the east Lancashire club; especially after the Super League campaign resumed following the short break for the Wembley Challenge Cup final.

Acheson. He joined the Bears in 1995 after making two full appearances for Wales in the 1995 European Championship; in the subsequent World Cup competition he was limited to just one substitute outing against Western Samoa. Right winger Scott Ranson was one of two Oldham players to receive bans after the heated exchange with Castleford in April. He is a former Swinton player who scored four tries during the Centenary season.

Rob Myler - formerly with Warrington - and Tongan Afi Leuila have both missed recent games through injury, the latter is still expected to be sidelined today with a broken leg. The Bears have in their ranks one of the most underrated centres in the Super League. His name is Darren Abram, after starting his career with Warrington he later played for Chorley, Trafford, and near by Rochdale Hornets before joining Oldham for the best period of his career. Scored two tries in the Centenary season Watersheddings meeting between today's teams.

Another player who has been on the

HERE AT THE VALLEY
Want to know more
about Oldham Bears?
then read on
all the facts and figures
on today's Super
League opponents
by Paul English.

Big Ian Sherratt has had two spells with the Oldham club, he re-joined his hometown club in November 1991 after a spell at nearby Salford.

His career started over the Pennines with the Bradford club where, in the days of Colts rather than Academy rugby, he had the distinction of being selected for both Lancashire and Yorkshire - quite rightly he opted for Lancashire.

Another former Bradford front rower is Craig Richards. He is the younger brother of Huddersfield's former Warrington pack man Basil Richards. Jason Temu opted to play for the Cook Islands during the Halifax Emerging Nations World Cup in the autumn.

ances for the Bears during the winter campaign. Alongside Bradbury in the second row is Aussie forward Matt Munro.

A typical good defensive Winfield Cup forward who was in the Sydney Tigers ranks for the 1995 campaign, hence a former team mate of Broncos stars Evan Cochrane and Greg Barwick. Regular Gary Lord represented Yorkshire and Gt. Britain at youth level before turning to the professional game with Leeds. He joined the Bears from Halifax in July 1994.

Kiwi Joe Faimalo is the younger brother of Leeds player Esene Faimalo. A good, strong running forward. The regular loose forward is Cumbrian Howard Hill.

Lancashire league scene for a while is the goal kicking centre Paul Topping. He has been on the substitutes bench in recent games. Australian centre Andrew Patmore - a former 1995 South Sydney colleague of Broncos stars Duncan McRae and Tony Mestrov - scored a try on his full debut, helping the Bears to a draw in Paris. Last of the regular three-quarters is Adrian Belle.

An October 1993 signing from Rochdale Hornets, despite a strong running style is has still to hit the try scoring charts in any force.

THE PLAY MAKERS...

Stand off Francis Maloney joined the Bears from Warrington at the start of the Centenary season.

A reliable goalkicker who is probably playing the best football of a career which included a spell as a youngster with the Leeds club. Under normal circumstances his regular half back partner is Martin Crompton.

A member of Ireland's Emerging Nations World Cup squad - along with Paul Topping - he had originally been named in the original 40 man strong England squad. Formerly with Warrington - a member of their losing 1990 Challenge Cup final team - he later moved to Wigan.

Former Wakefield Trinity and Wigan back-row forward Ian Gildart has now progressed to the front row of the pack.

The six times capped Gt. Britain Under 21 forward made just eight full appearances for the Bears in the Centenary season.

A New Zealander by birth his mother is Cook Islander and will not doubt be proud of her sons winners medal. Last of the absolute front rowers is Chris Parr who joined the club from Swinton in October 1993.

Like Sherratt he gained regular selection for Lancashire in his school and youth rugby career; and also started his professional career over in Yorkshire but this time with the Huddersfield club.

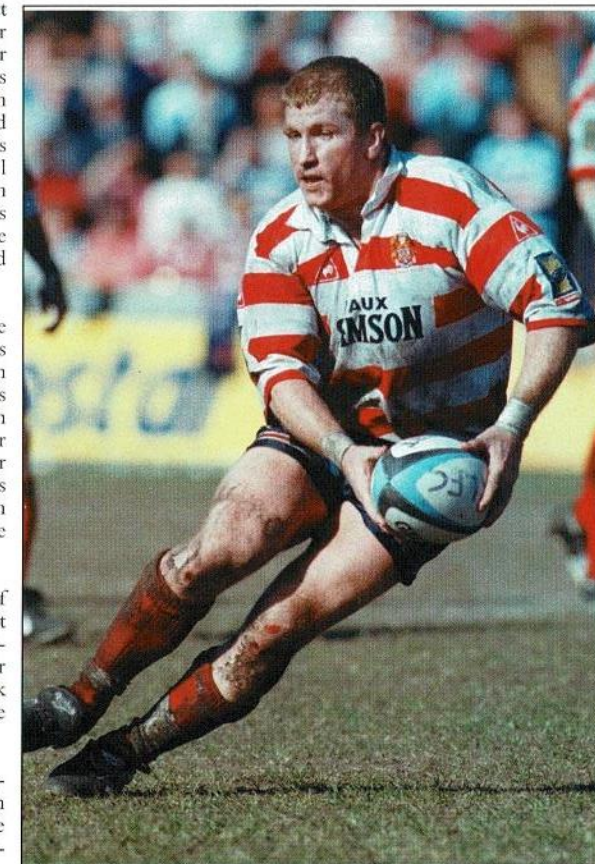
A true Yorkshireman is hooker John Clarke who was twice voted Youth Player of the Year in his amateur days. Clarke is now in his fourth season with the Oldham club.

Perhaps one of the "most improved" players in the Super League is back row forward Dave Bradbury.

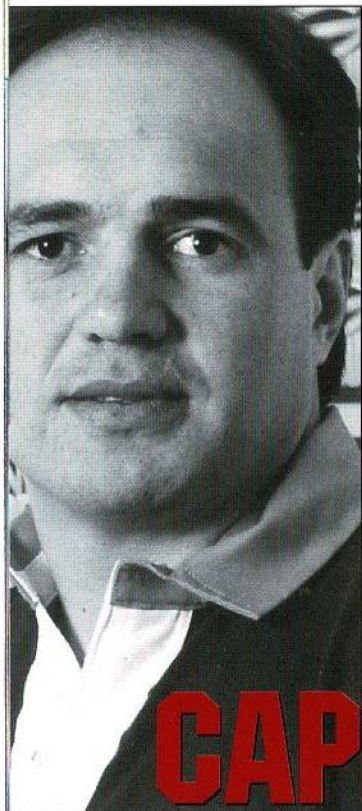
A former amateur with Leigh Miners he made just seven appear-

He replaced the Watersheddings favourite Mike Kuiti in 1995 and has slotted in well at the back of Andy Goodway's pack.

Martin Crompton



Francis Maloney



Following my indiscretion at Leeds, I've been out of action until returning at Warrington last Saturday.

I know the boys will be glad to be back at home for a change. Remember we've played seven of our nine games on foreign soil. The fact we're due a big run of home games real soon can only help our top-four aims.

The Warrington match was similar, in a way, to the game at St Helens. In both matches, we dug our own graves.

Both were there for the taking, but we came away with nothing in the way of points.

At Warrington, I still felt we could win even playing

with 12 men for the majority of the game. We had plenty of chances to wrap it up, but we managed to drop the ball on crucial occasions when we had scoring chances.

And when they did grab the winner, the try-scorer managed to get through three tackles. I know we were tiring because of our lack of numbers, but it's still not good enough even though, overall, I thought it was a gutsy performance.

"...We're in pretty good spirits and we aim to take it out on Oldham tonight. It sure won't be a Teddy Bears' Picnic for the visitors..."

But we're in pretty good spirits and we aim to take it out on Oldham tonight. It sure won't be a Teddy Bears' Picnic for the visitors.

We know they're a very physical side with a big set of forwards. But we'll be ready for them...

CAPTAIN'S LOG

LONDON BRONCOS RLFC

Offices

Crystal Palace
National Sports Centre
Ledington Road, London, SE19 2BB
Telephone: 0181 776 6670
Fax: 0181 776 6533

Management

Chairman: Barry Maranta
Chief Executive: Robbie Moore
Marketing Director: Michael Maranta
Ticketing Manager: Susan Lyons
Football Manager: Trevor Howard
Head Coach: Tony Currie
A Team Coach: Kevin Langer
Academy Coach: Dave Rotheram
Director of Recruitment: Bev Risman
Fitness Coach: Glen Workman
Medical Officer: Dr D Jennings
MBBS, MRCS, LRCP, DMSA
Commercial Manager: Nigel Waters
Kitmen: Clive Townsley,
Keith Adsley & Lee Tuson
Programme Contributors:
Paul English, Stuart Brodwin, Henry Miles, Micheal O'Hare, Nicky Welding
Statsman: Paul Mansfield
Timekeeper: Dennis Samuels
Alliance CoOrdinator: Neil Robinson

Opinions

The opinions expressed in this programme are those of contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Board and Management of London Broncos RLFC

SUPPORTERS Club news



Welcome back to The Valley! Our last home match against Workington seems to have taken place last season but of course our enforced absence away from home has seen the lads string together some fine performances against the big guns of Leeds, Saints, Castleford and Warrington.

If you're a new convert to Super League as a result of the matches against Paris and Workington or are here for your first taste today - we hope that you will stick with us now we are due to see some more regular entertainment at home. What a pity the momentum built up during those two matches had to come to such an abrupt halt. And I'm sure the regular faithful followers will be glad to stop climbing the walls in favour of home action.

We're delighted to have the chance to see our friends from Oldham again - a more friendly bunch of fans you couldn't wish to meet. In the midst of Super League, our previous Second Division encounters now seem a million miles away. Hope you enjoy the match and have a safe journey home.

Naturally with the spate of away fixtures, travelling support has been a topic of debate. Evening kick-offs have undoubtedly had an effect on coach travel this season which seems such a shame when the lads have been putting in exceptional performances in alien territory.

The Supporters Club runs a coach to each away match with various pick-up points around London. At the moment we don't have a pick-up point at Charlton, but if there is a demand then it is certainly something we would consider. Please let Gwen know (you'll find her in the souvenir shop) if you think this is a good idea. You'll find details of travel to

If you're a new convert to Super League as a result of the matches against Paris and Workington or are here for your first taste today - we hope that you will stick with us now we are due to see some more regular entertainment at home.

Wigan next week elsewhere in the programme but when there is an evening kick-off we don't hang around after the matches and we have been making good time getting back to London (honest!). A mouth-watering clash is in store and

what better way to start following the Broncos away from home!

For further information please call Barry or Gwen Warren on 01322 528504.

Just a quick reminder to anyone travelling with the Supporters Club to Paris that payment is now overdue. Anyone making their own way across the Channel should also note that match tickets (which must be bought in advance) are also available from the Broncos.

Supporters Club membership is still available at £6 (£3 for senior citizens, students and the unwaged) - a bargain. You'll be entitled to reduced rate coach travel and discounts in the souvenir shop plus other benefits. However the really sexy draw is the fact that you'll get a dinky little red membership card - ideal for sending people off! We can already boast more members than last season.

Also on a high are sales of old programmes. They are on sale alongside Open Rugby behind the East Stand. Barry and Alex will be only too pleased to help you find a collector's item! Pay them a visit.

And finally for those of you with busy social diaries - pencil in September 14. That's the date which has been set for the annual Player of the Year awards. More details will emerge later this month.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB AWAY TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Why not follow the Broncos away? The supporters club arrange luxury coach travel to all games. All coaches have toilet, video, tea and coffee making facilities.

DEPARTING TIMES

Tower Bridge: 11.30am Victoria Station (opposite Apollo): 11.45am Hammersmith Apollo: Midday

FARES:

£15 Members / £21 Non Members (Cumbrian games plus £5)
Senior citizens, Students (with union card), unemployed (with UB40) and under 16 year olds travel at half price. Children under 14 years travel free provided they are accompanied by a full fare paying adult (one adult per child).

Bookings can be made on matchdays at the supporters' club stall behind the East stand or telephone BARRY or GWEN on 01322 528504 by Friday 7th June.

super new
super hot

SUPER  LEAGUE

scorching rugby
all summer long
live and exclusive on Sky



The fast flowing, high scoring drama of Super League is great for spectator appeal, but sometimes the crowd can also take great delight from some of the hard tackles - often referred to as "Big Hits". There are no better exponents of the big hits than the Broncos' Gavin Allen and Jason Temu of the Bear's.

Big Aussie favourite Gavin Allen gained his reputation as a fearsome defensive player in the Australian Winfield Cup competition whilst Temu - very much an unknown when he joined Oldham - has certainly made a big impact on the British game.

Unfortunately referees - as well as opponents - don't always appreciate these crowd pleasing tackles and the exponents often see a flash of the Referee's red card. Allen and Temu have both had spells out of the game for this reason. They both have also enjoyed selection in representative games - Allen in the Australian State of Origin series and Temu in the Halifax Emerging Nations World Cup competition.

FORM GUIDE

Round 9 Results

Broncos lost 26-24 at Warrington
Bears lost 29-26 to Workington

Round 8 Results

Broncos won at Castleford 21-20
Bears lost at Sheffield 10-23

Round 7 Results

Broncos lost at St Helens 22-24
Bears lost to Bradford 10-30

Round 6 Results

Broncos beat Workington 56-0
Bears won at Castleford 24-20

Broncos home record

Pld 2 Won 2 (% Record 100)

Bears away record

Pld 4 Won 1 Draw 1 (% Record 37.5)

Top Points scorers (full 1996 Record)

Barwick (Broncos) 51	Maloney (Bears) 68
Matterson (Broncos) 42	Abram (Bears) 24
Tollett (Broncos) 28	Atcheson (Bears) 20
Gill (Broncos) 20	Roskell (Broncos) 20

Most Points in a game for Broncos:

26 Matterson against Workington (club record)

Most Points in a game for Bears:

12 Maloney twice for Bears against Paris and Castleford.

Top Try scorers (full 1996 Record)

Abram (Bears) 6	Tollett (Broncos) 7
Atcheson (Bears) 5	Gill (Broncos) 5
Maloney (Bears) 4	Roskell (Broncos) 5
Crompton (Bears) 3	Barwick (Broncos) 4
Munro (Bears) 3	Matterson (Broncos) 4
Patmore (Bears) 3	Rea (Broncos) 3

Most tries in a game

No player - for either side - has scored more than 2 tries in any game.

NOVICES GUIDE TO RUGBY LEAGUE



A DROP GOAL

A drop goal is executed when a player positions himself anywhere on the field then "drops" the ball and successfully kicks the ball directly through the posts and above the cross bar of the opposing team.

THE CHANGE OVER

The change over is exactly that. The ball is handed over to the opposing team when the current team has used up all of their six tackles.

INTERFERENCE OF PLAY

Interference of play occurs when a player directly interferes with the flow of play (at the play of the ball a defending player stops an attacking player from playing the ball).

FORWARD PASS

The ball at all times can only be passed backwards. If the ball is passed forward, a scrum is awarded to the opposing team as for a knock on.

OFFSIDE

Offside applies when a player or the entire team advance forward before the play of the ball by the opposition. There are many other forms of offside which can be learnt by watching the game. N.B. The defending team must be in line with the referee. Listen out for shouts of "GET THEM ONSIDE"

A GRUBBER KICK

A grubber kick is when a player drops the ball and kicks it for position before it touches the ground. If the ball hits the ground before being played it will be deemed a knock on!

A PENALTY

When a penalty is awarded, a team has two options; 1 - to take a kick at goal (between the posts) which is worth an extra 2 points.

2 - kick the ball further down the field out of play and then restart equal to where the ball left the field.

A TRY

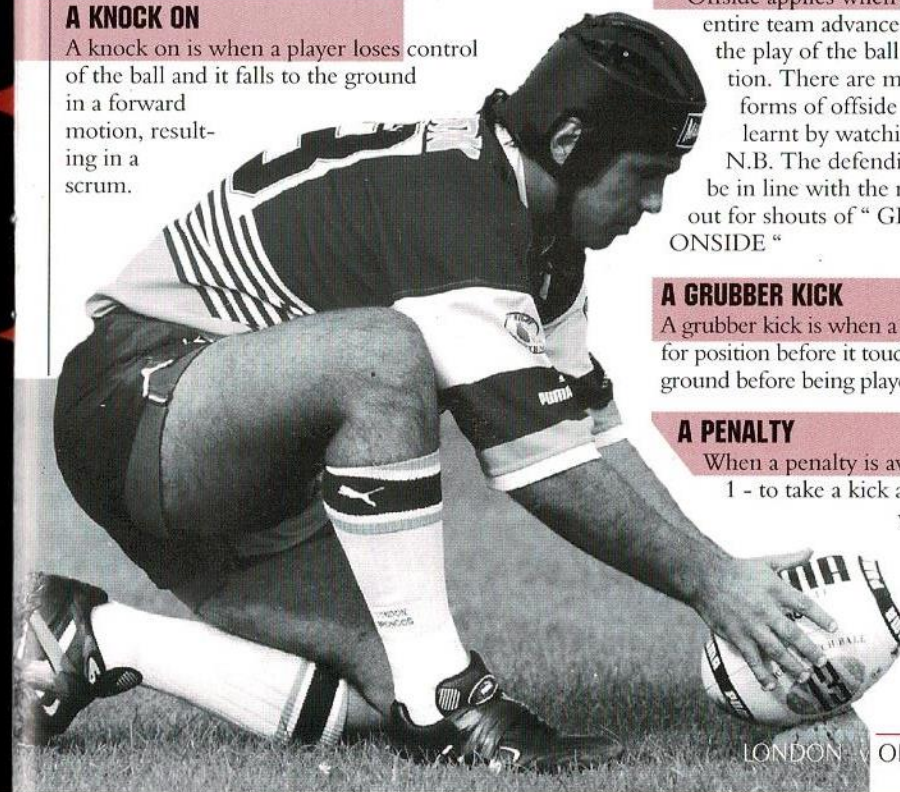
A try is worth four points. A try is scored when one team player touches the ball down over the goal line of the opposing team. A conversion is when the ball is kicked straight between the posts, and above the cross bar.

A SCRUM

A scrum takes place after a mistake is made or the ball is kicked into touch (out of play). The forwards lock together briefly, the ball is put in from the side - then play resumes.

A KNOCK ON

A knock on is when a player loses control of the ball and it falls to the ground in a forward motion, resulting in a scrum.



Here's
a Basic
Guide
to
Rugby
League



By Paul English

FOLLOW LEAGUE INTO THE NEXT CENTURY

visit



Stocking all that's new in books, magazines and videos (especially from Oz)

Offering complete coverage of Rugby League all over the world

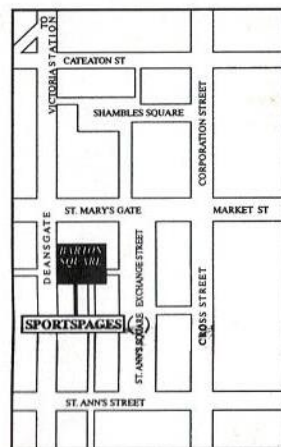
Europe's leading Sports Bookshop with branches in London and Manchester

IF YOU'RE INTO LEAGUE GET INTO SPORTSPAGES

Mail Order Service Available

CAXTON WALK
94-96 CHARING CROSS ROAD
LONDON WC2H
TEL: 0171 240 9604
FAX: 0171 836 0104

BARTON SQUARE
ST ANN'S SQUARE
MANCHESTER M2 7HA
TEL: 0161 832 8530
FAX: 0161 832 9391



LONDON

ALLIANCE FIRST DIVISION LONDON BRONCOS RLFC

March 1996

30th Featherstone Rovers (H) 16-30

April 1996

6th York (H) 34-26
13th Sheffield Eagles (A) 14-37
20th Workington Town (A) 22-34
27th Blank weekend -
Silk Cut Challenge Cup Final

May 1996

4th Swinton (H) 23-30
18th Leigh Centurions (A) 14-26
25th Batley (H) 36-2

June 1996

1st Wakefield Trinity (H) 2.30pm
8th Dewsbury (A) 2.30pm
15th Featherstone Rovers (A) 2.30pm
22nd Workington Town (H) 2.30pm
29th York (A) 2.30pm

July 1996

6th Sheffield Eagles (H) 2.30pm
13th Widnes (A) 2.30pm
20th Swinton (A) 2.30pm

August 1996

3rd Batley (A) 2.30pm
10th Wakefield Trinity (A) 2.30pm
17th Dewsbury (H) 2.30pm
24th Leigh Centurions (H) 2.30pm
31st Widnes (H) 2.30pm

LONDON BRONCOS ALLIANCE - APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

	APPS	SUB	TRIES	GOALS	DG	PNTS
MICHAEL ADEYMI	1	4	3	0	0	12
ROGER AKENNA	4	0	2	0	0	8
GREG BARWICK	1	0	1	2	0	8
IKRAM BUTT	2	0	0	0	0	0
BERNARD CARROLL	6	0	3	0	1	13
MICHAEL CARTER	1	1	0	0	0	0
LED DYNEVOR	1	0	0	1	0	2
DAVE EVANS	6	0	1	0	0	4
DARREN HOGG	6	0	4	0	0	16
MATT JOLLY	0	1	1	0	0	4
NOEL KEATING	1	0	1	0	0	4
CHICK KNOX-MACAULEY	0	1	1	0	0	4
KEVIN LANGER	3	0	2	0	0	8
MARK MAGUIRE	2	0	2	2	0	12
KIERAN MEYER	1	0	1	0	0	4
STEVE MOORE	3	1	0	1	0	2
MARK NICE	3	2	1	0	0	4
JUNIOR PAUL	5	0	1	0	0	4
DARRYL PITT	1	0	2	3	0	14
CONRAD RICHARDS	3	1	0	0	0	0
JEFFREY ROBINSON	3	0	1	0	0	4
SCOTT ROSKELL	2	0	3	0	0	12
ADAM ROSS	5	0	2	0	0	8
JON SCOURFIELD	6	0	2	0	0	8
DANNY SMITH	2	0	2	3	0	14
PAUL STEVENS	3	1	0	0	0	0
LEE TUSON	0	3	0	0	0	0
ADRIAN WHY	3	3	0	0	0	0
RICHARD WILKINSON	5	1	0	0	0	0

It's been a fairly depressing scenario for Broncos Alliance team in terms of results these past few weeks. Defeats at Workington (22-34) and Leigh (14-26) and at home to Swinton (25-50) have emphasised the vast difference in standards between the First and Second Division following promotion last season.

On a more cheery note, Broncos notched up a satisfying win against Batley last week which will hopefully signal an upturn in form for the rest of the season.

Coach Kevin Langer has called up no fewer than 44 players already - in just seven matches! This has inevitably had an effect on performances and furthermore, due to being on first team duty, Langer himself has had to miss his charges in action on a number of occasions.

Last week's win was achieved on the back of an excellent all round team show. Langer led by example and Darren Hogg also caught the eye. First team super-sub Darryl Pitt made his first Alliance appearance of the season and bagged two tries and three goals. Aussie centre Mark Maguire also collected a try and a goal while there were also tries from Carroll and Hogg.

The previous fixture - against Leigh - saw the low key return to action of Ikram Butt. Prop Adam Ross, proving to be a tower of strength for Broncos this year, had a brilliant game and there were also good performances from debutants Michael Carter and Mark Maguire. Tries came from Maguire, Paul and Adeymi with Maguire adding one goal.

The defeat against Swinton was distinguished by a last quarter collapse by Broncos who had only trailed 21-28 after 58 minutes.

Swinton then ran riot and found little resistance from the Broncos however the Londoners points came from Carroll (try and drop goal), Barwick (try and two goals), Hogg, Ross and Knox-Macauley. On the match officials front, Dave Rotheram and Bev Risman cut a dash on the touchline due to a missing referee for the first half of the game!

The long trip to Workington saw the squad contain the three players dropped for disciplinary reasons by coach Tony Currie. In fact all three - Meyer, Smith and Keating - put up sound performances and all got on the scoresheet. Meyer and Keating scoring tries and Smith claiming three goals. Other Broncos tries in the 34-22 defeat came from Ross and Carroll.

Yesterday Broncos were due to take the game to Oxford for the visit of Wakefield as Crystal Palace was unavailable and their next two matches will be away to Dewsbury and Featherstone.

NEWS FROM THE ALLIANCE

"IF WE can get enough ball then I'm confident that we can win," said Va'aiga Tuigamala before Saturday's game at Twickenham.

As it turned out Wigan didn't get enough ball and they didn't win.

At least that's what most commentators will say.

The truth, however, is that Wigan adopted the wrong tactics even before the match started.

Why on earth did the Champs select Graeme West and Joe Lydon?

Apparently Graeme was picked to allow Wigan to compete in the lineouts, and Joe was picked for his kicking game.

Who's kidding who?

Graeme made not an ounce of difference to the lineouts and Joe contributed not a jot with his kicking game.

A match which was eminently winnable was lost when Graeme and Joe put their heads together to select the team.

Sentiment ruled, I'm afraid, and many of us felt let down by Wigan's inept show against Bath.

Wigan should have selected Mick Cassidy at flanker, moved Inga to the centre, put Henry at fly half, and selected Simon Haughton from the start in the back row.

To prepare for the game they should have concentrated on how to keep hold of any ball they got hold of.

They should have then run the ball from every ounce of possession they could get. In doing so they may have been caught in possession and conceded a couple of tries early on.

But on the other hand they may have scored those wonderful second half tries in the first half.

The point is that at Maine Road Wigan had mesmerised Bath with the brilliance of their running and handling skills. The Union team had been in awe of Wigan that night.

It was therefore obvious that the way to win was not to kick possession away, but to play a similar type of game to that at Maine Road, with the bonus that such a game was sure to tire Bath out. We saw it happen when Wigan revised their tactics in the second half after Joe and Graeme had departed the field.

Of course Wigan were not helped by not understanding the rules of rugby union. And the referee lacked sympathy, as when he penalised Kris Radlinski for a tackle on Adebayo near to the Bath line in the second half. Inevitably Wigan conceded hundreds of penalties, including a penalty try in the first half, much to the gloating of several Sunday newspaper rugby union columnists.

Nor were they helped by a touch judge

calling them back for a forward pass when Gary Connolly scored a first half try.

When was the last time you saw a rugby union touch judge call a forward pass in a try scoring movement?

On the other hand Wigan performed in the scrums much better than we might have expected, and by the end of the game they had begun to master some of the other technical mysteries of the game.

Wigan drew with Bath in the second half, and as RFU Secretary Tony Hallett said afterwards, another 20 minutes and who knows what might have happened. That's why the first half, and Wigan's crazy selections and tactics, were so frustrating.

The fact that it was anything but a triumph for rugby union will be overlooked as the Union propaganda machine gets to work.

You only had to listen to the radio or watch the TV news bulleting on Saturday, or read the Sunday newspapers to see what was happening.

Anyone who saw the TV presentation, or listened to Radio 5 Live, should understand the way that the rugby union media will bend the truth.

Ian Robertson's biased radio commentary belonged in the land of make believe. He even suggested that Bath had beaten Wigan as easily as Wigan had slammed Bath at Maine Road.

And Stuart Barnes' comments on the televised version of the game were almost as bad. His view that Bath eased up in the second half was laughable, and was contradicted by the Bath players themselves, as well as by Shaun Edwards, who made by far the most perceptive comments of those interviewed after the game.

Shaun made the point that with another couple of matches under their belt Wigan would beat Bath next time at rugby union. He is absolutely right. The frustrating thing is that Wigan could have done it on Saturday.

I'm afraid that our problems with the rugby union dominated sporting media will continue for a long time yet.

But that isn't true about the Bath coaching and playing staff.

Bath coach Brian Ashton and manager John Hall paid generous tribute to Wigan, as did the Bath players. They recognised the quality of their opposition, even if the union journalists won't accept that the rules of their game stifle talent rather than develop it.

So what has Rugby League got out of the 'Clash of the Codes'?

It's a pertinent question, because many League fans were critical of the decision to allow the game to go ahead in the first place.

To be blunt, there isn't much that any

League player, official or spectator would want from rugby union, except perhaps a desire to see tidier scrums. No one could seriously argue that the untidy and tedious rolling mauls, rucks and other smothering tactics employed in rugby union should be copied in Rugby League.

And I get sick of hearing about the technical complexities of rugby union, and of it being more multi-faceted than League. Multi-ruled, perhaps, but more one dimensional in every other sense.

On the pitch the rugby union world has much more to learn from our game than we from them.

But the benefit for League from Wigan's recent exploits is more wide ranging.

Any unbiased spectator on Saturday will have recognised that Wigan played the vast majority of the good quality rugby. The matches against Bath will therefore have opened eyes and minds which were previously closed.

So can Rugby League take advantage of the fall of the rugby version of the Berlin Wall?

It would be good to think so, and it's vital that the game marches forward from here.

We should now be inviting an inquisitive audience to attend League matches to see the quality of what's on offer.

But are we up to the job?

On Saturday night there was a wonderful televised match when Warrington took on the Broncos at Wilderspool.

There were brilliant skills on display.

In other words it was an average Super League game (or, for that matter, an average game that you might see in divisions one and two).

But where was the crowd?

There's a touch of genius in being able to put on such a great game with such marvellous athletes as Iestyn Harris, Duncan McRae, Jonathan Roper, Greg Barwick and Paul Sculthorpe, only to draw a crowd of 3,772.

Who other than Warrington could deter at least ten thousand fans from coming to watch talent like that?

But then most other Rugby League clubs, with some honourable exceptions, particularly in the Metropolitan District of Bradford, are just as ineffective at drawing decent crowds.

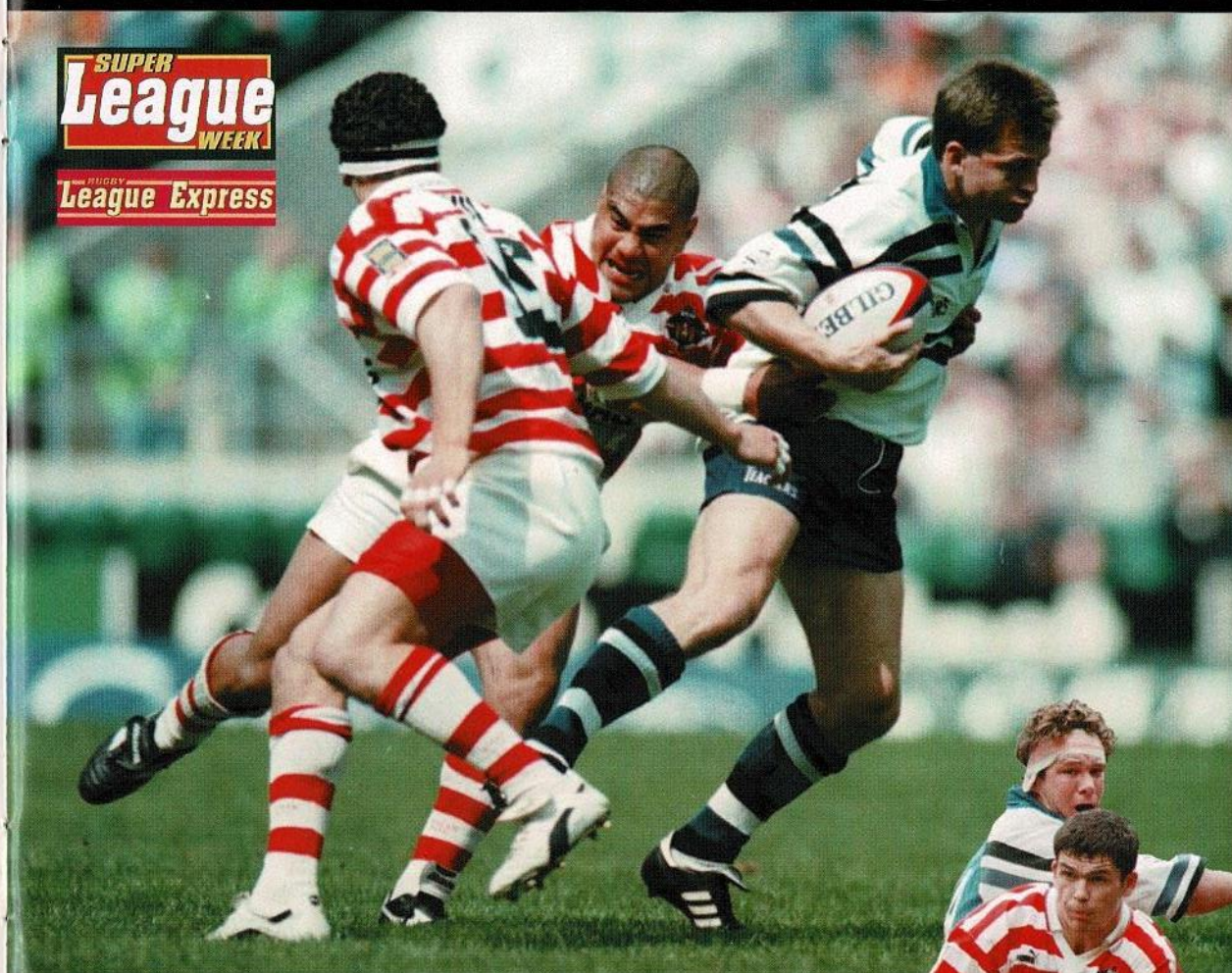
As Terry Matterson said on Saturday night, when speaking about the Broncos' performance, it's time to get fair dinkum.

Whatever that means, I get the feeling that someone has to get fair dinkum about the game as a whole.

Otherwise League could be swallowed up by a far more marketing conscious professional rugby union game.

TIME TO GET FAIR DINKUM!

SUPER League WEEK 1
RUGBY League Express



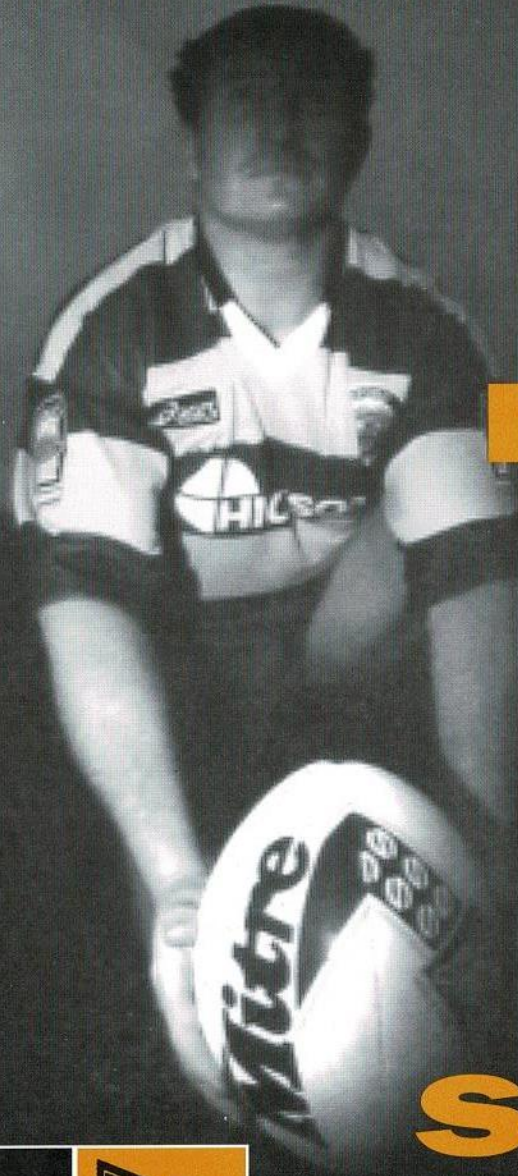
'Clash of the Codes'
- the verdict ...

ABOVE: Bath's Jon Callard attempts to get past Tuigamala and Paul **RIGHT:** Wigan's Andy Farrell beats Martin Haag to get the ball away in the line-out



Rugby League Express editor MARTYN SADLER reflects on the Wigan v Bath confrontations

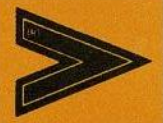
super heroes



need

super balls

Mitre



Official Ball Of The Super League

LONDON

The LondON AcAdEMy

Dave Rotheram (coach)
Lee Tuson (assistant coach)
Bev Risman (manager)

The London Academy story continues in roller-coaster fashion with some amazing results on the field; crest of the waves in one match, down in the depths in the next match. We were hoping to create Rugby League history in the Wakefield match when an appeal to the Rugby Football League to reverse the result was made when Wakefield were deemed to have scored with the last kick of the match to win the game. Video evidence showed conclusively that the ball hit the top of the upright and did not go through, despite the officials awarding the goal. Controller of Referees, Greg McCallum, sympathised but could not have the result altered - so we had to be content with a moral victory.

Our travels then began and the lads were thrilled to sample the superb facilities at Leeds. Our lads were a little overawed and nervous, and although we played well in patches, Leeds were just too strong and experienced on the day. On to St Helens with a little trepidation, but we now knew what to expect. Although our defence is still very suspect we were brilliant in attack, got stronger as the match progressed, and fashioned a famous victory against one of the top Academy sides. We thought we had really arrived, but were brought firmly back to earth with an absolute clobbering against the outstanding Castleford side - who are by far the best in the League.

The great thing is that the team is learning all the time - we have now played the best and now know where we stand and we will certainly get better. Our new recruits are coming through, with flying winger Wayne Sykes showing his paces, and iron-man George Danchie switching to the pack and frightening everyone with his bull-doing runs. Second row man Adrian Priest is now adding more power to his silky ball handling skills, and Paul Terry is converting successfully to the hooker/half back role.

Yet another away match at Warrington, and then at last back to the Valley against Leigh today, where we hope to record our first home victory, before we have yet another trip of a lifetime

ACADEMY		
March		
30th	Halifax (A)	8-36
April		
8th	Bradford Bulls (A)	24-14
14th	Hull (A)	22-24
21st	Wakefield Trinity (H)	27-28
May		
5th	Leeds (A)	10-46
12th	St Helens (H)	34-30
19th	Castleford (A)	24-68
25th	Warrington (A)	12-70
June		
2nd	Leigh (H)	
9th	Wigan (A)	
16th	Halifax (H)	
23rd	Featherstone (A)	
30th	Bradford Bulls (H)	
July		
7th	Hull (H)	
14th	Wakefield Trinity (A)	
21st	Leeds (H)	
28th	St Helens (A)	
August		
4th	Warrington (H)	
11th	Leigh (A)	
18th	Wigan (H)	
25th	Castleford (H)	

to Wigan next week. Win or lose the lads are performing superbly, having a great time, and enjoying every minute of this new experience of summer Rugby League.

We now have a strong squad of 30-35 players, but are still recruiting and would be delighted to hear from anyone with talent and enthusiasm, who would like to play for London. Players wishing to be considered for the Academy for this season must be under 19 on September 1st 1995. For 1997 they should be under 19 on January 1st 1997.

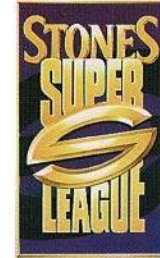
All enquiries should be made to Bev Risman, London Broncos Tel. 0181 776 6670 (B) or 01344 780493 (H).

LONDON BRONCOS UNDER 16 TEAM

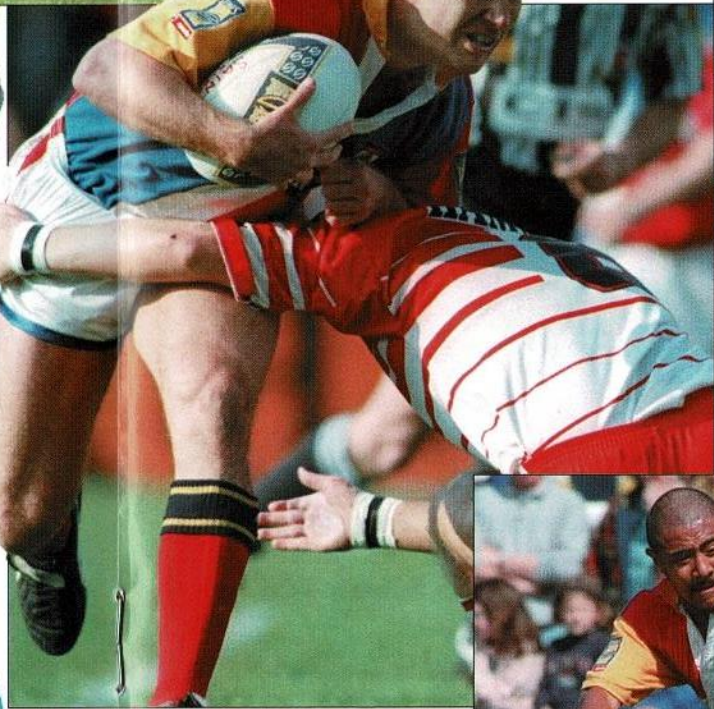
An Under 16 team will be participating in the National League starting in September and we are recruiting players to participate in summer training. Training will be on Wednesday evenings at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, commencing on Wednesday 19th June.

For further information contact Bev Risman (see above) or Dave Evans (Under 16 coach) Tel. 0181 393 6726 (H) or 0181 686 4433 Ext. 2401 (B).

LONDON 27 WAKEFIELD 28	ST HELENS 30 LONDON 34
TRIES: MARTIN, DUGGAN, MEDLEY, DANCHIE 2	TRIES: COHEN, MARTIN, LEAPAI, IRELAND, SYKES 2
GOALS: MARTIN 3 + 1 D.C.	GOALS: MARTIN 5
LEEDS 46 LONDON 10	CASTLEFORD 68 LONDON 24
TRIES: THOMAS, JANAS	TRIES: MARTIN 3, COHEN, GEORGE
GOALS: MARTIN	GOALS: MARTIN 2



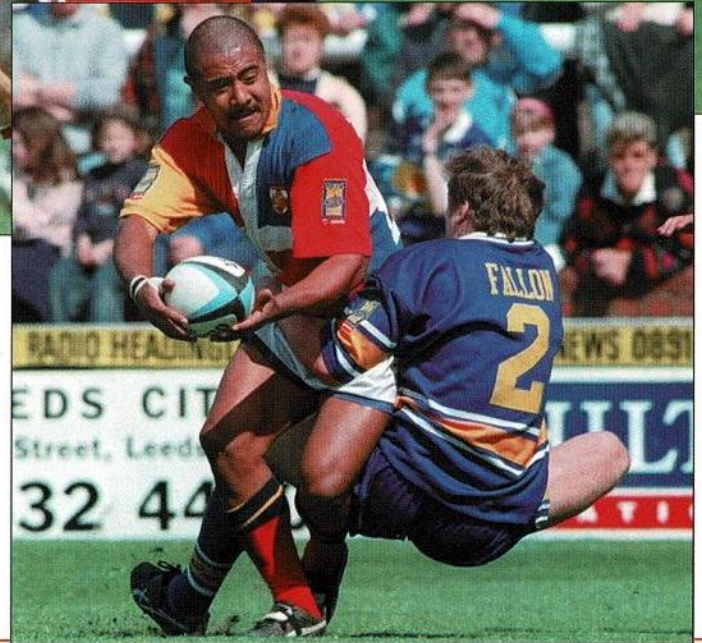
LEFT: Darren Shaw puts his left leg in... his left leg out...
RIGHT: Justin Bryant battles through the Leeds defence



ST HELENS (A)

LEEDS (A)

ABOVE: Scott Roskell skips past a St Helens player
RIGHT: Leeds' Jim Fallon hitches a lift with young Leroy Leapai
LEFT: Tulsen Tollett and Co get to grips with the St Helens pack



ACTION REPLAY

Cross Southern

THE NEWSPAPER FOR AUSTRALASIANS ABROAD

L O N D O N

FREE EVERY WEDNESDAY

LONDON

For a full report on the game
pick up Southern Cross on
Wednesdays.

LIFE

NEWS

JOBBS

Available from tubes
all over London.

SPORT

TV

Proud supporters of
the London Broncos

Phone: 0171 373 3377

Fax: 0171 373 9457

LONDON

VIEW

By Micheal O'Hare

down south

Gobsmacked!

Here's what the writers - many of them Rugby Union people - said about Rugby League and Wigan after their Maine Road clash against Bath under League rules last month (82-6 to Wigan in case you forgot).

Richard Williams, The Guardian: "They are bigger, stronger, fitter and faster. We knew that already. But rugby league's finest also run with greater cunning, pass the ball more sweetly and kick to considerably more damaging effect than the champions of the union code. Quite simply Wigan annihilated Bath."

John Mason, The Daily Telegraph: "Bath were, in a word, thrashed. This match, whether the die-hards like it or not, demonstrated a host of superior skills currently absent from the union game. This match presented the entertainment embarrassingly lacking from many of the bigger union occasions."

Christopher Irvine, The Times: "Bath were submerged in a nightmare world of perpetual motion. The incessant nature of rugby league today leaves its distant relative plodding behind."

Dave Hadfield, The Independent: "It was the extent of Wigan's superiority, even in the aspect of play that the two codes should have in common, that will have surprised even the most pessimistic Union die-hard."

Steve Bale, also The Independent: "So Jeremy Guscott knew exactly what he was doing when he opted out of the Maine event."

Did we League supporters realise simply quite how good Wigan and Rugby League are? Of course we did and we're gloating - after all we deserve it following 100 years of media lies and disinformation telling us how dreadful our game was. The facts now speak for themselves.

But the only question we're left trying to fathom is why didn't anybody believe us when we've been trying to tell them how good our game is for the past century. Could it be that they just did not want to listen?

"...Did we
League

supporters
realise simply

quite how
good Wigan

and Rugby

League are?

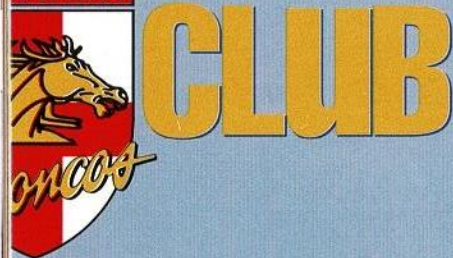
Of course we

did and we're

gloating -

after all we

deserve it..."



NEW BRONCOS SETTLING IN...

Centre Graham Strutton, signed from Brisbane Easts, is settling in quickly. He has made two first-team appearances and has impressed observers already.

Second-rower Ray Allen, brother of Gavin, got off the plane a week last Wednesday and was pitched straight into the Alliance team, helping them record their second win of the season against Batley.

Winger Mark Maguire, who joined us from Brisbane Wests, is also showing plenty of promise in the reserves. He's played twice for us since his transfer and could soon be challenging for a first-team spot.

BUTT BACK

Ikram Butt (left) is another who could soon be figuring in Tony Currie's first-team plans, but might need a little more time after his long absence.



GO-GO GAV

Prop Gavin Allen, who broke his arm in the first minute of our opening game of the season against Paris, made his comeback at Warrington.

At the time of writing he had suffered no ill effects, so home fans might see a little more than 60 seconds of him in action this evening.

NEWS

All The News & Gossip Around London



DISHY BRONCOS



Although home fans haven't had the chance to see the team in the flesh for several weeks, those of you with access to Sky TV won't have missed anything.

That's because the Broncos have been featured on Sky's Super League programme, either live or in the form of recorded highlights, for all our last four games.

If you haven't already got a dish, maybe it's time to get one real soon....

IT'S THE McBRONCOS!

Darren Shaw has already established himself in the Scotland international set-up and could soon be joined by two more McBroncos.

Club skipper Terry Matterson (right) and Duncan McRea (inset) have both qualified for Scotland due to their grandparents hailing from Over The Border.

Shaw played twice for the Scots in the Emerging Nations World Cup and also represented

Scotland in the Fiji Nines.

Maybe it was the possibility of a trip to fabulous Fiji that persuaded Matterson and McRea to start searching through their family trees!



CHARLTON TROPHY CABINET NOT EMPTY

Although our "landlords" Charlton missed out in the Premiership play-offs, their trophy cabinet won't be totally empty.

The Broncos have handed over their hard-won Alliance Second Division title trophy to Martin Simon, the Valiants' chairman.... and it's now proudly on show in the club's boardroom.

It would be nice to have another piece of silverware - of a senior variety - to go alongside it!

Watersheddings

The very name conjures up every Home County's prejudice that's ever been held against the grand old game, and in truth they're not far wrong.

It may be home sweet home to Oldham Bears, but to most other clubs that contest rugby league at top level, it's one of the most dreaded destinations on the fixture list for all the wrong reasons.

That's why Andy Goodway and his lads love the ramshackle old eyecore, of course, and nobody can blame them for wanting to tilt the odds in their favour whenever possible against their better-appointed rivals.

Any coach worth his salt would insist on maintaining a presence at the most inhospitable of grounds if he believed that, psychologically or otherwise, it afforded even the slightest advantage.

So Goodway gave the experiment of switching Super League games to Boundary Park a one-off, 80 minutes shot, then insisted to his chairman that Oldham play their remaining matches at Watersheddings even if, as some faint-hearts have feared, the place starts falling down around their ears.

Oldham Athletic's soccer stadium is no Old Trafford, but Boundary Park does

boast two nearly new stands, with decent seats, adequate food and toilet facilities for fans, and a few licks of paint to prove it's still open. No wonder Oldham felt like they were in alien territory.

Aristocrats Wigan, by contrast, looked more than comfortable that opening night

"...Oldham Athletic's soccer stadium is no Old Trafford, but Boundary Park does boast two nearly new stands, with decent seats, adequate food and toilet facilities for fans, and a few licks of paint to prove it's still open..."

in March and acted the ungrateful guests by running up a score of 56 points to 16, thereby making sure that future visiting supporters could enjoy the delights of Watersheddings to the full.

At this point it's worth mentioning to Broncos fans that life at The Valley is no kind of preparation for a trip to see the Bears perform. Those considering the

return fixture should also know that a general rule of thumb when visiting the ground is to wrap up warm if there's an 'r' in the month. Or an 'a' or a 'j'.

True, it is not the only ground in Super League where the wind-chill factor can be higher than the half-time score - take a bow, Halifax and Workington - but it has become a decaying, scruffy symbol of the old cloth cap and ferret image that the game has worked so hard to cast off in recent years.

Oldham, of course, know all this, and they've put up with the jibes and the jokes for years. This one won't even make the scrapbook. But the days of dreading the Watersheddings Experience are numbered, and though few will miss it, there will be a certain twisted nostalgia evoked as another piece of the game's history disappears.

The fans realised a long time ago, but Watersheddings - and dear old Derwent Park as well, for that matter - has been deemed less than suitable for Super League. Official. Even now the Bears are contemplating life on a fresh site on the other side of town, in a spanking new state-of-the-art stadium.

So it's goodbye to that biting wind off Saddleworth Moor, and hello 20th century, what's left of it.

And if you're up for the match in August, don't forget to put on a vest or two.

By Pete Ferguson

Daily Mail
TUESDAY, MAY 28, 1996
NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Out of his Box

Simply the Best:



Darryl Pitt - Super Sub for Gwen

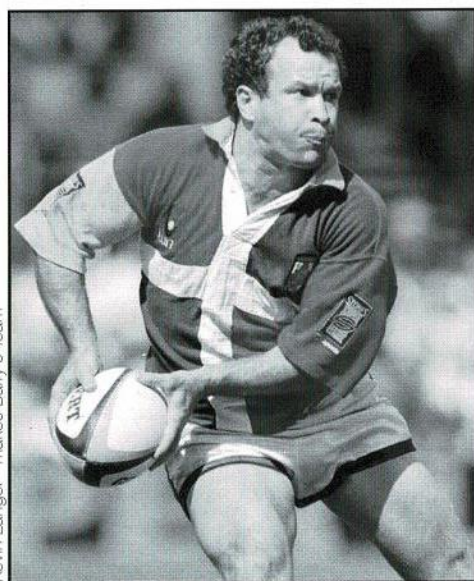
All Time Great London Teams

GWEN'S TEAM

In choosing my team perhaps out of sentiment I have included many players from the early seasons who I like to think have proved themselves firm favourites with many London supporters.

Their efforts in my opinion have assisted in planting the seeds of what is now becoming a major national sport.

Of course many other players have contributed to the cause of establishing Rugby League in London and I have found it very difficult to choose a team from their numbers.



Kevin Langer - makes Barry's Team

BARRY'S TEAM

Like Gwen, I've chosen my team around many players from the first season and make no apologies for this.

Many supporters at today's game may have no idea who some of these players are but back in 1980 the majority of these players introduced me to the great game of Rugby League with a fine win over Wigan.

Of course, both Gwen and I have been hooked ever since and I've always believed history repeats itself. I'm confident many of this seasons encounters and in particular the game against Wigan, will win many new supporters and in years to come, many of you will look back with conviction knowing this season's team are simply the best.

Gwen Warren is the London Broncos Rugby League Supporters Club Treasurer. Barry Warren is the Club Secretary.

GWEN'S TEAM

1. JOHN GALLAGHER (C&B)
2. HUSSAIN M'BARKI (F)
3. GREG PEARCE (F)
4. STEVE MILLS (F)
5. MARK JOHNSON (C&B)
6. CHRIS WILKINSON (F)
7. MIKE DAVIS (F)
8. IAN VAN BELLEN (F)
9. CRAIG TAYLOR (F)
10. TONY COURLEY (F)
11. PAT O'DOHERTY (F)
12. PETER WHITE (F)
13. STEVE ROSOLEN (C&B)
14. TONY KINSEY (F)
15. DAVE GILLAN (F)
16. DARRYL PITT (F/C/B)
17. JOHN DALGREEN (F)

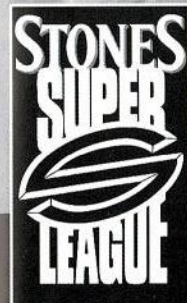
BARRY'S TEAM

1. JOHN RISMAN (F)
2. HUSSAIN M'BARKI (F)
3. MAL ASPEY (F)
4. DARRYL PITT (F/C/B)
5. IAN MACCORQUODALE (F)
6. DAVID ECKERSLEY (F)
7. REGGIE BOWDEN (F)
8. IAN VAN BELLEN (F)
9. DAVE ROTHERHAM (F/C/B)
10. ROY LESTER (F)
11. DAVE ALLEN (F)
12. DON DUFFY (F)
13. STEVE ROSOLEN (C&B)
14. SCOTT ROSKELL (C&B)
15. KEVIN LANGER (B)
16. JUSTIN BRYANT (B)
17. PAT O'DOHERTY (F)

KEY: S: STREATHAM & MITCHAM F: FULHAM
C: CRUSADERS B: BRONCOS

Hop, skip, jump.

CRASH! BANG! WALLOP!



THE REAL ACTION THIS SUMMER

BRAIN TEASER'S

1. Which Australian club did Graham Strutton recently join from?
2. Which Kiwi player was recently put on the transfer list by Warrington?
3. Where will England and France play their European Championship game on June 12th?
4. How many matches did Terry Matterson miss after being sent off against Leeds?
5. Which two Oldham players were also sent off in their game against Sheffield Eagles?
6. Who won the 1996 Middlesex Sevens?
7. Which Australian team did Greg Barwick play for against Wigan in the World Club Challenge?

8. Who will captain England against France on June 12th?
9. Which first division team did Phil Vievers join last month?
10. Who were this year's beaten Challenge Cup finalists?

ANSWERS AT THE FOOT OF THE PAGE

BRONCOLINE

Once again this season, the Club sponsored information telephone line is in operation. I like to think that this differs from other similar lines in that it is updated regularly, it's funny, interesting and excellent value for money, and above all is run by me.

Seriously, if you're ever unable to make the match there are scoreline updates every twenty minutes when humanly possible, as well as all the Club, First Team and Alliance news and interviews with the leading lights of the Club. The only other piece of news you need is the number, and that is...

0839 333 034

CALLS COST 49p AT PEAK TIMES. 39p AT ALL OTHER TIMES

Answers: 1. Brisbane Easts 2. Kelly Shefford 3. Gateshead 4. Two 5. Martin Crompton and Joe Farnillo 6. Wigan 7. Penrith 8. Andrew Farrell 9. Huddersfield 10. Bradford Bulls

LONDON BRONCOS PLAYER SPONSORSHIP

 1. PAUL STEVENS Available for Sponsorship	 10. TONY MESTROV Steve Bush & George Thompson	 17. KEVIN LANGER Anglohill Ltd
 2. JOHN MINTO DIET COKE!!!	MARK MAGUIRE Available for Sponsorship	 18. PETER GILL Available for Sponsorship
 3. EVAN COCHRANE Available for Sponsorship	 12. DARREN SHAW Wyse Leasing P/C01494 791555	 19. IKRAM BUTT "London Calling!" Fanzine
GRAHAM STRUTTON Available for Sponsorship	DO YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THE LONDON BRONCOS? YOU CAN! WHY NOT SPONSOR A PLAYER THIS SEASON AND YOUR NAME COULD BE HERE! ONLY £100 FOR A COMPLETE STRIP (+ VAT) INTERESTED? THEN CALL TREVOR HOWARD ON 0181 776 6670	 20. GREG BARWICK John Sercombe, Kevin Squire, Ron Keene
 5. BERNARD CARROLL Peter Grinham	RAY ALLEN Available for Sponsorship	
 6. TULSEN TOLLETT Wyse Leasing P/C01494 791555	 13. TONY REA Caroline Waite	 22. SCOTT ROSKELL Barclays Bank Docklands 0171 699 5100
 7. LEO DYNEVOR Barry & Gwen Warren	 14. JUSTIN BRYANT Interlink Business Systems	 23. DUNCAN McRAE Mick & Hazel
 8. GAVIN ALLEN Sportsman Pub Crystal Palace	 15. STEVE ROSOLEN Available for Sponsorship	 24. RUSSELL BAWDEN Available for Sponsorship
 9. TERRY MATTERSON Interlink Business Systems	 16. DARRYL PITT London Broncos Supporters Club	 25. JUNIOR PAUL Paul Brown Management

t ● try scored g ● goal scored s/b ● sin-binned s/o ● sent off
 () ● being shown live on Sky Sports () ● half time scoreline

DATE	OPPOSITION / ATTENDANCE	RESULT	FULL BACK	RIGHT WING	RIGHT CENTRE	LEFT CENTRE	LEFT WING	STAND OFF	SCRUM HALF	OPEN SIDE PROP	HOOKER	BLIND SIDE PROP	2ND ROW	2ND ROW	LOOSE FORWARD	SUB TWO	SUB THREE	SUB FOUR	
Sunday March 31st	Hullix (A)	W 24-22 (14-10)	Barwick 4g s/b debut	Paul	Meyer	Cochrane	Carroll	Tollett	Dynevor	Mestrov	Rea	G Allen	Shaw	Keating	Matterson	Bawden	Bryant	McRae	
Thursday April 4th	PARIS ST GERMAIN (H)	W 38-22 (16-6)	Barwick 4g	Paul	Meyer	Tollett	Carroll	McRae	Dynevor	Bawden	Rea	Allen	Shaw	Pitt	Matterson	Mestrov	Bryant	Keating	
Monday April 8th	Bradford Bulls (A)	L 24-31 (14-12)	McRae s/b	Roskell	Smith	Meyer	Minto	Tollett	Dynevor	Mestrov	Rea	Shaw	Gill	Pitt	Matterson	Keating	Bawden	Bryant	
Sunday April 14th	Sheffield Eagles (A)	L 18-34 (12-12)	McRae	Roskell	Meyer	Smith	Minto	Tollett	Langer	Mestrov	Rea	Shaw	Bryant	Gill	Matterson	Pitt	Keating	Cochrane	
Sunday April 21st	WORKINGTON TOWN (H)	W 56-0 (28-0)	McRae	Minto	Leapai	Cochrane	Roskell	Tollett	Langer	Shaw	Rea	Mestrov	Gill	Bryant	Matterson	Stevens	Dynevor	Pitt	
Sunday May 5th	Leeds (A)	W 27-20 (4-18)	McRae 1d s/b	Minto	Cochrane	Leapai	Roskell	Tollett	Langer	Mestrov	Rea	Shaw	Gill	Bryant	Matterson	Stevens	Dynevor	Bawden	
Sunday May 12th	ST HELENS (H)	L 22-24 (18-8)	Barwick 2t 3g	Minto	Roskell	Tollett	Paul	McRae	Langer	Mestrov	Rea	Shaw	Bryant	Rosolen	Gill	Pitt	Bawden	Dynevor	
Sunday May 19th	Castleford Tigers (A)	W 21-20 (14-8)	Barwick 1t 2g 1d	Roskell	Tollett	Strutton	Minto	McRae	Dynevor	Mestrov	Rea	Bawden	Shaw	Bryant	Gill	Langer	Rosolen	Pitt	
Sunday May 28th	Warrington (A)	L 24-28 (16-18)	Barwick 1t 4g	Roskell	Cochrane	Strutton	Minto	Tollett	Dynevor	G Allen	Rea	Mestrov	Gill	Bawden	Matterson	Rosolen	Shaw	McRae	
Sunday June 2nd	OLDHAM BEARS (H)	W 30-0																	
Sunday June 9th	Wigan (A)	W 30-0																	
Sunday June 16th	HALIFAX (H)	W 30-0																	
Sunday June 23rd	WORKINGTON TOWN (A)	W 30-0																	
Saturday June 29th	BRADFORD BULLS (H)	W 30-0																	
Saturday July 6th	SHEFFIELD EAGLES (H)	W 30-0																	
Sunday July 14th	PARIS ST GERMAIN (A)	W 30-0																	
Sunday July 21st	LEEDS (H)	W 30-0																	
Sunday July 28th	St Helens (A)	W 30-0																	
Sunday August 4th	WARRINGTON (H)	W 30-0																	
Sunday August 11th	Oldham Bears (A)	W 30-0 at Boundary Pk, Oldham																	
Sunday August 18th	WIGAN (H)	W 30-0																	
Sunday August 25th	CASTLEFORD TIGERS (H)	W 30-0																	

TERRY MATTERSON

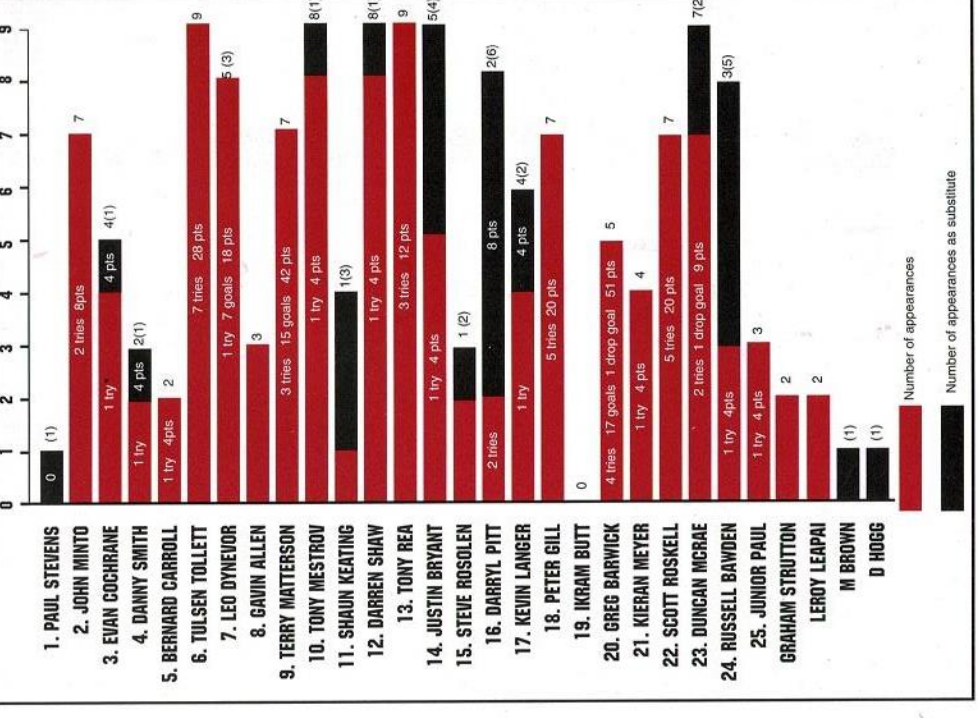
EQUALLED THE CLUB RECORD OF 11 GOALS IN A MATCH V WORKINGTON. HE BEAT THE CLUB RECORD OF 24 POINTS IN A MATCH HELD BY JOHN GALLAGHER. NOW STANDS AT 26 POINTS 11 GOALS 1 TRY

TRIES IN A CAREER	50
D PITT	64
S ROSKELL	64
(3RD PLACE IN ALL TIME SCORING CHART)	
APPEARANCES IN A CAREER	54
J BRYANT	48
K LANGER	66
D SHAW	66

April 27th Silk Cut Challenge Cup - FINAL at Wembley June 12th European Championship - England v France at Gateshead
 June 19th European Championship - France v Wales in Paris June 26th European Championship - Wales v England in South Wales

OTHER DATES & FIXTURES:

Players' tries, goals, appearances, & points

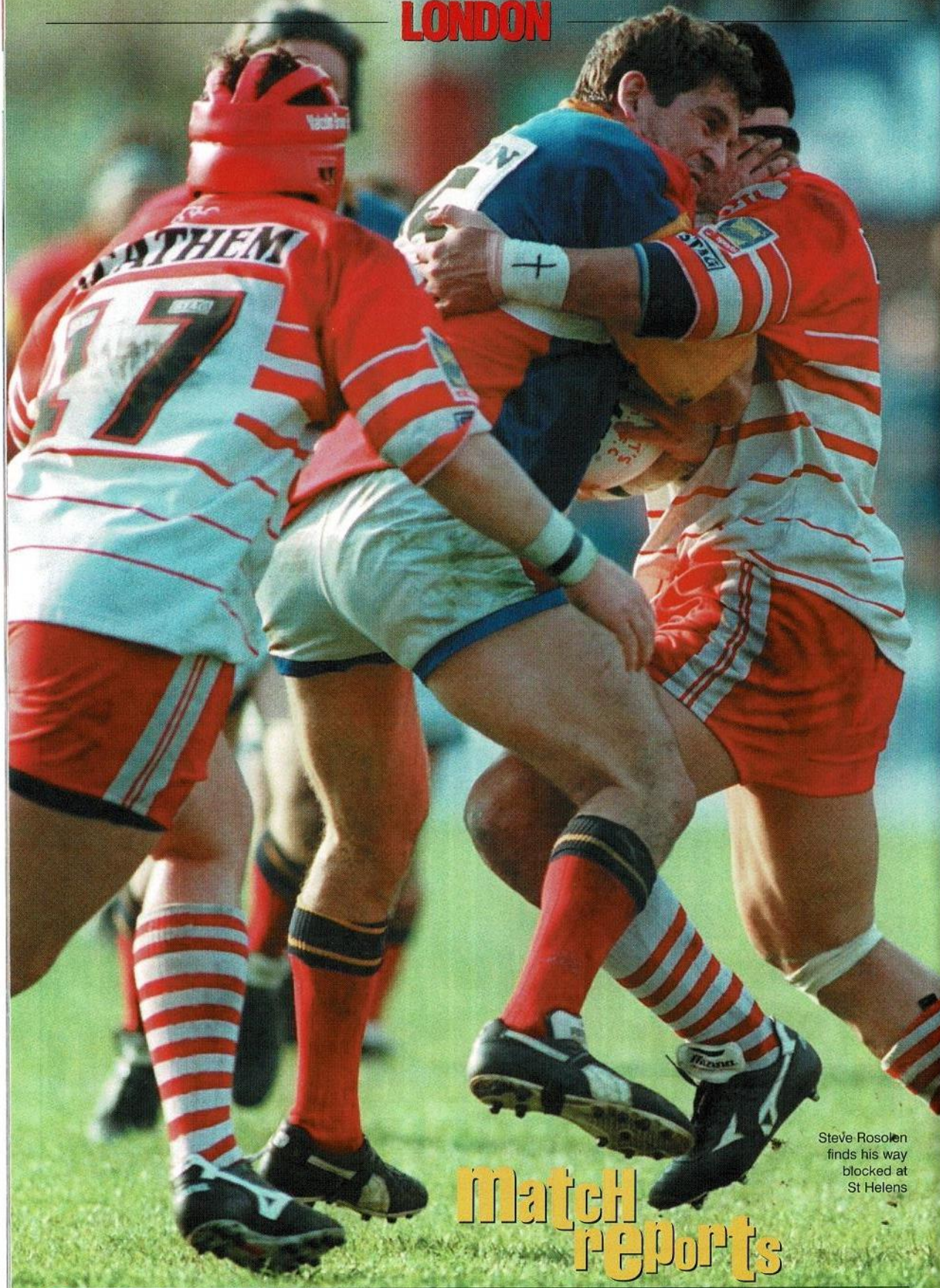


TABLES

STONES SUPER LEAGUE 29 May 1996									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
St Helens	9	9	0	0	382	186	18		
Wigan	8	7	0	1	364	113	14		
Bradford Bulls	9	6	0	3	291	194	12		
Warrington	9	6	0	3	245	235	12		
LONDON BRONCOS	9	5	0	4	256	201	10		
Sheffield Eagles	8	5	0	3	243	188	10		
Oldham Bears	9	3	1	5	188	286	7		
Castleford Tigers	9	3	0	6	214	254	6		
Halifax Blue Sox	9	2	1	6	204	234	5		
Paris St Germain	9	2	1	6	198	360	5		
Leeds	9	2	0	7	203	268	4		
Workington Town	9	1	1	7	143	412	3		

J.J.B. SPORTS ACADEMY CHAMPIONSHIP 29 May 1996									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Castleford Tigers	9	9	0	0	358	137	18		
Warrington	9	8	0	1	376	196	16		
Wakefield Trinity	9	7	0	2	222	183	14		
Leeds	8	6	0	2	284	119	12		
Wigan	9	6	0	3	334	205	12		
St Helens	9	5	0	4	278	212	10		
Hull	9	4	0	5	198	236	8		
Halifax Blue Sox	9	2	0	7	134	279	4		
LONDON BRONCOS	8	2	0	6	161	316	4		
Leigh Centurions	9	2	0	7	127	359	4		
Bradford Bulls	8	1	0	7	130	230	2		
Featherstone Rovers	8	0	0	8	143	273	0		

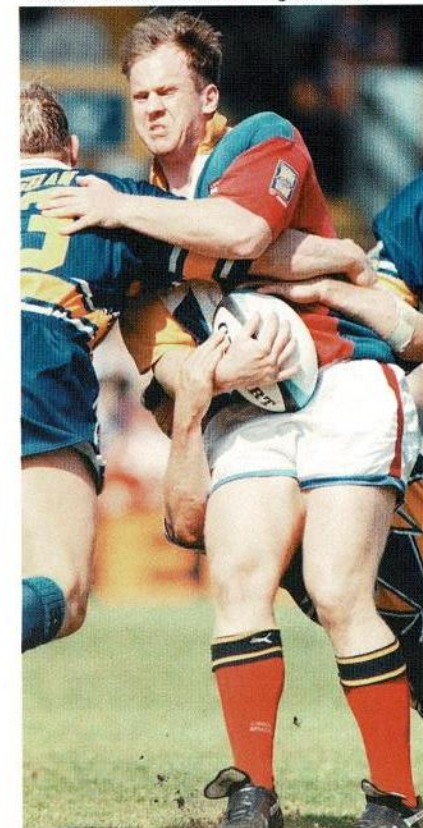
ALLIANCE FIRST DIVISION 29 May 1996									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Sheffield Eagles	7	5	1	1	227	143	11		
Swinton Lions	8	5	0	3	249	163	10		
Featherstone Rovers	8	5	0	3	227	158	10		
Dewsbury	7	4	0	3	154	113	8		
Widnes	8	4	0	4	201	184	8		
Workington Town	7	4	0	3	176	181	8		
York	7	3	0	4	157	224	6		
Batley Bulldogs	7	3	0	4	109	178	6		
Leigh Centurions	9	3	0	6	212	305	6		
Wakefield Trinity	7	2	1	4	114	135	5		
LONDON BRONCOS	7	2	0	5	161	203	4		



Steve Rosolen finds his way blocked at St Helens

Match reports

Russell Bawden breaks through at Leeds



Tony Mestrov - Try against Workington

BRONCOS GO TO TOWN

BRONCOS 58 WORKINGTON 0

It seems such a long time ago, but this was our last appearance at The Valley.

It also marked the debut of Western Samoan Leroy Leapai at centre; he played the following week in the win at Leeds but hasn't been seen in the first team since.

Highlight of a very one-sided match was skipper Terry Matterson's points haul.

He kicked 11 goals and also managed a try. The other touchdowns were shared out fairly evenly with single efforts for the following: Evan Cochrane, Scott Roskell, Tulsen Tölett, Tony Rea, Tony Mestrov, Justin Bryant and subs Daryl Pitt and Russell Bawden.

LEEDS LASHED

LEEDS 20 BRONCOS 27

Leeds may have slipped in the last 12 months or so, but they are no easy touches, particularly on home turf, so this was a pleasing win for the Broncos as they began a run of four straight away fixtures.

But it was even better than the bare scoreline might suggest - for two reasons. The first was that we were 18-4 down at half-time and all but out of it.

And the second was the sending off of skipper Terry Matterson for a reckless high tackle on Leeds' Nick Fozzard, which "earned" the club captain a two match ban. Duncan McRae was also sin-binned, which didn't help.

The fighting spirit exemplified the changed attitude of the Broncos under Tony Currie's leadership.

Tulsen Tölett was again on the mark - this time with two tries. In the skipper's enforced absence, Leo Dynevor came off the bench to kick two valuable goals.

SO NEAR AT SAINTS

ST HELENS 24 BRONCOS 22

Three tries in a whirlwind spell late in the second half gave Saints a win their overall play barely deserved.

And as two of those three touchdowns were hotly disputed - with Sky replays clearly showing a forward pass in one instance and a blatant piece of obstruction in the other - the Broncos had clear grounds for thinking they were robbed of pulling off what would have been a startling victory.

As it was, the Broncos showed they could compete at the highest level although some observers pointed to the fact that we should have closed the game down in that crucial last quarter.

Greg Barwick turned in possibly his best performance since joining the club, showing no ill-effects from the hamstring injury he'd received in the Paris game. He grabbed two tries and kicked three goals, two of them brilliant efforts from wide positions. Scott Roskell and John Minto were the other try scorers.

CLOSE CALL AT CAS

CASTLEFORD 20 BRONCOS 21

The Broncos repeated their Centenary Championship win at Castleford, but this time it was no runaway victory.

The margin was a single point with a late Cas try and conversion rather distorting the story of the 80 minutes.

It was really quick-thinking Greg Barwick's late drop goal that put the game beyond the Tigers. Greg's effort gave the Broncos a 21-14 lead that meant Castleford's six-point haul in the closing stages wasn't enough to rob us of both points.

Barwick had earlier grabbed a try and two goals with Tulsen Tölett, John Minto and Peter Gill all going over the Cas line.

Graham Strutton, signed from Brisbane Easts, made an encouraging first appearance in the Broncos' colours.

RIGHT TO THE WIRE

WARRINGTON 28 BRONCOS 24

In a bruising encounter in which Evan Cochrane was sent off for throwing a punch, while similar misdemeanours by Warrington went unpunished, Broncos battled hard but didn't get the reward they deserved.

A draw would probably have been a fair result although the 12-man Broncos - Cochrane was dismissed in the 25th minute - had chances to seal victory.

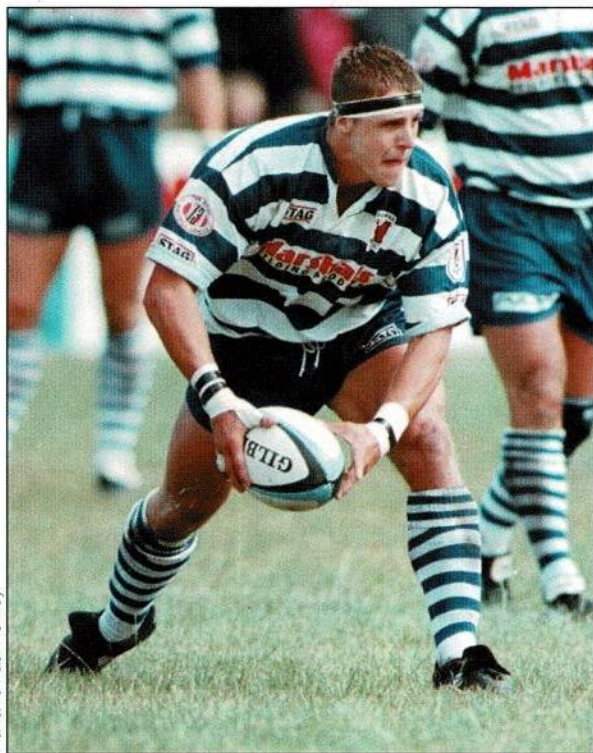
In fact, the score was level when Wire managed a try to wrap up a dramatic victory.

Skipper Terry Matterson celebrated his return to action with a try, while Greg Barwick was again to the fore with four goals and a try.

There were also tries for Scott Roskell and Darren Shaw, whose late effort looked to have secured us a point..... until that late Warrington try.



Kevin Langer on the run



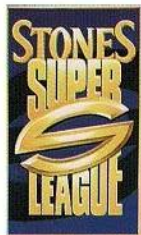
Halifax's Paul Rowley



HOME and AWAY



We look ahead at our two next mouth watering games at home to Halifax Blue Sox and next weekend's clash with the mighty Wigan



NEXT Super League attraction here at The Valley is the visit of Halifax Blue Sox.

It marks the halfway point of the season as the two teams met in the opening day fixture at Thrum Hall on March 31.



That day, London triumphed 24-22 with Greg Barwick (left) making his debut a match to remember by kicking four goals.



Also making their first appearance in London's colours were Tulsen Tollett (left) and Gavin Allen.

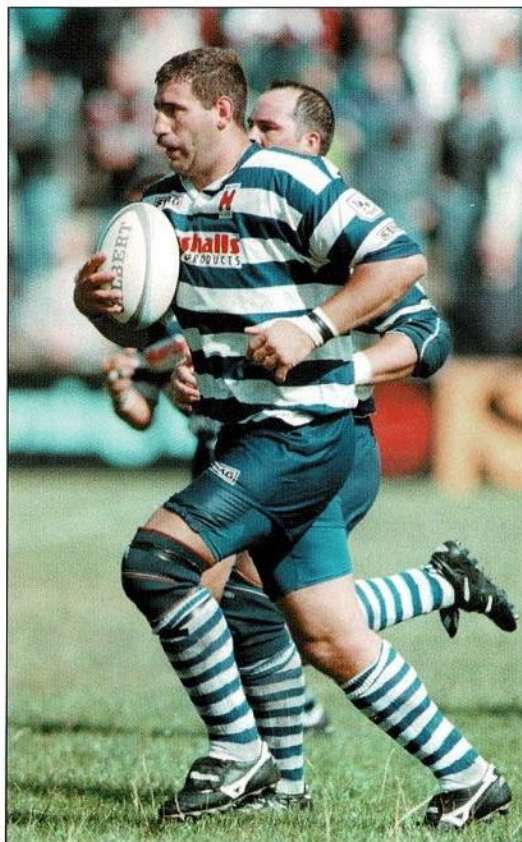
OUR NEXT VALLEY VISITORS

All three - injuries and form permitting - should be in tonight's line-up.

Halifax, who finished third in the truncated Centenary season, haven't really built on that platform and at the time of writing were fourth from bottom after an easy win over Paris St Germain.

But they still represent attractive opposition with coach Steve Simms having put together a blend of South Sea Islanders and local talent.

Halifax's John Schuster is playing as well as ever and he is joined by other big names like John Bentley, Paul Rowley and Karl Harrison with the exciting Asa Amons in good try-scoring form recently.



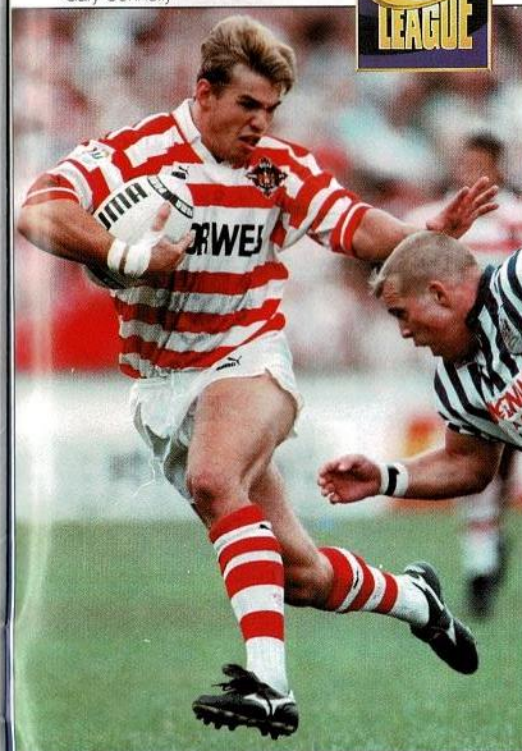
Karl Harrison

HOME and AWAY

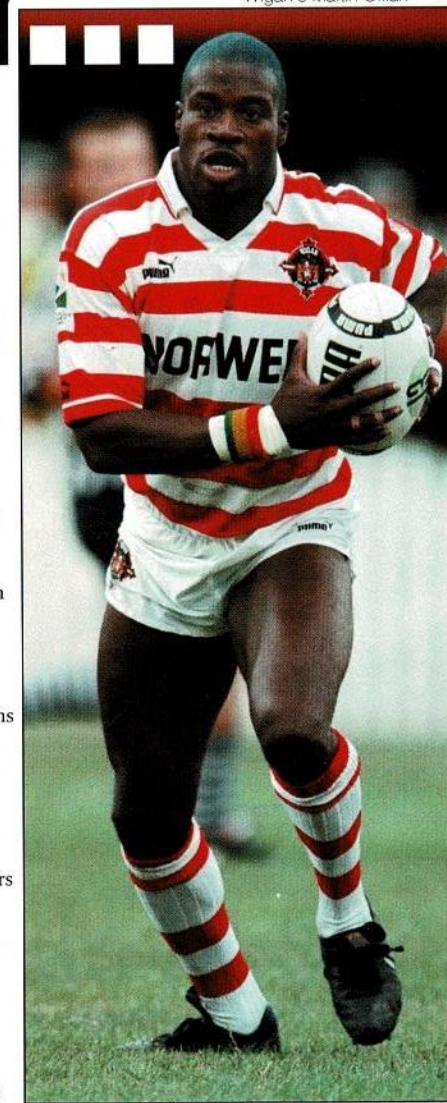
Sunday 9 June 1996
WIGAN v LONDON BRONCOS

SPECIAL THANKS TO DAVE FARRAR AND PETER LUSH FOR THE INFORMATION WHICH FOLLOWS

Gary Connolly



Wigan's Martin Offiah



There is limited street parking and parking on Colinfield car park costs £1.

Ground Address:

Central Park,
Wigan,
Greater Manchester,
WN1 1XF
Tel. 01942 231321
Fax. 01942 820111

Kick Off:

6.30pm for main game
4.30pm for Academy game

Tickets:

Advance tickets available on
01942 231321

Ground Admission:

£7 Adults
£4 Children and concessions

Grandstands:

£11 - £14 (no reductions)

Transport:

By Train - Approx 3-4 hours
from Euston to Wigan
North-Western Station.
15 minutes walk.

By Road:

M1 then M6
Take Junction 25,
A49 signposted Wigan.
Just beyond town centre
this becomes Central Park
Way and ground is on left hand
side.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB AWAY TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Why not follow the Broncos away? The supporters club arrange luxury coach travel to all games. All coaches have toilet, video, tea and coffee making facilities.

DEPARTING TIMES

Tower Bridge: 11.30am Victoria Station (opposite Apollo): 11.45am Hammersmith Apollo: Midday

FARES:

£15 Members / £21 Non Members (Cumbrian games plus £5)
Senior citizens, Students (with union card), unemployed (with UB40) and under 16 year olds travel at half price.
Children under 14 years travel free provided they are accompanied by a full fare paying adult (one adult per child).

Bookings can be made on matchdays at the supporters' club stall behind the East stand or telephone BARRY or GWEN on 01322 528504 by Friday 7th June.