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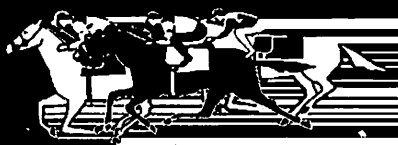
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Editorial . . .

A WARM WELCOME to all for the new season and what will be a good one for Barrow. Today's opponents Oldham should put us to the test in what should be an interesting few months.



We welcome on board new recruits Clint Barends, Matthew Leigh and Anthony Murray - from all accounts they are adequate replacements for Dave Clark, Stuart Rhodes, etc.

Although the club are not fielding a second string it is good to see the Academy side back up and running and let's hope the bright young lads of the area want to run out in Barrow's colours.

It was nice to see the Professionals of the Town turning out last Wednesday in a Testimonial game for Barrow Island's Anthony O'Kane.

Well once again it has been brought to our attention that our International squad is light years behind our counterparts in the Southern Hemisphere, what the answer is I don't know, but the powers to be keep saying after every World Cup or Test match drubbing that we must plan ahead. Watch this space.

At least BARLA did us proud by becoming Emerging World Champions and a big pat on the back for local stars Ian Devlin and Stuart Dancer who played their part.

It was nice to see a World Cup game in Barrow between Russia and Fiji and the Barrow club can feel proud for their part in this historic event. The weather for the whole tournament was atrocious but why could the organisers not have brought it forward at least a month.

Super League should have started four or five weeks earlier to allow the tournament to get under way during September for a chance of good weather to attract supporters. The Aussies did it so they wouldn't clash with the Olympics.

Paddy.

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Views From the North



Welcome back to Craven Park. At last the new season has arrived, although in truth, if like me you have been watching the final stages of the Superleague Grand Final and then the World Cup, there hasn't been any close season this year. A whole 12 months without ever having to watch a solitary game of "kick and clap"!

We are pleased this afternoon to welcome the players, fans and officials of Oldham. Oldham is a club that has certainly dragged itself up after a miserable experience in Superleague. Under the astute leadership of Chairman Chris Hamilton and with the backing of the local community, they seem destined to once more become a major presence in the game.

A warm welcome also to all our own players, in particular new signings hooker Anthony Murray, second rower Matthew Leigh, stand off Clint Barends and prop Wayne Jones who have joined us from Leigh, Salford, Aussie club Burleigh Bears and local amateur side Askam respectively. Whether or not we now have a team that can win away from home as well as at Craven Park, only time will tell. What I am sure of though is that we have the strongest squad that our finances could possibly stretch to.

All of us in the NFP have to face up to the challenges brought about by the rapid reduction, starting this season, in the Sky money. We like our visitors today remember only too clearly the nightmare of having our very existence threatened under a mountain of debt. We aren't going to repeat that humiliating experience, whatever the stories we hear about other NFP club's big money signings. If other clubs want to spend money they don't have in order to

chase the dream of Superleague and then simply fold when the gamble doesn't pay off, then let them get on with their foolish ways. They should only be doing so in the sure-fire knowledge that now, unlike in the past, there isn't any way back. The game simply won't smile forgivingly on such stupidity any more and re-open the door to them.

As well as being busy on the player front for the past five months, we've made some significant improvements in player comfort under the stand by building a players' refreshment room. This will avoid the acute discomfort suffered by players having to squash into the supporters' bar or even worse, standing in the weather outside, to eat their food after the match. We will continue to move forward off and on the pitch every off-season. It should be noted that this refreshment room has been largely the work of Coach Paul Charlton who sees it as part of his ongoing commitment. Thanks Paul, you are an inspiration and example to all of us.

Finally, we welcome and thank our sponsors this afternoon. **The Milestone Group of Companies** represented by **Andy Craig** sponsors the match. It should be noted that this wonderful firm has agreed to sponsor no fewer than four matches again this season.

The match ball is sponsored by **Mike Mulgrew** of **South End Caravan Park** and Grandstand sponsor is **Messrs. Furness Park Motor Group**.

Thanks to you all for your support. We hope you have a great day out and that we can reward you with a great afternoon's entertainment.

Alan Tucker

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News and Views...

Here we are for another new season and our aim this season is that elusive place in the top eight of the Northern Ford Premiership. The last two seasons have seen the club just miss out so it will be a case of third time lucky. Last season however we had an horrendous run of injuries with several players out of action at the same time; and with a limited squad that is always going to cause problems.

Another problem however that has to be overcome is our away form, not many victories in recent times. Picking up away points is vital if we are to reach that top eight placing. The division is very competitive and there are so many quality teams, however we have proved that on our own patch we can match most of them. Ask Peter Roe, Mike Ford, David Hulme and company and they will tell you they never expected Barrow to be such a force at Craven Park.

I would like to welcome on board new signings Anthony Murray, Clint Barends and Matthew Leigh - three class players - and also the return from down under of Rod Maybon. It was a blow to lose several of last years players but this trio, and maybe one or two others, will provide the club with a solid squad.

Widnes are going flat out to make the Super League. They have made eleven signings including Stuart Rhodes. They will however have to be at their best throughout and it all comes down to reaching the play-off final.

What was most pleasing during the close season was the appointment of Brian Noble

in succession to Matthew Elliott at Bradford. Let's see more Englishmen take up head coaching roles in Super-league. Surely many more would have gained the same experience as Brian, which should put them in good stead. However I bet any one that Brian Noble is not on anywhere near the same salary as Elliott was and if not - why not?

The cry once more has gone out for a Super League club in South Wales and on the basis of attendances in the World Cup let us get the ball rolling. They had 17,000 for their game with New Zealand and they say it could have been many thousands more if tickets were available much sooner. Apart from the final and the opening game at Twickenham this was the best attended game of the tournament. That shows there must be interest in the Hillsides but whether they could come up with enough quality players is another matter.

The Welsh are passionate about rugby, unlike many areas that have tried to go big in Rugby League, i.e. London and Gateshead. I don't know if a Super League club would take off in Ireland or Scotland - once more it is down to enough quality players. And talking of quality players - how can we produce our own for the future and for Great Britain when still so many passed the sell by date players from Australia are still commanding crucial positions in our Country.

Paddy



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Final Team Statistics 1999/2000 Season

<i>Player's Name</i>	<i>App's</i>	<i>(Sub's)</i>	<i>Tries</i>	<i>Goals</i>	<i>D.G.'s</i>	<i>Points</i>
ATKINSON, Phil	19	1	10	1		42
BURNS, William	7	3				
CARTER, Darren	13	5	4			16
CHARLTON, Gary	17	4	5			20
CLARK, Dave	19	2	9			36
GARDNER, Paul	1	1				
HOLT, Darren	30		8	112	4	252
HUTTON, Glen	27	1	17			68
IRABOR		1				
JACKSON, Steve	11	17				
JOHN, Martin		1				
KAVANAGH, Mike	10	4	1		1	5
KING, Dave	4	7	1			4
LUXON, Geoff	26	1	6			24
MAGORIAN, Stewart	27	3	12			48
MANIHERA, Tane	29		3			12
MARSHALL, Jamie	5	7	2			8
MASSEY, Chris	2	21	4			16
MAYBON, Rod	21		8			32
McALLISTER, Ian		1				
McMILLAN, Ian		1				
OKUL, John	6	6	4			16
PRATT, Gareth	9	1				
RAWLINSON, Ian	1	10	3			12
RHODES, Stuart	27		10			40
RIGBY, Andrew		3				
SALMON, Paul	9		2			8
SMITH, Jamie	22	3	4			16
THURLOW, Jason		1				
WHITEHEAD, Mike	16	5	2			8
WHITELEY, Chris	6	2				
WHITTER, Damien	17	7	2			8
WILSON, Darren	9	1	2			8

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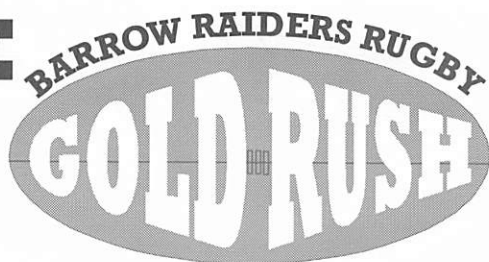
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OLDHAM Pen Pics...

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Jason Roach one of six new signings for the 2000-2001 season. A big, strong winger with Super League experience with St. Helens, his home-town club, Castleford and Warrington. A nephew of former Rochdale Hornets centre Wilf Roach, Jason was with Swinton in the NFP last season.

Gareth Barber a 19-year-old Oldham-born stand-off who was reared on rugby with his best pal, the Leeds and England back-rower Kevin Sinfield. When Sinfield signed for Rhinos, Barber signed for Warrington, but returned "home" to Oldham during the close season.

Christ Farrell signed for the Roughyeds from Wigan for an undisclosed fee in September. Followed in the footsteps of his twin brother, Phil, who took the Wigan-to-Oldham path six months ago. Elder brother is Andy Farrell, Wigan, England and Great Britain captain.

Paul Norton journeyman forward who made a name for himself with Lancashire Lynx. Impressed Oldham when he played against them last season. Like most of the new boys, has signed a one-year deal.

Kevin O'Loughlin another Lynx man. He followed Norton to Oldham in search of a new start to his career after earlier spells with St. Helens and Halifax Blue Sox in Super League.

Daryl Lacey hit the headlines as a 13 year old when he signed for Wigan on a seven-year contract. Daryl is one of several ex-Wiganers in a Roughyeds squad which has benefited from the Wigan-area knowledge of Alliance team coach Haydn Walker and new club scout John Jackson.

Mike Ford celebrated his 35th birthday recently, and is recognised as one of the up-and-coming coaches of the English game. Has played for a string of clubs and has won almost every honour in the game. A scrum-half, he is just starting out on the second year of a two-year deal as player-coach.

Anthony Gibbons There are two sets of twins at Oldham, the Gibbons and the Farrells. Anthony Gibbons played in 31 of Oldham's 34 games last season as the Roughyeds marched into the NFP semi-finals. A versatile player, Gibbons is used mainly by Ford as a centre.

David Gibbons the other half of the "twin partnership" in Oldham's backs. David, used principally as a stand-off, missed only one match last season. Sound and reliable, he joined Oldham from Bramley after starting his career, like Anthony, with Leeds.

Mark Sibson quick full-back who loves nothing better than to attack from deep. Top-scorer with 24 tries last season after joining Oldham on a two-year deal from Bramley.

Phil Farrel Anything the Gibbons boys can do in the backs, the Farrells can have you seeing double in the forwards. Phil, a second-rower, joined Oldham last march, quickly made a back-row spot his own and played a major part in the gradual improvement of a team that finished as semi-finalists and NFP Club of the Year.

Neil Roden another ex-Wigan player, Neil came to Oldham with Phil Farrell. He also quickly established himself with the Roughyeds, either as a scrum-half or as a stand-off.

Dean Cross a winger or centre, first played for Widnes after making a name for himself with his local club, Parkside Golborne. Was out of the game for several months before Oldham reintroduced him towards the end of last season.

Joe McNicholas a Rochdale boy, who lives close to Spotland, Joe was originally with Oldham Bears. Fast and elusive, he broke a leg in his fourth game for the Roughyeds and missed most of the club's first season. A winger of exceptional pace off the mark.

Danny Guest another of the Roughyeds 'originals' who returned to the club last season. A big prop, Guest is expected to be a force in the NFP after a good pre-season and good marks in the squad's stay with the Green Berets during the autumn.

Ian Sinfield another 'original', Ian had a spell in France, but returned to Oldham last season and has been with the club ever since. Elder brother of Kevin, the England forward, Ian works hard in the back-row and always plays above his weight.

Joey Hayes played in every league game last season, but then smashed a knee in the final league game against Featherstone. Surgery followed for the former St. Helens winger and G.B. tourist, who expects to be back in action by the start of February.

Andy Proctor club captain, formerly with Saddleworth Rangers, Wakefield Trinity and Bramley. Highly regarded by Ford as a genuine grafter with a spot-on attitude and motivational qualities which he uses as skipper.

Pat Rich this recently qualified Lawyer scored more points for Oldham last season than anyone else. Eleven tries and 108 goals gave him 260 points in 32 games from a possible 34. Started with Keighley Cougars and was wanted by new club Gateshead Thunder 2000, but opted to stick with the Roughyeds.

John Hough walked away last season with three Player-of-the-Year trophies. Carved himself a niche in Roughyeds history by becoming the new club's first signing in 1997. Has since played in 87 of the club's 90 matches and has scored 32 tries, a phenomenal record for a hooker.

Jason Clegg a Rochdale lad, big-prop Jason turned pro for Bradford from Sid Miller's Littleborough team, but has since enjoyed three good seasons with the Roughyeds. Powerful on the surge, he was voted Top-Gun by the Green Berets and the player who most demonstrated the commando spirit.

Warren Barrow good, strong winger or centre from St. Helens. Has played all his Roughyeds rugby on the wing, scoring 12 tries in 23 appearances last season.

Shayne McMenemy former Hornets forward, who has never looked back since going to Oldham. Made a massive impression as a second-row forward as Oldham finished sixth last year and went on to the semi-finals. An Aussie, he was named in the NFP 'form' team last season.

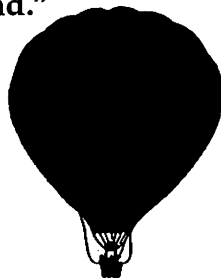
Leo Casey veteran of the Oldham side at 35, Lee also had a spell with Hornets after leaving home-town Oldham for a club record £100,000. Returned to the Roughyeds after spells with Hornets and Swinton. One of the most experienced props in the NFP.

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- 5 Adrian Gardner _____
- 6 Clint Barends _____
- 7 Darren Holt _____
- 8 Damien Whitter _____
- 9 Anthony Murray _____
- 10 William Burns _____
- 11 Matthew Leigh _____
- 12 Ian Rawlinson _____
- 13 Gary Charlton _____
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- 5 Warren Barrow _____
- 6 David Gibbons _____
- 7 Neil Roden _____
- 8 Andy Proctor (Capt.) _____
- 9 John Hough _____
- 10 Jason Clegg _____
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- penned by themselves



TO ALL RAIDERS FANS

Welcome to the new season everybody. Off-season the Board and Supporters Club have worked unceasingly behind the scenes to keep the club going forward. We feel we are succeeding but need all the hard-core fans to encourage others along with them, every person through the turnstile counts.

Next, a few moments of reflection for two good friends of the club who sadly passed away in the last few months - Patrick Coyle and Steve Foster. Patrick who quietly gave his all unselfishly for the Supporters Club and Steve who shone both on and off the pitch. Sadly missed but not forgotten, their spirits live on in the ground and in the hearts of many friends - God Bless.

Great times are expected on the pitch this year, excellent new signings and the best of last years motley crew. They may be one of the best rugby teams in the division but they'll never win promotion for good looks. The team photo was like an out-take from a Star Wars Movie, if Darren Holt is the pin up of the team there's no hope. Seriously lads, you have the talent, make it count, make this rugby town proud again. The crowds will come again with a little success, rugby is in our blood, just take some good medicine for your travel sickness.

The Supporters Club are now renewing memberships in the Raiders Executive Club (the bar in the corner). We are so organised this year that while Barrow are winning away at Leigh next week, 45+ of us will be tuned into Radio Cumbria in some Tenerife Beach Bar, the beach will be awash with blue and white bikinis, underpants, beer bellies and stretch marks. Good Luck Lads from Afar.

The young Raiders Club (up to age 13) have a special deal this year, for a £3.00 joining fee you can get into all Barrow's home games for only £1.00 per match. The club will also throw in a free T.Shirt and free invites to fun events throughout the season - **Bargain of the Year!** So start saving your pocket money kids - Membership Forms are in the Rugby Shop in Scott Street - ask for Auntie Karen.

Finally, let's have an enjoyable and successful season - Good Luck and God Bless Barrow.

***P.S. Welcome back Rod Maybon** we were hoping he would be bringing his Aussie girl? friend over with him. Sorry, she was still at customs for being in possession of meat and two veg.*

Bye - Supporters Club.

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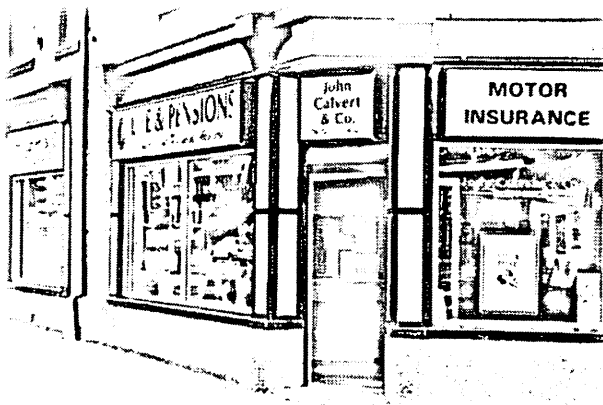
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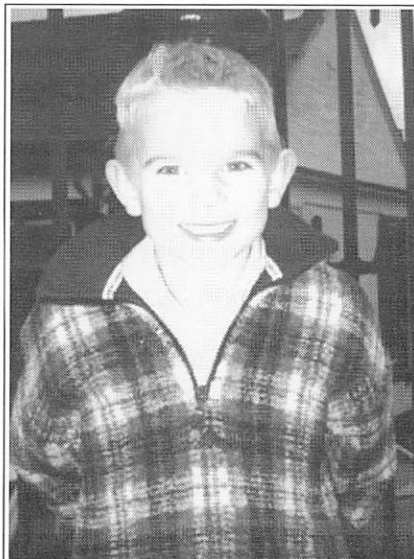
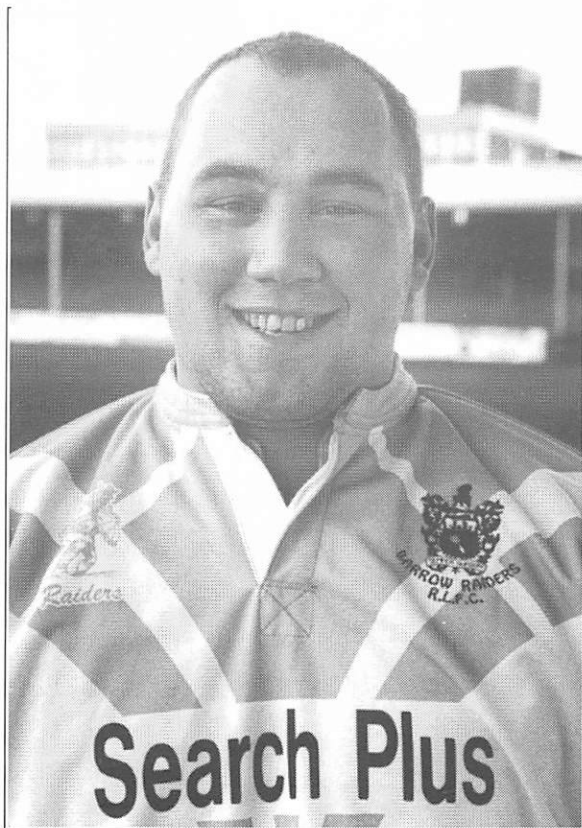


Barrow RLFC have a
celebrity in their midst.

This player was voted
'Mr. September' at
Cannons Health Club.

Congratulations!

Ian Rawlinson



Today's Mascot:

ANDREW ASHTON (age 5)

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2000 - 2001 FIRST TEAM FIXTURES AND APPEARANCES

Bold Type = Home Game

Date / Time	Opposition	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
December 2000																			
3 2pm	Oldham																		
10 3pm	Leigh Centurions																		
17 3pm	Swinton Lions																		
26 4pm	Chorley Lynx																		
31 2pm	Workington Town																		
January 2001																			
7 2pm	Whitehaven Warriors																		
14 3pm	Rochdale Hornets																		
21	SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP																		
February 2001																			
4 2pm	Widnes Vikings																		
18 3pm	Batley Bulldogs																		
March 2001																			
4 3.15pm	Sheffield Eagles																		
11 3pm	Doncaster Dragons																		
18 3pm	Keighley Cougars																		
25 3pm	Hunslet Hawks																		
April 2001																			
1 3pm	Dewsbury Rams																		
8 3pm	Hull Kingston Rovers																		
13 3pm	Chorley Lynx																		
16 3pm	Workington Town																		
22 3pm	Gateshead Thunder																		
May 2001																			
6 3pm	Oldham																		
9 7.30pm	Featherstone Rovers																		
13 3pm	Leigh Centurions																		
20 3pm	Swinton Lions																		
27 3pm	Whitehaven Warriors																		
June 2001																			
3 3pm	Hunslet Hawks																		
10 3pm	York																		
17 3.30pm	Gateshead Thunder																		
24 3pm	Batley Bulldogs																		
July 2001																			
1 3pm	Sheffield Eagles																		



Two of our New Players



Clint Barrends

Picture

North West Evening Mail

Anthony Murray

Picture

North West Evening Mail



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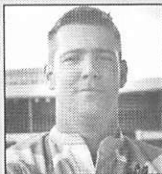
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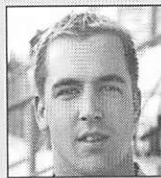
GLENN HUTTON

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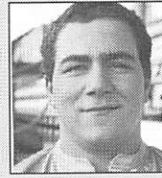
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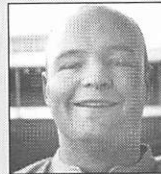
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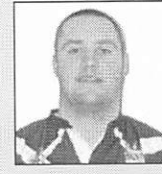
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Sponsor: Keith Wilson



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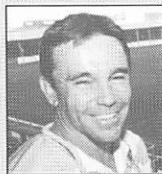
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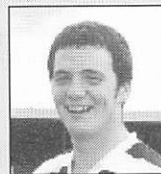
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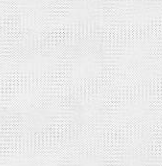
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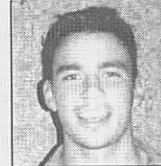
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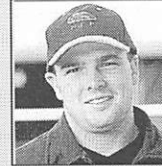
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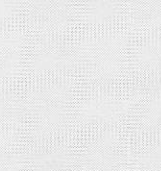
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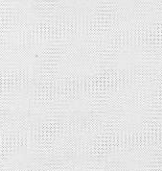
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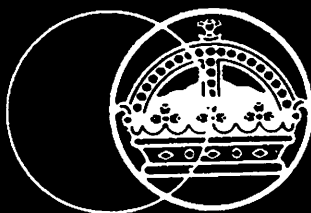
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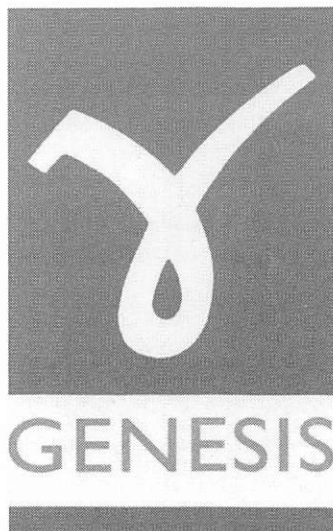


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3 DONCASTER DRAGONS	28	21	0	7	880	397	42
4 LEIGH CENTURIONS	28	21	0	7	854	476	42
5 FEATHERSTONE R.	28	20	1	7	795	523	41
6 OLDHAM ROUGHYEDS	28	19	1	8	734	513	39
7 HULL K R	28	17	1	10	583	481	35
8 WIDNES VIKINGS	28	17	0	11	698	483	34
9 SWINTON LIONS	28	13	2	13	726	733	28
10 BARROW RAIDERS	28	14	0	14	647	711	28
11 WHITEHAVEN W.	28	11	1	16	533	674	23
12 WORKINGTON TOWN	28	11	1	16	502	776	23
13 ROCHDALE HORNETS	28	10	0	18	563	696	20
14 SHEFFIELD EAGLES	28	9	1	18	479	585	19
15 HUNSLET HAWKS	28	8	0	20	487	678	16
16 BATLEY BULLDOGS	28	6	0	22	482	759	12
17 YORK WASPS	28	5	1	22	392	859	11
18 LANCASHIRE LYNX	28	1	0	27	301	1361	2

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FIXTURES



BARROW BORDER RAIDERS RLFC

DATE		VERSUS	H/A	TIME
December 2000	3rd	Oldham	H	2:00 2:00
	10th	Leigh Centurions	A	3:00
	17th	Swinton Lions	A	3:00
	26th	Chorley Lynx	A	7:30
	31st	Workington Town	H	2:00 2:00
January 2001	7th	Whitehaven Warriors	H	2:00 2:00
	14th	Rochdale Hornets	A	3:00
February	4th	Widnes Vikings	H	2:00 2:00
	18th	Batley Bulldogs	A	3:00
March	4th	Sheffield Eagles	A	3:15
	11th	Doncaster Dragons	H	3:00
	18th	Keighley Cougars	A	3:00
	25th	Hunslet Hawks	H	3:00
April	1st	Dewsbury Rams	A	3:00
	8th	Hull Kingston Rovers	A	3:00
	13th	Chorley Lynx	H	3:00
	16th	Workington Town	A	3:00
	22nd	Gateshead Thunder	H	3:00
May	6th	Oldham	A	3:00
	9th	Featherstone Rovers	H	7:30
	13th	Leigh Centurions	H	3:00
	20th	Swinton Lions	H	3:00
	27th	Whitehaven Warriors	A	3:00
June	3rd	Hunslet Hawks	A	3:30
	10th	York	H	3:00
	17th	Gateshead Thunder	A	3:30
	24th	Batley Bulldogs	H	3:00
July	1st	Sheffield Eagles	H	3:00