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Wigan



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Wigan Summer 7s
SUNDAY 7th AUGUST 1983

Kick-off 2.30 p.m.

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"A" Team Coach: G. Lyon Chief Scout: W. Cunliffe

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UNFORTUNATELY I will miss today's Sevens due to my annual holiday, therefore I have donated my column this week to general topics. In my absence I will be hoping that our boys do well this afternoon and win the first, of what we hope, will be many competitions.

Looking back, last season certainly was a much improved one, from the euphoria of Elland Road to the disappointment of our sad exit from the Challenge Cup. Effort everywhere was 110%, instigated from the Boardroom which reflected on the team and the terraces. We hope this season is just as exciting and eventful.

For several weeks the "lads" have been engaged in full training, with team spirit running high. We hope this continues this afternoon under the watchful eye of assistant Alan McInnes. Last season's signings — Gary Owen, John Mayo and Keith Holden should prove that they are a force to be reckoned with in our newly formed Colts. We hope all our spectators will give their full support to our Colts, who are the future stars of our game.

Everyone at the Club would like to offer their sincere congratulations to Dennis Ramsdale on his call-up to the Great Britain training squad, a well deserved tribute. Also many congratulations to Henderson Gill on his marriage during the close season.

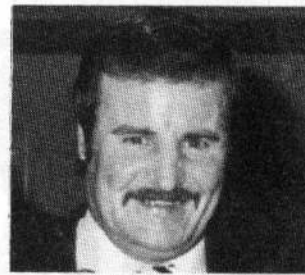
The beginning of the season brings some very interesting but tough matches, with our first two matches away at newly promoted Salford and Wakefield. Our first home league match is with local rivals Leigh.

During writing this column news has just arrived that we have drawn Widnes at Naughton Park in the first round of the Forshaws Lancashire Cup. The rest of the draw is as follows: Leigh v. Carlisle; Rochdale v. St. Helens; Oldham v. Workington; Barrow v. Whitehaven; Huyton v. Swinton; Blackpool v. Warrington and Salford v. Fulham.

Last, but not least we would like to extend a warm welcome to all today's contestants and their loyal supporters.

THE EDITOR

Front cover picture - (By courtesy of The Evening Post & Chronical) shows last season's 7s winner's Leeds.



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welcome

TO OUR VISITORS

DOESN'T time fly? It seems like only yesterday as we stood on the terraces watching our last home match against Leeds, when unfortunately we were defeated by 12 points to 9. On the whole last season proved to be a very interesting one and certainly a much improved one. We all hope we can return back to our form and hopefully have another successful season. On behalf of all the coaching staff and players I would like to offer our sincere thanks for the tremendous support all our spectators gave.

Today's Sevens sees the return of Fulham and Bradford and should prove to be an exciting game. Present holders Leeds are back and no doubt will be going all out to take the trophy back to Headingley. The Sevens always proves to be fast with plenty of skill needed. No doubt Widnes will be using their skill and

pace to try and lift the trophy which has so far eluded them, although they have been runners-up on four occasions. This afternoon should see the return of Jimmy Hornby who will be playing for Oldham, Newly promoted Salford will be using their football talents to prove that this time they intend to stay in the First Division. Swinton who were knocked out in the first round last year, will be trying to progress further this time. They have only once got through to the Final when they were beaten by Wigan with only one point in it, back in 1959.

Today also sees the new rules put into practise which should speed the game up more and make it much more interesting. Although they will have a lot more effect next Wednesday (10th August - K.O. 7.30 p.m.) when we play Maurice Bamford's selected 13 in a full game.

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Half-time Quiz

- 1 Who were the 1981-82 Yorkshire Cup Winners?
- 2 Where was this game played and who were their opponents?
- 3 Who won the Lancashire Cup in 1981-82 and where was the Final played?
- 4 What is the nickname of the York Club?
- 5 In November 1981 for the first time in rugby league history two coloured wingmen were chosen for England against Wales. Name the players?
- 6 How many international appearances did Tommy Bishop the new Leigh coach make for Great Britain during his playing career?

Answers on Page 25

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**CLIFF
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WIGAN open the new season as usual today with the Wigan Summer Sevens, but this year the event will have added excitement due to the debut of the stylish Fulham team in this annual event which dates back in fact to the 1920's.

With speedy and skilful players such as Hussein M'Barki and Steve Diamond in their squad, Fulham should make quite an impact today. Like Wigan and the other squads taking part, they will be going all out to wrest the trophy from holders Leeds, who beat Wigan in the final last year. It is good, too, to welcome back Bradford Northern.

Really competitive rugby is now only a fortnight away and Wigan fans are wondering what this season will have in store for the Central Park club.

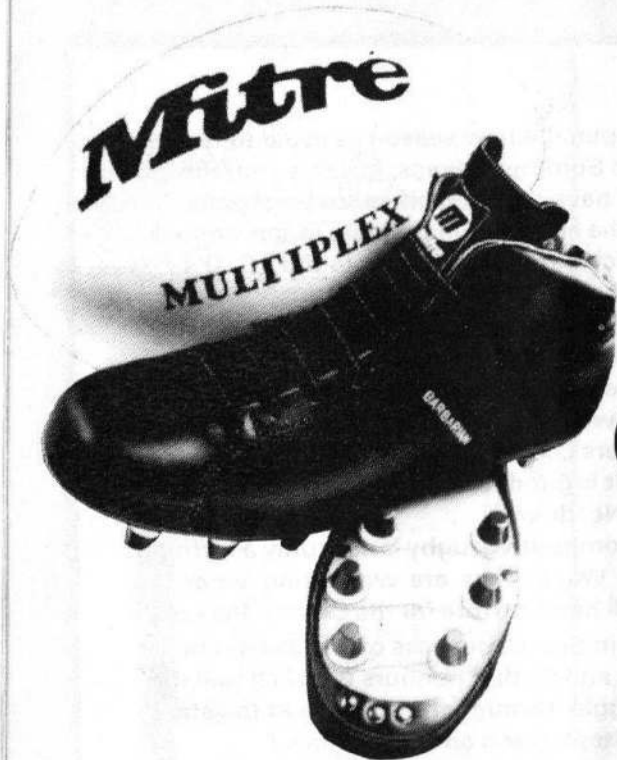
Will the improved success of last season be built upon and further honours won? Or will the team struggle, through the absence at the start of David Stephenson and Glyn Shaw?

One thing is certain, the new laws and the introduction of the four points try will make Rugby League a jolly sight faster game than it has been up to now.

Accurate touch kickers will be kings and skilled try scorers will be gods. It is to be hoped that Wigan will turn out to possess such players.

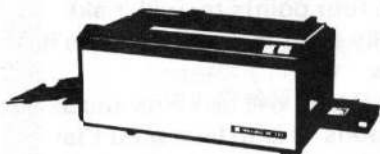
There will be plenty of opportunity to assess this point during full games against Bramley (here on Wednesday) and at Warrington next Sunday, for both games are to be played under the new rules and the proposed rule about releasing the ball to an opponent on the sixth tackle.

The last named rule should become operative after the International Board meeting in the autumn. It all seems to be building up into what could be Rugby League's most exciting season for many years.



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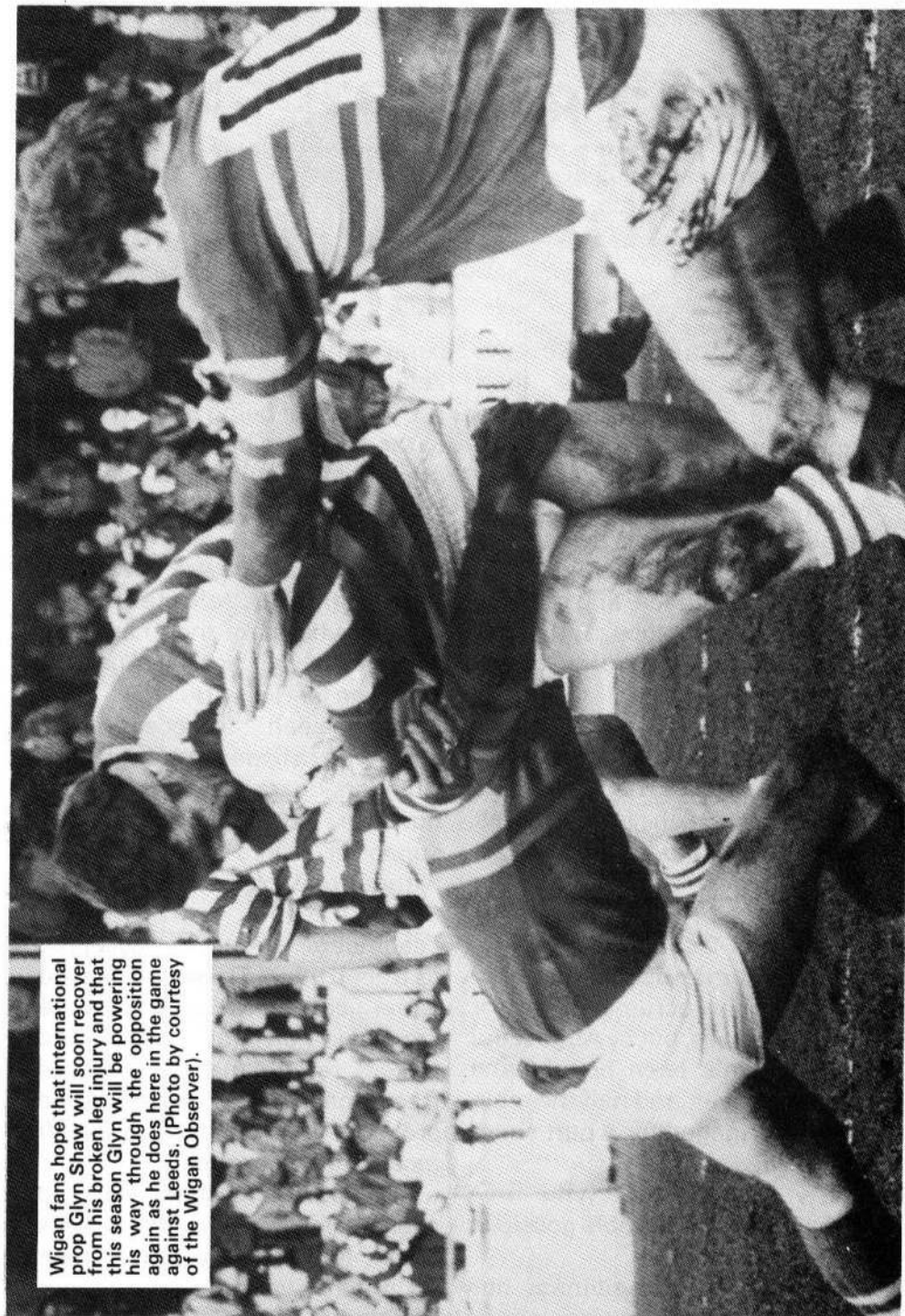
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Wigan fans hope that international prop Glyn Shaw will soon recover from his broken leg injury and that this season Glyn will be powering his way through the opposition again as he does here in the game against Leeds. (Photo by courtesy of the Wigan Observer).

VIEW FROM THE TERRACES

by
**Doug
Stand**

WIGAN'S Summer Sevens tournament does more than herald the start of a new rugby league season, it marks the official end of the silly season.

You know the silly season. Games come to a halt, newspaper stories carry huge headlines and very little substance, and in rugby league's pubs, clubs and other meeting places rumour is king.

Deprived of their Sunday afternoon sporting fix, rugby league addicts compensate by telling whoppers. The further into the close season, the taller the tales.

It just won't do for instance, to start the new season with the same squad of players that finished the last one.

In May it may be just a case of needing a new scrum half here or a forward there, but by August the whole team's been bought and sold twice over, and half the main stand mortgaged for a part share in a Kiwi.

Any half-baked wild improbability is acceptable gossip in the silly season.

This season the silliness has

centred particularly around New Zealanders and New Rules.

By virtue of being only on show in the southern hemisphere, both are ideally suited to be the subjects of rumours in the North West of England.

New Zealanders, or Kiwis, are extraordinarily talented rugby players who make their names by performing well against Australia, then sign for Hull or Hull K.R.

Having seen the success of the few who slipped through the Humberside trawl net last season however, no self respecting supporter wants his team to be without one, or three.

New rules, unlike New Zealanders, are not yet accepted as a good thing. They speed up the game considerably, put more emphasis on full backs and kickers, restrict the usefulness of traditional hookers and props and probably frighten the pants off most British coaches.

We spectators shall wait and see. At least the rugby is back again, and the silly season over for another year.

Progress to Final

Note: First Rounds/Semi-Finals 7½ minutes each way.
Final only 10 minutes each way (one minute interval all games).

First Round

Kick-off

2.30 p.m.	Bradford	.....	}	.....
	Salford	.....		.....
2.50 p.m.	Oldham	.....	}	.....
	Swinton	.....		.....
3.10 p.m.	Widnes	.....	}	.....
	Wigan	.....		.....
3.30 p.m.	Fulham	.....	}	.....
	Leeds	.....		.....

Semi-Finals

Final

Kick-off

3.50 p.m.	.....	}	.....
			
4.10 p.m.	.....	}	.....
			

4.40 p.m.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT WIGAN R.L.F.C., 1982-83

- ★ AFTER MISSING THE FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON AT CARLISLE, NICKY KISS PLAYED IN 40 CONSECUTIVE GAMES UNTIL THE END OF THE SEASON.
- ★ BRIAN DUNN PLAYED IN ALL 11 MATCHES HE WAS NAMED AS SUBSTITUTE FOR, BUT HE DIDN'T ONCE START A GAME.
- ★ WHEN HE WAS SIN-BINNED AT WORKINGTON ON JANUARY 16th, DENNIS RAMSDALE BECAME THE FIRST WIGAN PLAYER TO BE TEMPORARILY SENT OFF.
- ★ 1982-83 WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT WIGAN GOT PAST THE 3rd ROUND IN THE JOHN PLAYER TROPHY.
- ★ BETWEEN JANUARY 22nd AND FEBRUARY 6th WIGAN WENT 3 GAMES WITHOUT LETTING IN A TRY.
- ★ IN THE 2nd ROUND, 3rd ROUND AND SEMI-FINAL OF THEIR SUCCESSFUL JOHN PLAYER TROPHY RUN, WIGAN DID NOT SCORE ANY POINTS AT ALL IN THE 2nd HALF.
- ★ DURING THE SEASON HENDERSON GILL SCORED 4 TRIES IN 4 GAMES, 5 TRIES IN 5 GAMES AND 8 TRIES IN 6 GAMES.
- ★ GARY STEPHENS PLAYED TWICE AT HULL K.R. DURING THE SEASON IN INJURY HIT TEAMS BUT DIDN'T FINISH ON THE LOSING SIDE ON EITHER OCCASION. (WIGAN WON AND WARRINGTON, WHO HE WAS ON LOAN TO, DREW).

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SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

A NEW SEASON

THIS afternoon's Sevens Competition signals the start of a new season; a season that is of vital importance for British Rugby League. After last season's humiliating Test defeats by the Australians, Great Britain must build an entirely new team capable of winning back the Ashes from Down-Under next summer. The performances of the new-look British team against the French offered little encouragement for the future and Frank Myler still has a lot of work to do. However, the success of the national team depends a great deal upon the skills and standards of the club sides, and if we are to have any chance at all of beating the Aussies then there must be a vast improvement in play at club level. For the sake of the game and its supporters let's hope that all clubs bear this in mind during 1983-84.

Last season brought a welcome upsurge in our own fortunes with third place in the league to add to the John Player Trophy. If that revival is maintained this season, then Wigan should once again become a force to be reckoned with. We don't by any means have an easy start in the league programme with fixtures at Salford and Wakefield followed by a home derby with Leigh, but these are games that should be won if we expect to build on last years success. We wish the squad all the best and every success for the new season.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Glyn Shaw on being voted the Lancashire Federation of R.L. Supporters Clubs Player of the Season 1982-83...

To Grahame West on leading New Zealand to victory over the apparently invincible Aussies... To Dennis Ramsdale on his call-up to the Great Britain training squad... and to Henderson Gill on his recent marriage.

SOUVENIRS

Souvenirs are now being sold by the club from the new shop at the front of the ground, but we hope to make arrangements to have some souvenirs also available for sale at the Supporters' Association shop inside the ground to cater for those supporters who come in at the Spion Kop end. The Supporters' Association shop will be open as usual for programme sales and exchanges, coach bookings, video tickets and all the usual pre-match discussion and the in-depth analysis after the final whistle.

AWAY TRAVEL

Supporters' Club members enjoy the benefit of cut-price travel to most away matches, especially the longer trips. Membership only costs 20p. so why not come along and join today.

Our first two league trips this season are to SALFORD and WAKEFIELD. Full details of prices and departure times will be available at the Supporters' Association shop today. We will also be running a coach to WARRINGTON for the Locker Cup match next Sunday, let us know today if you would like to go.

Coach bookings can also be made by ringing Wigan 46371.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB DIARIES

The diaries for the new season will be available today, priced only 30p. These are a must for all rugby fans who believe that the New Year begins in August and like to record the seasons events in one diary.



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2. J. Hornby
3. M. Taylor
4. R. Ashton
8. T. Flanagan
9. A. McCurrie
10. M. Parrish
14. C. Hawkyard/
S. Dobb

SWINTON

1. K. Jones
2. M. Lee
3. J. Gorton
4. M. Rowbottom
8. G. Hitchins
9. C. Hunter
10. A. Ratcliffe
14. C. Crawshaw

WIDNES

1. J. Lydon
2. J. Basnett
3. P. Hulme
4. A. Gregory
8. K. Tamati
9. S. O'Neill
10. E. Prescott
14. I. Gormally

FULHAM

1. J. Crossley
2. A. Cambriani
3. T. Stockley
4. S. Diamond
8. R. Bowden
9. T. Gourley
10. J. Doherty
14. T. Kinsey

SALFORD

1. D. Driver
2. G. Byrne
3. P. Glynn
4. P. Fletcher
8. R. Smith
9. P. O'Neill
10. M. McTigue
14. S. Williams

WIGAN

1. J. Pendlebury
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3. J. Fairhurst
4. H. Gill
8. D. Campbell
9. G. West
10. B. Dunn
14. M. Scott

BRADFORD N.

1. K. Whiteman
2. I. Maclean
3. E. Hanley
4. D. Fennell
8. G. Idle
9. B. Noble
10. G. Hale
- 14.

LEEDS

1. I. Wilkinson
2. M. Massa
3. J. Holmes
4. M. Conway
8. K. Rayne
9. D. Heron
10. K. Rayne
14. A. Burke

ACKERS TROPHY FINAL (U-16's Schoolboys)

The Schoolboy Seven-a-Side game today is for the Ackers Trophy and will be presented by Mr. W. Ackers, between the semi-finals and final. The competing teams are St. John Fisher and Whitley and will commence at 4.20 p.m.

CARDINAL NEWMAN

(Cherry/White)

1. Eamon Davies
2. Paul Wooley
3. Paul Ashall
4. Craig Rogers
5. Barry Prescott
6. Martin Dermott
7. Anthony Cooper
8. Phillip Mather
9. A.N. Other

WHITLEY

(Green/Gold)

From

- Gary Walsh
Shaz Kahn
Garry Robinson
Nicky Piper
John Wallace
Stephen Lord
Tony Gibson
Paul Fazakerly
Keith Rimmer

RULES FOR SEVENS COMPETITIONS

Games will be played under the laws of the Rugby Football League, except:-

1. At a kick-off, following a score—the ball shall **NOT** be required to travel 10 yards forward.
2. Each side will consist of seven players selected from a team of eight players and any of the selected seven players may be substituted by the eighth player **at any time** during the match—providing the substitution is signalled by the referee.
3. The duration of each game shall be seven and a half minutes each way with one minute interval at half time. If, at the end of the game the scores are equal, the teams shall change over and continue to play until one side scores, such side being the

winner, ends being changed every seven and a half minutes if necessary.
In extra time there will be no interval.

4. The final tie will be played for ten minutes each way with an interval of one minute at half time.
5. An independent time keeper will check all times and allow for injury or any other stoppage when so signalled by the Referee. A klaxon indicates the end of each session of play except that if a try has been scored, the scoring side shall be allowed to attempt the conversion.
6. The three tackle rule shall apply.

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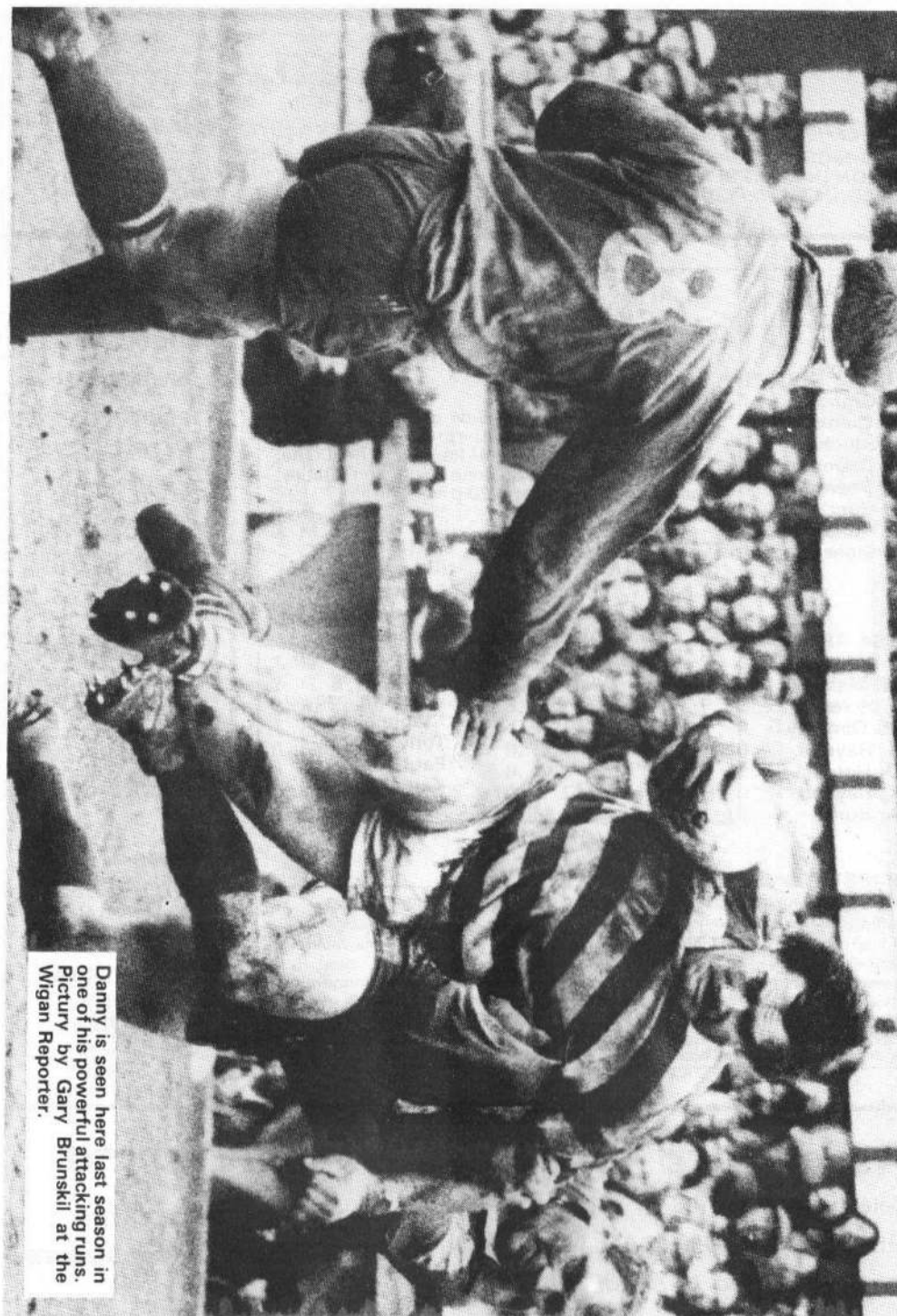
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Danny is seen here last season in one of his powerful attacking runs. Picture by Gary Brunskill at the Wigan Reporter.

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Each week we are going to donate this space to our supporters. We would like you to send us your letters on any topic you may wish to write about. Whether it is criticism or praise, comments or general chit-chat.

Please address all correspondence to the Programme Editor, Central Park, Wigan.

Yours sincerely,

M. Charnock,
Programme Editor.

Wigan v. Hull. Stephenson touches down for Wigan.



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WIGAN R.L.F.C. APPEARANCES AND SCORERS, 1982-83

	Apps.	Sub played	Sub not played	Tries	Goals	Drop goals	Points
C. WHITFIELD	38	0	0	12	99	5	239
B. JULIFF	30	6	0	10	0	0	30
D. STEPHENSON	38	0	1	11	0	0	33
D. RAMSDALE	34	0	0	15	0	0	45
H. GILL	32	0	0	18	1	0	56
M. FOY	38	0	0	11	0	0	33
G. STEPHENS	15	3	1	1	0	1	4
G. SHAW	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
G. JONES	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
G. CUNLIFFE	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
M. SCOTT	40	0	0	2	0	0	6
D. CAMPBELL	36	4	0	3	0	0	9
J. PENDLEBURY	34	3	0	7	13	0	47
J. FAIRHURST	29	5	2	7	0	0	21
S. WANE	5	12	1	0	0	0	0
S. NICHOLSON	3	0	0	1	0	0	3
N. KISS	40	0	0	5	0	0	15
D. WOOD	5	4	8	0	4	0	8
A. HODKINSON	1	1	2	0	0	0	0
J. HORNBY	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
B. WILLIAMS	29	1	0	6	0	0	18
T. NAIDOLE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
D. REGAN	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
M. NANYN	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
L. BAMBER	6	2	0	0	0	0	0
J. CLARE	7	3	3	3	0	0	9
G. WEST	21	0	0	7	0	0	21
B. DUNN	0	11	0	0	0	0	0
B. CASE	15	2	0	2	0	0	6
M. FORD	1	3	0	0	0	0	0

(ONLY FIRST CLASS MATCHES INCLUDED).



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FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

WEDNESDAY, 10th AUGUST
WIGAN -v- BRAMLEY

(SELECTED 13)
Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

SUNDAY, 28th AUGUST
WIGAN -v- LEIGH

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.



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2. AT LEEDS / OPPONENTS - BRADFORD NORTHERN
3. LEIGH 8 v. WIDNES 3 AT WIGAN
4. WASPS
5. HENDERSON GILL (WIGAN AND DES DRUMMOND (LEIGH)
6. 15 APPEARANCES

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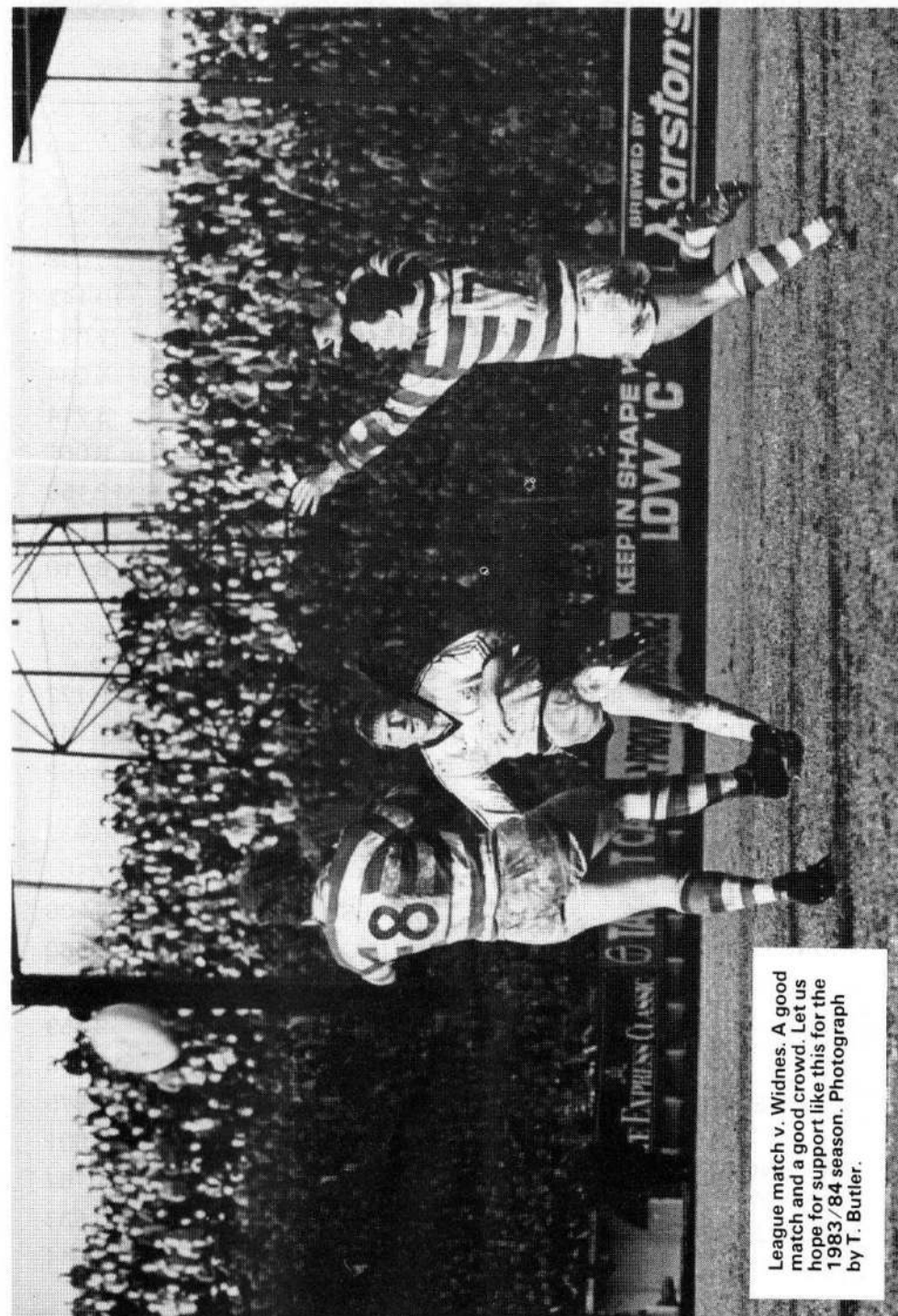


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League match v. Widnes. A good
match and a good crowd. Let us
hope for support like this for the
1983/84 season. Photograph
by T. Butler.

WIGAN R.L.F.C. ATTENDANCES, 1982-83

AWAY		HOME	
CARLISLE (League)	3,698	LEIGH (League)	10,008
WARRINGTON (League)	5,173	HULL (League)	10,142
HULL K.R. (League)	9,130	SALFORD (Lancashire Cup)	7,033
OLDHAM (League)	5,433	FULHAM (Lancashire Cup)	6,054
HALIFAX (League)	2,070	FRANCE (Friendly)	3,714
LEIGH (League)	9,376	BRADFORD N. (League)	6,061
LEEDS (League)	5,569	AUSTRALIA (Friendly)	12,158
CASTLEFORD (John Player Trophy)	6,068	BARROW (League)	5,563
SALFORD (John Player Trophy)	3,237	WORKINGTON T. (League)	6,110
ST. HELENS (League)	9,500	FEATHERSTONE R. (League)	4,606
WORKINGTON T. (League)	1,592	ST. HELENS (John Player Trophy)	12,172
BRADFORD N. (League)	5,528	CASTLEFORD (League)	7,149
CASTLEFORD (League)	4,569	CARDIFF C. (Challenge Cup)	6,269
HULL (League)	12,886	CASTLEFORD (Challenge Cup)	10,737
BARROW (League)	4,300	HULL K.R. (League)	7,162
FEATHERSTONE R. (League)	3,100	WIDNES (League)	6,928
WIDNES (League)	7,480	HALIFAX (League)	5,580
		CARLISLE (League)	3,883
		LEEDS (League)	9,159
		ST. HELENS (League)	12,376
		WARRINGTON (League)	7,875
		OLDHAM (League)	8,501
WARRINGTON (John Player Trophy)	9,011	LEEDS (Premiership)	7,192
LEEDS (John Player Trophy)	19,553	SEVENS	3,533
		LOCKER CUP	4,044

NEUTRAL GROUND

WIGAN RUGBY LEAGUE FIRST TEAM OFFICIAL FIXTURE SEASON 1983/84

AUGUST			
Sunday 21st	SALFORD	(A)	3.00
Wednesday 24th	WAKEFIELD TRINITY	(A)	7.30
Sunday 28th	LEIGH	(H)	3.00
SEPTEMBER			
Sunday 4th	COUNTY CUP — 1st ROUND		
Sunday 11th	BRADFORD NORTHERN	(H)	3.00
Wednesday 14th	COUNTY CUP — 2nd ROUND		
Sunday 18th	HULL	(A)	3.00
Sunday 25th	WIDNES	(H)	3.00
OCTOBER			
Saturday 1st	COUNTY CUP — FINAL		
Sunday 2nd	WHITEHAVEN	(A)	3.30
Sunday 9th	LEIGH	(A)	3.30
Sunday 16th	HULL K.R.	(H)	3.00
Sunday 23rd	FEATHERSTONE R.	(A)	3.30
Sunday 30th	LEEDS	(H)	3.00
NOVEMBER			
Sunday 6th	JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY — 1st ROUND		
Sunday 13th	OLDHAM	(A)	3.00
Sunday 20th	JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY — 2nd ROUND		
Sunday 27th	CASTLEFORD	(A)	3.30
DECEMBER			
Sunday 4th	WHITEHAVEN	(A)	3.00
Sunday 11th	BRADFORD NORTHERN	(A)	3.30
Sunday 18th	HULL	(H)	3.00
Monday 26th	ST. HELENS	(H)	3.00
JANUARY			
Sunday 1st	WARRINGTON	(A)	3.00
Sunday 8th	CASTLEFORD	(H)	3.00
Sunday 22nd	OLDHAM	(H)	3.00
Sunday 29th	HULL K.R.	(A)	3.00
FEBRUARY			
Sunday 5th	WARRINGTON	(H)	3.00
Sunday 12th	STATE EXPRESS CHALLENGE CUP — 1st ROUND		
Sunday 19th	FULHAM	(A)	3.00
Sunday 26th	STATE EXPRESS CHALLENGE CUP — 2nd ROUND		
MARCH			
Sunday 4th	WAKEFIELD T.	(H)	3.00
Sunday 11th	WIDNES	(A)	3.00
Sunday 18th	FULHAM	(H)	3.00
Sunday 25th	LEEDS	(A)	3.00
APRIL			
Sunday 1st	FEATHERSTONE R.	(H)	3.00
Friday 20th	ST. HELENS	(A)	3.00
Monday 23rd	SALFORD	(H)	3.00
Sunday 29th	SLALOM LAGER PREMIERSHIP — 1st ROUND		
MAY			
Saturday 5th	STATE EXPRESS CHALLENGE CUP FINAL AT WEMBLEY		

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

Date	Opposition	Venue	Kick-off
Thursday 18th August 1983	Swinton	AWAY	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday 31st August 1983 (Lancashire Shield)	Leigh	HOME	7.30 p.m.
Friday 2nd September 1983	Warrington	AWAY	7.30 p.m.
Friday 23rd September 1983	Widnes	AWAY	7.30 p.m.
Friday 14th October 1983	Salford	AWAY	7.30 p.m.
Thursday 27th October 1983 (Lancashire Shield)	Leigh	AWAY	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday 9th November 1983	Oldham	HOME	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday 16th November 1983	Warrington	HOME	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday 30th November 1983	Salford	HOME	7.30 p.m.
Saturday 10th December 1983	Barrow	AWAY	2.30 p.m.
Friday 6th January 1984	St. Helens	AWAY	7.30 p.m.
Friday 20th January 1984	Oldham	AWAY	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday 1st February 1984	Leigh	HOME	7.30 p.m.
Saturday 18th February 1984	Barrow	HOME	3.00 p.m.
Wednesday 7th March 1984	Widnes	HOME	7.30 p.m.
Thursday 22nd March 1984	Leigh	AWAY	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday 4th April 1984	Swinton	HOME	7.30 p.m.
Wednesday 18th April 1984	St. Helens	HOME	7.30 p.m.