

24 OLDHAM Team Check 18 HULL

MICK BURKE	1	GARY KEMBLE
HUSSEIN M'BARKI	2	DANE O'HARA
DES FOY	3	GARRY SCHOFIELD
GARY BRIDGE	4	GARY PEARCE
MIKE TAYLOR	5	PAUL EASTWOOD
DAVID TOPLISS (Capt.)	6	FRED AHKUOI
DAVID HOBBS	7	PHIL WINDLEY KEVIN DICK
PADDY KIRWAN	8	ALAN TOMLINSON
BRUCE CLARK	9	SHAUN PATRICK
IAN SANDERSON	10	LEE CROOKS
COWN HAWKYARD	11	WAYNE PROCTOR
STUART RAPER	12	TRACEY LAZENBY
HUGH WADDLE	13	MICK CRANE GARY DIVORTY
MICK WORRALL	14	NEIL PICKERING
DAVID HOBBS	15	JON SHARP MICK CRANE
TERRY FLANAGAN	14-15	
GARY WARNECKE		
PAUL SHERMAN		
STUART RAPER		

Referee: G. Berry Touch Judges: M. Singer, G. Wheatley

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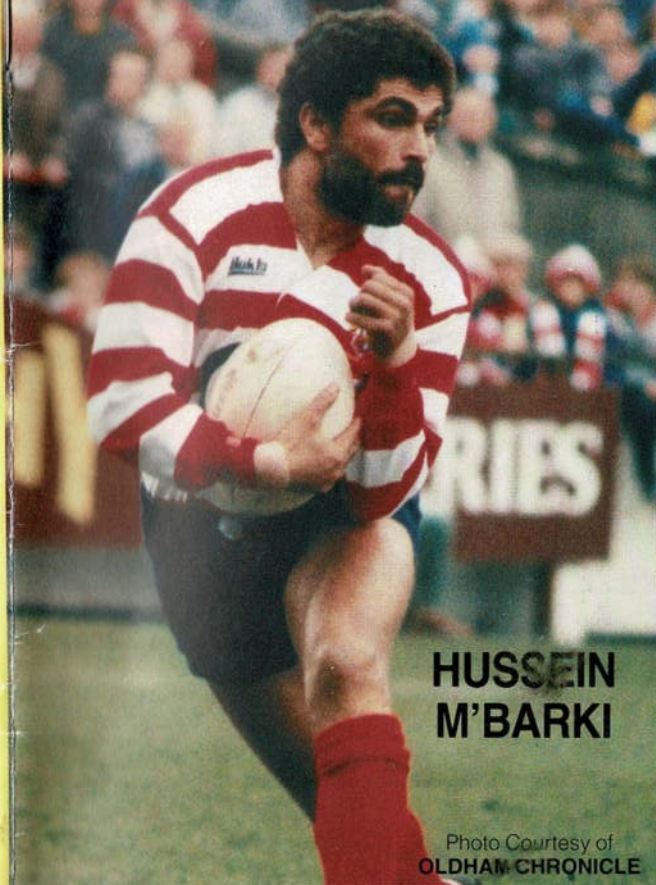


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HUSSEIN M'BARKI

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STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP

HULL

Sunday, 22nd February, 1987



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Asst. Physiotherapist: Mr J. Watkins

Lifeline: L. Bostock

Official Timekeeper: J. Roscoe

CLUB RECORDS

Record Victory: 67-6 v. Liverpool City, April 1959

Record Defeat: 11-67 by Hull K.R., September 1978

Record Attendance: 28,000 v Huddersfield, 24th February, 1912

Record Receipts: \$9,100 v Wakefield, 24th February, 1980

Record Transfer Fee Paid: \$40,000 to Featherstone for David Hobbs, February, 1985

Record Try Scorer: Reg Farrar, 49 tries, 1921-22 season

Record Goal Scorer: Bernard Ganley, 224 goals, 1957-58 season

Record Point Scorer: Bernard Ganley, 28 points v Liverpool City, April 1959

First Game: 21st October, 1876 v Stalybridge

Highest number of points scored: Bernard Ganley, 2,881

Most Appearances: Joe Ferguson, 685

Most Tries: Pre 1900, Jack Hirst, 233. Since 1900, Alan Davies, 182

CLUB HONOURS

Rugby League Championship Play-off Winners: 1909-10, 1910-11, 1956-57

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22, 1954-55

First Division Champions: 1904-05

Second Division Champions: 1963-64, 1981-82

Rugby League Challenge Cup Winners: 1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24, 1925-26

Lancashire Cup Winners: 1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67, 1968-69

Lancashire Championship Winners: 1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57, 1957-58

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24, 1954-55

Lancashire Shield Winners: 1975-76, 1979-80

Colts Premiership Trophy: 1979-80



GLEN LIDDIARD Photo Courtesy of OLDHAM CHRONICLE

CLUB NOTES

It was a sad day for all Oldham people at Watersheddings last Saturday when we lost 24-14 to St Helens in the part-televised second-round Silk Cut Challenge Cup-tie.

A crowd of 7,698 provided another terrific atmosphere, but the dismissal of hooker Ian Sanderson after half an hour for an alleged late challenge on Neil Holding meant that the 12 remaining on the pitch were always up against it.

They certainly fought the good fight, hit back from 0-6 down to take an 8-6 lead at half-time, and actually held that lead (despite their numerical disadvantage) until midway through the second half.

The second of Kevin McCormack's tries regained the lead for Saints, but at only 8-12 down we were still in the game until only six minutes from the end.

Considering we had only five forwards on the field for 50 minutes and Saints dominated the second-half scrums 8-3 it was a remarkable effort by the gallant 12.

Sadly, we now have to put Challenge Cup thoughts behind us for another year and get down to the task of picking up precious points in the Stones Bitter Championship.

Our initial target must be a place in the top eight so that we qualify for the Premiership play-off.

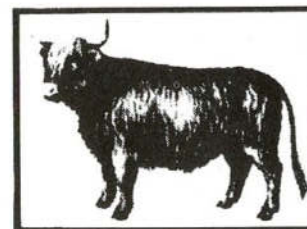
If we can string a good run of League successes together we might even reach the top four for the first time since we earned our place in the First Division five seasons ago.

Of the 12 League games remaining we have seven at home, starting with Hull today, so we have every incentive to get over the disappointment of last weekend and start climbing the league table in the hope of a crack at the Premiership.

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HULL HERE IN FOUR-POINTER

With four clubs relegated at the end of the season, and Salford having hit a winning run, the importance of today's Stones Bitter Championship clash between Oldham and Hull cannot be over estimated for both clubs.

Only Salford currently split Hull and Oldham from the relegation zone and although neither of today's teams is likely to go down — indeed, both could reach the top eight if they can string together a run of victories — the fact remains that whichever club wins today will rest more easily having picked up the spoils from a "four-pointer".

Hull have a poor away record in the league, having lost eight and won only one match on their travels — in stark contrast to their home form which has seen them win seven games at the Boulevard and lose only one.

One of those victories was a 20-16 triumph over Oldham on January 4th, so Frank Myler's men will be keen to avenge that reverse today and also make up for the bitter disappointment of last Saturday's cup defeat by St Helens.

While Oldham were slipping out of the Wembley trail, Hull were enjoying a comfortable win over lowly Mansfield at Alfreton, and have been rewarded with a home tie against Leigh in the third round next weekend.

Oddly enough, in view of their modest league placing, Hull have done well in the knock-out cups this season.

They reached the final of the Yorkshire Cup before losing 31-24 to Castleford and then got to the semi-final of the John Player Special Trophy where they gave Wigan a tremendous fright before narrowly going down 12-11.

They are now looking forward to the quarter-final of the finals of the Challenge Cup and with the road to Wembley now wide open following a competition of upsets, they will be fancying their chances of a London trip in May.

One might reasonably say that, at present, Hull are passing through a transitional stage under new boss Len Casey. Several of the big names of the recent past have gone and although some remain — such as Gary Kemble, Garry Schofield, Dane O'Hara, Ah Kuoi, Lee Crooks, Mick Crane and Steve Norton, there is a breed of new, young players coming to the fore at the Boulevard and making their mark.

Winger Phil Eastwood, reared locally in the colts, is regarded highly and has scored 13 senior tries this season during a spell in which he has sufficiently impressed boss Carey that he is being pushed for under-21 honours as well as

being tipped as a future Test flanker.

The scrum-half job may go to former Leeds man Kevin Dick, who moved to the Boulevard as part of the deal that took prop Trevor Skerrett to Headingley, but it is a toss up between Kevin and young Phil Windley, who has done a splendid job this season while his chief rival for the No. 7 shirt has been sidelined.

Dick was cup-tied for the county competition and Windley held his place up to and including the final and also took his chance when Dick was first suspended for six games and then received another four-match ban.

A big, powerful and young front-row could feature Alan Tomlinson, Shaun Patrick and Andy Dannatt, though Dannatt has recently been suffering the after-effects of concussion after being hurt at Bramley in the first round of the cup.

If Dannatt is out of the reckoning, the classy Test star Lee Crooks could move up to the front-row, and there will be no shortage of back-row men eager and willing to fill his second-row spot.

Tracey Lazenby, Wayne Proctor, Mick Crane, Steve Norton and young unknown Jon Sharp, a youngster from the Featherstone area, will all be staking claims for the back-three positions in the pack.

Gary Divorty, sadly, has played only one 'A' team in three months because of a knee injury, while another long-standing injury victim is Welsh wing Kevin James, who is battling against a severe achilles tendon injury and is not likely to play again this season.

Hull, nevertheless, still have a string of potentially explosive backs, starting with Kiwi Test ace Kemble at full-back — without doubt one of the finest, if not the finest exponent of ball fielding in Rugby League today.

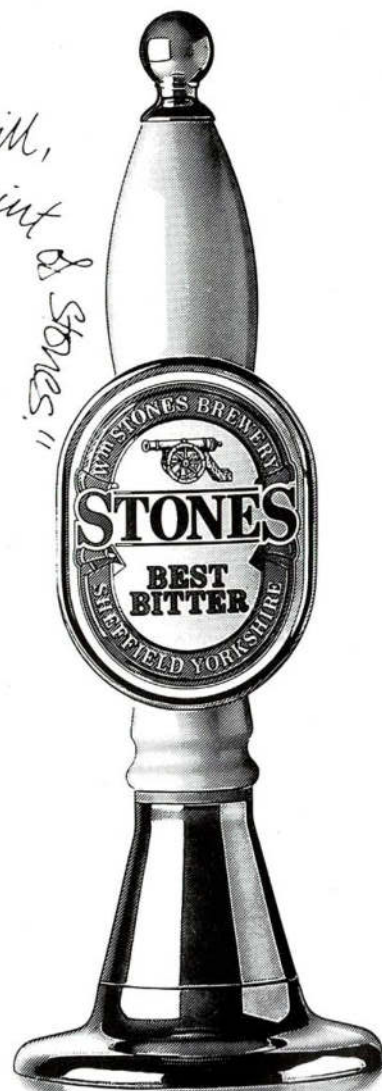
The creative skill and try-poaching technique of centre Schofield is universally known and he should have a splendid individual battle today with Oldham's Gary Bridge, with whom he played as a member of the Balmain back division in Sydney last year.

Alongside Schofield in the centre will probably be an expensive recruit from the valleys of Wales — former Welsh record points scorer Gary Pearce, the Llanelli star who signed as a stand-off but is learning his new code from the centre spot.

Dane O'Hara, outside him, is still one of the most lethal finishers in the code, while his fellow Kiwi international Fred Ah Kuoi puts the finishing touches to a classy and potentially explosive set of backs.

*There was a young full back called Jones,
Who said, "I can't understand
why everyone moans,"
Then they lost 40-nil,
He said, "Bother, but still,
I'll just have a quick pint
o' Stones."*

Stones. Sheer poetry.



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Around the League... with Roughyed

St Helens, who won here 24-14 last Saturday in the second round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, have been rewarded with a home tie in the third round against the only Second Division team still left in the tournament – Whitehaven. Saints must now be favourites to reach Wembley for the first time in nine years, while Hull, who are here today for a League game, will be looking forward to their home tie against Leigh and expecting to make another appearance in the last four. There is the distinct possibility that only St. Helens, of clubs this side of the Pennines will figure in the semi finals, although it is difficult to be too sure because these notes had to be written before Wednesday night's scheduled second round replay between Widnes and Bradford at Naughton Park. The winners of that replay must play Leeds at Headingley, and that should be a real cracker, as should the Halifax-Hull KR tie at Thrum Hall, one to pack Thrum hall to the seems next weekend. The full draw is:

St Helens v Whitehaven; Leeds v Widnes or Bradford; Hull v Leigh; Halifax v Hull KR

* * * *

Several top English stars are going to be targets for Aussie clubs again this summer, but they could also find a market for their talents in this country, playing American Football. Manchester All Stars open the season in the Budweiser League in April and are hoping to attract gates of about 40,000 for their home game at Boundary Park. They have offered former Great Britain winger Des Drummond £100 a match, and are reported to be interested in Oldham's Des Foy.

* * * *

Centre Steve Halliwell looks set for a move from St Helens. The Wigan-born Aussie, who scored nearly 50 tries in the Second Division with Leigh last season and has also been a prolific scorer with Saints this season, has lost his place in the centre to Steve Bayliss. To provide even more competition for places in the Knowsley Road back Division, Kiwi Test man Mark Elia flew in from Auckland this week, and boss Alex Murphy announced that Halliwell could go if a club was willing to take over his contract which expires at the end of this season. Barrow, battling against relegation, and Wakefield, already doomed but trying to build a squad ready to bounce back first time, quickly made inquiries.

* * * *

DES FOY, currently in splendid form for Oldham, is catching the eye of new Great Britain boss Mal Reilly – and now it's official. With Alex Murphy in the Saints dug-out last Saturday, it fell to Reilly to partner Ray French in the BBC commentary box and viewers heard Reilly refer to Foy's blistering pace and confirm that he is in the running for a return to Test football. Incidentally, Foy is the only Oldham player figuring in the Greenhalls - Sunday People Supreme Awards in which there will be a \$250 cash prize at the end of the season for the top player in each position. Form will be reviewed periodically and the centres currently in the ratings (in alphabetical order) are Dean Bell (Wigan), Des Foy (Oldham), Tony Kemp (Doncaster), Garry Schofield (Hull) David Stephenson (Wigan) and Colin Whitfield (Halifax)

ROUND AND ABOUT

DAVID STEPHENSON of Wigan needs one try for a career total of 100 touchdowns. His total is made up of 57 tries for Wigan, 36 for Salford, and six in representative matches.

A former England Schools' R.U. International, Stephenson joined Salford from Fylde Rugby Union in December 1978 for a reported £10,000 when he was twenty. The centre made his First Team professional debut in a 13-4 Division One home defeat against Rochdale Hornets on 23rd January, 1979.

Stephenson moved to Wigan for £60,000 in February 1982 and made a two-try debut in a 20-12 1st Rnd. Rugby League Challenge Cup tie win at St Helens on 13th February, 1982.

The Test centre has scored two tries for Great Britain Under-24's and four for Lancashire. Despite nearing his century, he has yet to score more than two tries in a match. Last season was his best with 18.

WINNING RUN — Hunslet's winning run ended at eight matches when they lost 29-10 at Halifax in the Second Round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup tie on Sunday.

The current longest winning run now belongs to WHITEHAVEN who have won seven successive matches, five in Division Two and two Silk Cut Challenge Cup ties.

Warrington have the longest winning run of League matches with 15 successive victories which have taken them to the top of the Stones Bitter Championship. They have not lost a League match since losing their first two matches, the last defeat being 22-17 at Leigh on 4th September, 1986.

LONGEST LOSING RUN — Featherstone Rovers have the current longest losing run of six matches made up of five Stones Bitter Championship matches and one Silk Cut Challenge Cup tie.

SHEFFIELD EAGLES RECORD — Steve Lidbury needs two tries to equal the Sheffield Eagles record of 16 in a season set by loose-forward Paul McDermott in their inaugural campaign of 1984-85.

This is the wingers first season as a professional, having been signed from Lock Lane (Castleford) amateurs. He scored two tries on his debut in the opening match of the season, a 40-5 Division Two home defeat of Mansfield Marksman on 31st August, 1986. Sheffield Eagles have nominated him for the Great Britain Under-21 squad.

A NOBLE EFFORT — Record breaker David Noble is celebrating after achieving one of the most difficult feats in Rugby League.

The 30-year-old Doncaster goal-kicking ace has just gone a year playing and scoring in every first team game for the club.

His run started with three goals in a shock Cup victory over Salford last February and now spans 39 matches. During that time, he has kicked 124 goals, three drop goals, and scored three tries.

Noble said: "Scoring is no problem — the hardest part is staying injury-free and keeping my place in the team."

Only a handful of players have scored in every match for their club during a season and Noble, who holds three other club records, is keen to join that exclusive group.

His ultimate target is David Wilkins' all-time record of 92 successive scoring games for Salford, and Noble said: "I'm not sure that's really on. But I didn't think I'd get this far, so you never know."

DATE	OPPONENTS	O.R.L.F.C. CLUB SPONSOR	MATCH SPONSOR	PROGRAMME SPONSOR	MATCHBALL SPONSOR	TEAM SPONSOR	COMPETITION
31-8-86	LEEDS	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	John Leatherbarrow Wigan	Salford Automatics Ltd	N.W. Decoiling Warrington	Pennine Lounge, Oldham	Stones Bitter Championship
14-9-86	LEIGH Lancs. C.C.	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Target Finishing Oldham	Salford Automatics Ltd	J. Bowden Ltd Oldham	Fashion Craft Middleton	Grünhülle Lager
21-9-86	HULL K.R.	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Fairway Rubber Salford Automatics	Salford Automatics Ltd	Harveys (Nissan) Oldham	Lawrence Perrins Ltd., Oldham	Stones Bitter Championship
24-9-86	WORKINGTON Lancs. C.C.	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Frank Knowles Ltd., Royton	Salford Automatics Ltd	B.C.C. Oldham	H. Ashworth Manchester	Grünhülle Lager
1-10-86	WIDNES Lancs. C.C.	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Grünhülle Lager	Salford Automatics Ltd	Barry Bromley Weir Hotel, Bacup	—	Grünhülle Lager
5-10-86	WIDNES	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	F.D. Kitchens Prestwich	Salford Automatics Ltd	B.C.C. Oldham	Bosch Services Middleton	Stones Bitter Championship
2-11-86	BARROW	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Austin Timber Oldham	Salford Automatics Ltd	M.A. Appleton Preston	Monty's Bar Oldham	Stones Bitter Championship
4-11-86	AUSTRALIA	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Matthew Brown Ltd	Salford Automatics Ltd	Britvic Ltd Leeds	Halifax Building Soc., Oldham	Tour Match
16-11-86	ST HELENS	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Bardsley Cleaning, Ashton	Salford Automatics Ltd	N.W. Decoiling Warrington	Guttenberg International Rawtenstall	Stones Bitter Championship
30-11-86	BRADFORD J.P.S.T.	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	John Player	Salford Automatics Ltd	Fairway Rubber Manchester	Sat-Tel (UK) Ltd Oldham	John Player
14-12-86	HALIFAX	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Harveys (Nissan) Oldham	Salford Automatics Ltd	F.D. Kitchens Prestwich	Tyson's Medical Indust. Health Ltd, Manchester	Stones Bitter Championship
26-12-86	SALFORD	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Salford Construction Co Oldham	Salford Automatics Ltd	H.B.S. Builders Merchants, Bury	Leslie Powell Blaziers, Manchester	Stones Bitter Championship
18-1-87	FEATHERSTONE	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	—	Salford Automatics Ltd	—	—	Stones Bitter Championship
4-2-87	WIGAN Silk Cut C.C.	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Sponsor Silk Cut Donor: Blue Bird	Donor: Salford Automatics Ltd	Donor: Commercial Vehicles, Manchester	J. Knox Fairway & Grundy	Silk Cut Challenge Cup
14-2-87	ST HELENS Silk Cut C.C.	Seddon Atkinson Ltd	Sponsor: Silk Cut Donor: St Helens Glass	Donor: Salford Automatics Ltd	Donor: Peter Kendall Commercial Vehicles	J. Knox Fairway & Grundy	Silk Cut Challenge Cup

NEXT HOME MATCH

BRADFORD

Sunday 15th March, 1987 kick off 3.00 p.m.

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Warrington	17	9	0	1	270	144	6	0	1	171	105	30
St Helens	17	7	0	1	277	101	7	0	2	269	107	28
Wigan	16	6	0	1	207	47	8	0	1	186	73	28
Halifax	20	9	0	2	252	141	4	1	4	148	172	27
Castleford	19	6	0	4	211	136	6	0	3	169	137	24
Widnea	18	8	0	2	267	156	3	0	5	138	172	22
Leeds	19	6	0	4	288	183	4	0	5	141	164	20
Hull KR	19	7	0	3	182	144	3	0	6	121	182	20
Bradford N.	18	4	0	4	162	119	5	0	5	200	206	18
OLDHAM	18	6	0	2	185	132	3	0	7	178	220	18
HULL	17	7	0	1	195	149	1	0	8	102	262	16
Salford	20	4	0	6	149	239	2	0	8	131	273	12
Leigh	19	3	1	5	143	153	2	0	8	150	286	11
Barrow	20	3	0	7	174	188	1	2	7	159	252	10
Featherstone	19	3	1	5	160	203	1	0	9	124	277	9
Wakefield	20	0	1	10	108	315	0	0	9	103	330	1

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Barrow	■	18-14	14-24	12-23	16-17	24-6	16-23					12-34	38-13		16-18	8-16
Bradford	36-20	■	12-7	41-2	8-12					18-26	10-18				27-14	16-20
Castleford		46-18	■	16-7		16-6	16-10	12-14	19-8		20-21		42-16	18-24		6-12
Featherstone			16-18	■	16-16	18-12	6-14		10-16		16-6	8-44		22-29	14-48	
Halifax	40-14	29-14	12-16	34-8	■	28-16	24-18	23-8		20-14	18-8	20-19		13-16		
Hull	41-18	27-22	26-6	28-23	■	10-32	31-26						12-6			
Hull K.R.		12-30	36-14	14-0	29-6	■		35-20	6-4		4-36	22-11		18-0	6-23	
Leeds		4-12	33-12			42-7	■	26-12	20-26	46-10	20-40	46-4	16-54	35-6		
Leigh	9-9		6-12		20-28	8-12	20-8	■	40-12					22-17	18-20	0-35
Oldham	32-20			20-16	18-20	28-12	14-12		■	34-18	17-18			22-16		
Salford	12-24	12-21		26-16		29-18	14-34		20-12	■	4-38		10-25	22-16	0-34	
St Helens				43-14	38-16	50-10			50-18	28-6	32-14	■	32-11		4-12	
Wakefield	14-14	22-32	12-40	2-29				14-28	6-12	10-54	10-15	6-30	■			
Warrington	24-20	31-10	20-26		18-10	42-10		20-6		22-18	42-14	28-18	■		23-12	
Widnes	26-14	14-36	29-20				26-8	35-10		44-10	13-12	16-10	48-14		■	16-22
Wigan	18-6		16-6			34-7			31-0		42-12	62-10	4-6		■	

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OLDHAM RLFC FIXTURES & RESULTS 1986-87

	Opponents	Att.	F	A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Aug	31 Leeds	4,621	14	12	Atkinson 1T 1G	M'Barki	Foy 1T	Warnecke	Taylor	Topliss	Ashton 2DG	Jones	Flanagan	Clark	Hobbs 1G	Hawkyard	Worrall	Kirwan (10)	Nadiole (4)
Sept	3 Halifax (7-30)	4,869	14	20	Atkinson 1T	Sherman	Foy	M'Barki	Taylor 1T	Topliss	Ashton	Clark	Flanagan	Hobbs 3G	Hawkyard	Clawson	Worrall	Kirwan D.N.P.	Nadiole (12)
	7 Warrington	4,000	18	22	Atkinson	Sherman	Foy	M'Barki 1T	Taylor	Ashton	Kirwan	Clark 1T	Flanagan	Hobbs 3G	Clawson	Hawkyard 1T	Worrall	Edwards	Nadiole
	14 Leigh L.C.C. 1	4,566	29	22	Atkinson	Sherman 1T	Foy	M'Barki 1T	Taylor	Topliss	Ashton	Clark 1T	Flanagan	Nadiole 1T	Clawson	Worrall 6G	Raper	Edwards	Hobbs 1DG 1T
	21 Hull K.R.	4,069	28	12	M'Barki	Sherman	Hawkyard	Warnecke 1T	Taylor 1T	Topliss	Ashton	Clark	Flanagan	Nadiole	Worrall 3G	Hobbs 1G 1T	Raper 1T	Edwards	Clawson
	24 Workington L.C.C. 2 ...	3,412	46	13	M'Barki 1T	Sherman	Foy	Warnecke 2T	Taylor	Topliss	Ashton	Clark 1T	Flanagan	Hobbs 7G 1T	Nadiole	Worrall 1T	Raper 1T	Hawkyard	Clawson
	28 Leigh (3-30)	4,000	12	40	M'Barki 1T	Sherman	Hawkyard	Warnecke 1T	Taylor	Bridge	Ashton	Clark	Flanagan	Hobbs 2G	Clawson	Worrall	Raper	Topliss	Casey
Oct	1 Widnes L.C.C. s/f	5,601	16	14	M'Barki	Sherman 1T	Bridge	Warnecke	Edwards	Topliss	Ashton	Clark	Flanagan	Hobbs 1T 4G	Nadiole	Worrall	Raper	Kirwan	Hawkyard
Oct	5 Widnes	3,875	22	16	Edwards	Sherman	Hawkyard	Warnecke 1T	Atkinson 1T	Topliss	Kirwan	Jones	Hall	Clark 1T	Hobbs 1T	Clawson	Worrall 3G	Ogburn	Casey
	19 Wigan L.C.C. Final	20,180	6	27	M'Barki	Sherman	Bridge 1T	Warnecke	Atkinson	Topliss	Kirwan	Clark	Flanagan	Hobbs 1G	Worrall	Nadiole	Raper	Hawkyard	Clawson
	26 Wakefield T. (3-30)	2,740	54	10	Edwards	Sherman 1T	Foy 3T	Warnecke 2T	Taylor	Topliss 1T	Bridge	Jones	Flanagan	Clark	Hobbs 6G	Worrall 1G 1T	Raper 1T	Ashton 1T	Hawkyard
Nov	2 Barrow	3,306	32	20	Edwards	Sherman 1T	Foy	M'Barki	Taylor 1T	Warnecke	Ashton 1T	Clark	Flanagan	Clawson	Hobbs 6G 1T	Worrall 1T	Raper	Hawkyard	Nadiole
	4 Australia (7-30)	5,678	16	22	Edwards	Sherman	Foy 1T	Warnecke	M'Barki	Topliss	Ashton	Clark	Flanagan	Clawson	Worrall 3G	Hobbs 1G	Raper	Hawkyard 1T	Nadiole
	9 Hull K.R.	4,481	4	6	M'Barki	Sherman	Foy	Warnecke	Taylor	Topliss	Ashton	Clark	Flanagan	Clawson	Hawkyard	Nadiole	Worrall 2G	Edwards	Marsden
	16 St Helens	5,752	17	18	M'Barki	Sherman 1T	Foy 1T	Warnecke	Taylor	Topliss	Ashton 1DG	Clark	Flanagan	Clawson	Worrall 2G	Hawkyard 1T	Raper	Edwards	Nadiole
	23 Bradford N. (3-30)	4,060	18	10	M'Barki	Sherman	Foy 1T	Warnecke	Taylor	Topliss	Bridge	Clark	Flanagan	Clawson	Worrall 1T 3G	Nadiole	Raper 1T	Lowndes	Jones
	30 Bradford N. (J.P.S.)	5,642	12	22	M'Barki	Sherman	Foy 1T	Warnecke 1T	Atkinson	Topliss	Bridge	Clark	Flanagan	Clawson	Worrall 2G	Nadiole	Raper	Ashton	Lowndes
Dec	14 Halifax	4,905	18	20	M'Barki	Sherman	Foy 1T	Warnecke	Taylor 1T	Topliss	Bridge 1T	Jones	Flanagan	Clark	Worrall 1G	Hobbs	Raper 1T	Hawkyard	Clawson
	21 St Helens	6,821	6	28	Edwards	Sherman 1T	Foy	Bridge	Taylor	Topliss	Ashton	Hobbs	Flanagan	Clawson	Worrall 1G	Hawkyard	Raper	Atkinson	Hall
	26 Salford	4,011	34	18	M'Barki 1T	Sherman	Foy 1T	Bridge 1T	Taylor	Topliss	Ashton 1T	Clark	Flanagan	Clawson	Hobbs 1G	Worrall 4G	Raper 1T	Edwards	Hall
Jan	1 Leeds	7,570	26	20	Bridge	Sherman	Foy	Warnecke 1T	Taylor 1T	Topliss	Ashton	Clark	Hall	Hobbs 3G	Flanagan 2T	Worrall	Raper 1T	Nadiole	Clawson
	4 Hull	4,895	16	20	Triallist	Sherman	Foy 1T	Bridge 1T	Taylor 1T	Topliss	Ashton	Clark	Sanderson	Hobbs 2G	Worrall	Flanagan	Raper	Kirwan	Clawson
	18 Featherstone	2,719	20	16	Burke 1T	Sherman	Foy 1T	Bridge 1T	Taylor	Topliss	Kirwan	Clark	Sanderson 1T	Waddell 1T	Hobbs 1T	Flanagan	Raper	Edwards	Clawson
	21 Widnes	2,798	10	44	Burke 1G	Sherman	Foy	Bridge 1T	Taylor 1T	Topliss	Kirwan	Clark	Sanderson	Waddell	Clawson	Flanagan	Raper	Edwards	Nadiole
Feb	4 Wigan (S.C.C.C.)	10,050	10	8	Burke 3G	M'Barki	Foy	Bridge	Taylor	Topliss	Kirwan 1T	Clark	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Hobbs	Flanagan	Warnecke	Raper
	14 St Helens (S.C.C.C.)	7,698	14	24	Burke 3G	M'Barki	Foy 1T	Bridge	Taylor	Topliss	Kirwan	Clark	Sanderson	Waddell	Worrall	Hobbs	Flanagan	Warnecke	Raper 1T
	22 Hull																		
March	1 Castleford																		
	8 Featherstone																		
	15 Bradford																		
	29 Castleford																		
April	5 Barrow																		
	12 Leigh																		
	17 Salford																		
	20 Wigan																		

Appearances & Scorers

	APPS (inc. Subs.)	T	G	DG	PTS
ASHTON, R.	18	3	—	3	15
ATKINSON, K.	7	3	1	—	14
BRIDGE, G.	15	7	—	—	28
BURKE, M.	4	1	7	—	18
CLARK, B.	24	3	—	—	12
CLAWSON, N.	21	1	—	—	4
EDWARDS, J.	14	—	—	—	—
FLANAGAN, T.	25	2	—	—	8
FOY, D.	21	13	—	—	52
HAWKYARD, C.	16	3	—	—	12
HOBBS, D.	21	6	43	1	111
JONES, W.	5	—	—	—	—
KIRWAN, P.	11	1	—	—	4
M'BARKI, H.	19	5	—	—	20
NADIOLE, T.	16	1	—	—	4
RAPER, S.	21	9	—	—	36
SANDERSON, I.	5	1	—	—	4
SHERMAN, P.	23	6	—	—	24
TAYLOR, M.	22	7	—	—	28
TOPLISS, D.	24	1	—	—	4
WADDELL, H.	4	—	—	—	—
WARNECKE, G.	18	9	—	—	36
WORRALL, M.	23	4	31	—	78
CASEY, L.	2	—	—	—	—
HALL, M.	4	—	—	—	—
LOWNDES, P.	2	—	—	—	—
MARSDEN, R.	1	—	—	—	—
OGBURN, J.	1	—	—	—	—
TRIALIST	1	—	—	—	—

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TEAM?**



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SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

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J. Sagar, L. Wolstencroft

The Supporters Club and Members would like to welcome all our friends from Hull for today's match. Hoping for a good clean game. We would like to invite all home and away supporters to our canteens situated around the ground. The Souvenir Shop at the Pavilion End of the ground will be open throughout the match for sale of replica shirts, ties, badges etc.

The Programme Shop is situated near the scoreboard in the old bar.

Coaches to Castleford and Featherstone leave the Social Club at 1:45 p.m. Please book early.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the Rugby Queen Contest please contact any Committee member at any of our canteens. Full advertising is given to sponsor.

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THE EDITOR TALKING

... on that Oldham Jinx

There are many Oldham supporters — especially among the older end — who believe the club will never go to Wembley because of a mysterious and all-powerful force that has decided otherwise.

So many things have gone wrong over the years in the Challenge Cup that it's little wonder a lot of people think that way, especially those who have been waiting for more than 50 years for that first and elusive Wembley trip.

Of the teams currently in the First Division, only Oldham have never walked up Wembley Way, and I know a lot of people who say they never will! Each year I tell them they are talking a lot of nonsense . . . and each year they are able to reply: 'I told you so'.

A lot of fans recall the desperate disappointment on the Wembley road of our great team of the 1950's.

If ever a team had the speed, skill, football and sheer attacking brilliance to burn up Wembley on a spring day in May it was the Oldham side of Ganley, Pitchford, Davies, Little, Turner, Winslade and company. They won the Lancashire Cup in 1956, 1957 and 1958, but they could never get to Wembley.

In the 1956-57 season they won four cups — the Law Cup, the Lancashire Cup, the Lancashire League trophy, and the Rugby League championship trophy. But even that side didn't even reach the semi-final, let alone make it to Wembley.

Oldtimers still talk of that shock defeat at Leigh in the snow, of that 1960 semi-final defeat by Hull when Bernard Ganley, of all people, was sent off, and most of all of that memorable 1964 series of semi-finals against Hull KR when we were winning in extra time of the first replay at Swinton, and the game was stopped for bad light!

You can go on, and on. Do you recall that second-round defeat at Wakefield a season or two back when Alan Taylor was sent off in controversial circumstances for the one and only time in his career?

Last year, in the semi-final against Castleford, the crucial try scored by Bob Beardmore followed the most amazing bounce over the Oldham line and even then film showed quite clearly that the Castleford player was over the dead-ball line when he touched down.

I also recall a third-round clash against Widnes 12 years ago when the game was finely balanced until Widnes tried a drop goal shot which hit the post, rebounded out, and led directly to the killer try.

Perhaps, then, it was not all that surprising when Oldham fans suffered the same old story against St Helens last Saturday — the 30th minute dismissal of hooker Ian Sanderson for an alleged late tackle.

I do not intend to discuss the rights and wrongs here, but merely to point out that here was another case of the best laid plans of mice and men . . . and it really is one of Rugby League's greatest mysteries why Oldham always come unstuck, year in year out, when it comes to Challenge Cup time.

I am not totally convinced that the old men who shake their heads whenever Wembley is mentioned have got it right. But some of them have been shaking those heads through youth and middle age and now on into old age . . . and are convinced they will go on shaking for a few more years yet.

I don't believe in fate to such an extent, but you have to admit they can put up a pretty strong argument.

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COMMERCIAL CORNER

A THANK-YOU LETTER FROM A WIGAN SUPPORTER

I would just like to congratulate Oldham on your fine performance on Wednesday. It was a pleasure to watch such a fine match, played fairly and amongst such a good crowd. I can honestly say, I haven't been in an away crowd like that for a long time, without having to take my eyes off the match to watch for fighting. Also the sight of the Oldham supporters just stood singing was lovely and I knew the feeling exactly and you deserved it. So I'd like to wish you every success in reaching Wembley, and there's at least one Wiganer rooting for you.

MANDY CLARKE

"Glynshaw", Malpas Ave., Whelley, Wigan



Mr MICHAEL COLLINS, the first Cashline £100 Daily Winner receiving his cheque from Oldham Chairman Mr Harvey Ashworth at last Saturday's Cup game against St Helens. Also appearing in the photo are Mr R. H. Davies of "The Halfway House" Royton who also received a bonus as the winning members agent on the left and Cashline Manager Mr Ron Gardner



CAPTAIN'S TALE
by DAVID TOPLISS

We have to put the disappointment of that Challenge Cup defeat by St Helens behind us and concentrate on the important League games in a bid to achieve a good premiership position for the play-offs.

Nobody can turn back the clock, so we now have to look forward in a determined bid to get into the top eight as our first target and then do everything we can to try and reach out for the top four.

After beating Wigan in the first round of the Cup I think we all secretly had thoughts of a possible first Wembley for the club, but it wasn't to be.

We were unlucky to be drawn against the best side still left in, and things didn't exactly go our way on the day.

Anyway, as I say, all that is behind us now, and contrary to what some people are saying, there is still a terrific lot to play for over the next few weeks.

We have 12 league games left and, looking at the fixtures, I think we can establish a sound position from which to make a real challenge for the premiership.

Financially, the premiership can be a real money-spinner for both clubs and players, and this year, of course, there is the added incentive of striving to reach a final that will be held at Manchester United's Old Trafford ground on Sunday, 17th May.

On a personal note I am looking forward to today's game against my old club, Hull, and all the more so because I got a knock when setting up a try for Mike Taylor in the opening minutes of our game at the Boulevard, and I had to go off not long afterwards. I hope for better fortunes, today!

Photo Courtesy of
OLDHAM CHRONICLE

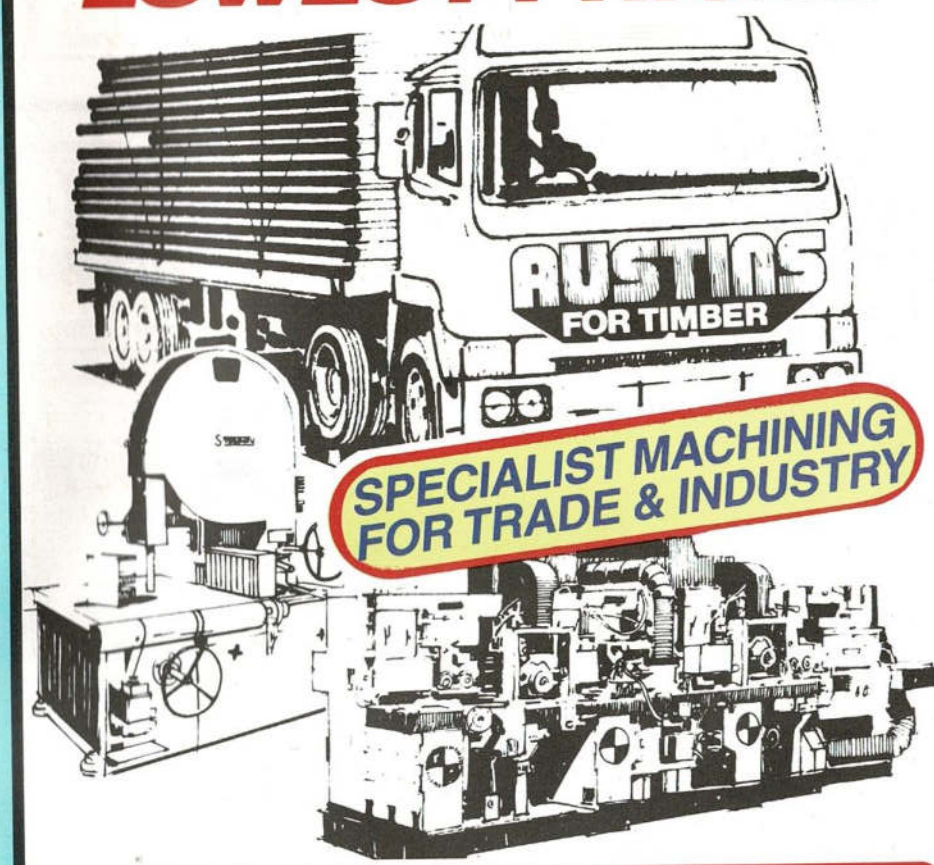
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