

ROUND THREE
WARRINGTON v OLDHAM
SATURDAY, 28th NOVEMBER 1987
KICK OFF 2.15 p.m.

Official programme
60p

PRIMROSE & BLUE

10

14

OLDHAM
RED & WHITE

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T G' D/G Pts.[illegible]

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Photographs by Eddie Fuller courtesy of the Warrington Guardian

HONOURS:

Division One: Runners up, 1978-79, 1980-81

Championship: Winners 1947-48, 1953-54, 1954-55

Runners up: 1925-26, 1934-35, 1936-37, 1948-49, 1950-51, 1960-61.

League Leaders Trophy: Winners 1972-73

Club Championship: Winners, 1973-74

Premiership: Winners, 1985-86

Runners up: 1976-77, 1986/87

Challenge Cup: Winners, 1904-05, 1906-07, 1949-50, 1953-54, 1973-74. Runners up, 1900-01, 1903-04, 1912-13, 1927-28, 1932-33, 1935-36, 1974-75

Lancashire League: Winners, 1937-38, 1947-48; 1948-49, 1950-51, 1953-54, 1954-55, 1955-56, 1967-68

Lancashire Cup: Winners, 1921-22, 1929-30, 1932-33, 1937-38, 1959-60, 1965-66, 1980-81, 1982-83. Runners up, 1906-07, 1948-49, 1950-51, 1967-68, 1985-86, 1987/88

John Player Trophy: Winners, 1973-74, 1977-78, 1980-81.

Runners up: 1978-79, 1986-87

Captain Morgan Trophy: Winners, 1973-74

B.B.C. 2 Trophy: Runners up 1974-75

COVER PHOTO:
Our last meeting brought
Paul Cullen three tries.

NOTEBOOK

OUR GUESTS

Welcome to the directors, staff, players and supporters from Oldham who are setting the pace for the Second Division Championship and an early return to where they belong in Division One.

Welcome also to M.P. for Warrington North, Doug Hoyle, who attends Wire matches whenever he can and who has kindly donated today's Mitre Match Ball.

M.O.M. AWARD

Today's Man of the Match Award is part of the John Player Special Trophy Sponsorship, the selection being in the hands of the Press Representatives covering the game.

SIGNING

Belated welcome to Paul Williamson our latest signing from the Amateur game. Paul a centre threequarter made a try scoring debut for Wizards recently at Halifax. His former club — Woolston Rovers.

STAND TICKETS

Supporters are reminded that admission to the North Stand is by ticket only for all matches. Tickets can be purchased in advance by mail or at the Club office. Usual prices £4 adult and £2.30 juniors and senior citizens. Tickets are available **NOW** for the home games up to and including CASTLEFORD on 17th January. Your advance ticket carries a seat number which is reserved for you. Please assure everyone's comfort by occupying the allocated seat only...

SHIELD FINAL

The Lancashire Shield Final between WIZARDS and SWINTON CRUSADERS will be played at Wilderspool on Friday 4th December. Kick off 7.30 p.m.

WARRINGTON ROUND TABLE

Warrington Round Table wish to thank all who contributed to the B.B.C. Children in Need Appeal collection made at last weeks game. The sum of £377.00 was collected.

LIFELINE

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO A 'LIFELINE NIGHT' IN THE TOUCHDOWN CLUB ON THURSDAY 10th DECEMBER 1987 FROM 8 p.m. WITH ENTERTAINMENT SUPPLIED BY A FANTASTIC GROUP 'THE CADILLACS'. ALSO A SPECIAL LIFELINE DRAW FOR £1,000, £500, £250, COLOUR TELEVISION, HI-FI, VIDEO RECORD PLUS MANY OTHER PRIZES.

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Tony Barrow



AT a meeting recently I was asked 'What makes a successful coach'. Without thinking, I replied "Two minutes." My rankings would have been considerably lowered if our uncompromising cup tie at Carlisle had ended two minutes earlier. As the man keeps saying, cup ties are all about winning and in the record books, a scratchy win rides as high as a walk over. Gallant losers have no place in the Annual Yearbooks. We left Brunton Park with a great sense of relief.

I thought we had a bit of a raw deal at Craven Park but that is now history. Rovers have come back to form and no one believed that last week's Second Round tie was going to be easy. They are good cup fighters and have a strong pack. Here at Wilderspool we have been literally lifting players from the operating table and pushing them out on to the field. Delight at the return of Tony Humphries, Keith Holden and Mark Roberts plus Des Drummond after a one match 'Sin Bin Ban' was tempered by the departure of Carl Webb (fractured jaw), Mark Forster (sprained ankle) and Martin Crompton. It seems we cannot enjoy good news without following it with bad.

I don't like going on about injuries but this season they have been an every day discussion point before selecting a team. The records will show the constant changes and each week I feel we must be coming out of the gloom only to be knocked back.

My players have stood up to the ordeal with great character but I have never liked to push young players too hard too soon. It is better to turn out a brilliant player at 20 than a good one at 18. My many years as 'A' team coach taught me the value of slow but steady progress. How many lads have been burnt out before reaching their prime, the game is littered with them. Good mature stock players are invaluable to a coach but we have clearly been stretched beyond our limits.

In that cup tie with HKR we failed to keep possession and consequently gave ourselves a hard time. The ball is not running for us at the moment with little things breaking up our play. We have got to learn more patience, build our attacks in a less frantic manner. The class is still there in the side but we have got to settle to allow the quality to flow. One way or another we have provided our supporters with plenty of excitement already this season but maybe the best is yet to come. Let's here that WIRE chant again today, remember the worlds, WIRE, WIRE, WIRE.

NEXT AT WILDERSPOOL

THURSDAY 3rd DECEMBER — 7.30 pm RACE NIGHT (SEE PAGE 18)

FRIDAY, 4th DECEMBER — 7.30 pm. LANCASHIRE SHIELD FINAL
WIZARDS v SWINTON CRUSADERS

SUNDAY, 6th DECEMBER, 3pm — STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP
WIRE v SWINTON

THURSDAY, 10th DECEMBER 8 pm — LIFELINE NIGHT (See page 2)

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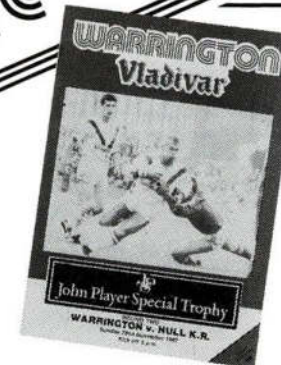
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Match Report



JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY Rd. Two AT WILDERSPOOL WARRINGTON 12pts HULL KR 8pts

WARRINGTON: Johnson, Drummond, Cullen, Duane, Lyon: Woods, Holden: Humphries, Tamati, Harmon, Sanderson, Roberts, Gregory. **Subs:** Peters, M. Jackson.

HULL K.R. Fairbairn: Clark, Fletcher, Mortimer, Steve Smith: M. Smith, Parker: Beall, Rudd, Ema, Ryan, Burton, G. Smith. **Subs:** Thompson, Watkinson.

Referee: K. Allatt. **Kick off:** 3 pm

Des Drummond, after suspension, Mark Roberts, broken nose, Keith Holden knee ligaments and Tony Humphries, strained abdominal muscles all returned but Carl Webb (fractured jaw), Mark Forster (badly sprained ankle) and Martin Crompton took their places on the treatment table.

Gordon Smith with deadly accurate grubber kicks kept Wire under early pressure and when Johnson went into the tackle before the ball arrived, Wire were fortunate to see Fletcher's shot go wide on ten minutes. Smith again unerringly put the ball into touch on the corner flag to keep up the pressure. During this early period Wire arrived on three occasions in attacking positions only to quickly concede the ball by giving away unnecessary penalties. On 23 minutes Rovers gave away a penalty in their own half and seemed prepared for Woods to take a shot at goal. The astute out half tapped the ball quickly and sent the alert Mike Gregory on a 30 yard run, to find **JOHNSON** backing up brilliantly to score. **WOODS** added the two. Five minutes later Sanderson having a good half broke through a double tackle and found Woods. Again this intelligent player drew cover to put **HOLDEN** in. **WOODS** on target again. Wire on the way, 12 nil. So vulnerable after going ahead, Duane dropped a pass to give the ball away. Rovers stretched Wire and **MORTIMER** did well to score. Fletcher's

attempted conversion was narrowly wide. Just on the interval Duane enjoyed a good touchline run but the ball was sent dead by a defender. At that stage 12-4 perhaps did not reflect Wire's supremacy but it was the adverse penalty count of 5-9 which put them under unwanted pressure.

On the restart Humphries, who had been spoken to earlier was sent to the Bin for ten when executing a double tackle. At a time when they were looking for an early consolidation Wire were put back under pressure. Eight minutes into the half a double penalty put Wire on the visitors line and Tamati tapped forward to dive on the ball only to be penalised for incorrect play the ball. Wire needed that try. It was quickly followed by a brilliant Johnson run, scything through the defence only to see his try scoring pass to Lyon diverted into touch by a defender. Humphries returned at this stage but Rovers could see that the ball was running their way. Gordon Smith, man for all seasons and positions cleverly held the ball to send **MORTIMER** through again but Fletcher had left his kicking boots at Craven Park. 12-8, too close for comfort. With 16 to go both sides range the changes with Watkinson and Thompson replacing Ema and S. Smith and Mark Jackson replacing Roberts. Soon after, Keith Holden limped off giving way to Peters. The rest of the game was Rovers, Rovers, Rovers with waves coming in like troops on the Anzio landings. Tackle, tackle and tackle again and by some great fortune the Wire line held with the hooter sounding not a minute too soon. Gordon Smith took the press M.O.M. for a fine display, with Fletcher despite his wayward kicking and Glen Ryan also shining. For Wire. For the third game running my choice has to be **Mike Gregory** with the great hearted **Tamati** playing himself into the ground. Johnson too was immaculate at the back whilst the siege gun kicks off Dave Lyon are something to work on (why should Wigan have all the fun?) Good game by Kevin Allatt. Wires bad penalty count was a self destruct issue.

DATA

Progressive score (Wire first): 6-0, 12-0, 12-4. H.T. 12-8.

Substitutions:

Wire: M. Jackson for Roberts 64. Peters for Holden 71.

HKR: Thompson for S. Smith 64. Watkinson for Ema 64.

Scrums: Wire 6 Rovers 7

Pens: Wire 8 Rovers 16

Attendance: 4,500



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Rugby League? Question Time

AT a recent Player's Forum a panel consisting of Tony Barrow, Les Boyd, Ken Kelly, Kevin Tamati and Paul Cullen mulled over one or two thorny subjects of great interest to followers of our game. Here are a few of my notes:-

CONTRACT SYSTEM Generally felt that players were now getting a better deal than hitherto and clubs are also benefitting because players have to toe the line.

INDEPENDANT TRIBUNAL FOR TRANSFERS Working satisfactorily but prices put on players by clubs has become artificial and hyped up in the knowledge that the result will be somewhere near the halfway mark between the two clubs' assessments.

SIN BIN This has made no difference to violence in the game. Providing it is operated with common sense it is acceptable to the players.

TRIAL BY VIDEO All agreed that use of video is acceptable but all were totally against it being selective. Better if all matches were videoed and screened. If a player has done wrong he should be prepared to face the consequences. Generally felt also that criticism by video should also include referees performances.

WIGAN The audience, a discerning lot were of little doubt that Wigan have been given favourable treatment which could be detrimental to the other league clubs. 'Nuff said.

USE OF AGENTS In issue during the Gary Schofield saga. All felt that this was purely a matter for the individual player. If he felt that he could obtain a better deal it would be up to him.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA The style of play, particularly in the Lancashire game was highly attractive but all were of the opinion that the game is about winning and you cannot win without tackling, a feature sadly lacking in the Kumul's game. Les Boyd pointed out that they had beaten New

Zealand in 1986 and he hoped they would continue to improve. Kevin who insisted in addressing the chairman as 'Sir Robin' came down heavily on the chewing of betelnut.

PAUL BISHOP Les felt that there should be some arrangement for transfers between the two countries but one problem was that Bishop held dual nationality. Tony was clearly annoyed by the prevarication but conceded that if Bishop stayed out of the game for twelve months, he would become a free agent and Wire would lose all claim. Whether the player would make it to the top in Australia is another issue.

POLICE INTERVENTION (SOCCER STYLE) Consensus that police are paid heavily for their presence at matches for the purpose of crowd control. What happens on the playing pitch should be totally in the hands of the officials and ultimately the League's Discipline Committee. Crowd involvement in the game is another matter but common sense should prevail at all times including police action. (PS. I haven't seen the cuffs put on McEnroe's wrists yet).

SPRINGFIELD BOROUGH All hoped that they would succeed and gain promotion although Tony thought promotion in the first season might be a bad thing for them. Les felt that Wigan was big enough to carry two teams.

R.U. PLAYERS Signings have produced few good forwards. Ken thought that as a general rule, full backs and wingers are the best bet.

TWO REFEREES Unidentified contributor — 'If one idiot cannot control the game, what's the point of having two.'

PLAYERS' CONVERSING WITH THE OFFICIALS Paul Cullen who will make a right b..... of a coach one day felt that despite the frustrations which build up when players are keyed up, coaches should fine players to deter the practice.

BEE GEE (with apologies to Sir Robin)



Vladivar

THE IMPERIAL SPIRIT LIVES

Bert's View

JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY - ROUND TWO

WIGAN (18) 28 CASTLEFORD (0) 16

Wigan: T—Iro, Goodway, Wane, G—Stephenson 5.

Castleford: T—Lindner, Fifita, Plange, G—Roockley 2.

The World Champions buried Cas in a first half blitz. Blistering tries from Goodway, Iro and Wane . . . left the Yorkshire tacklers grasping thin air. Lindner, Fifita and Plange (could have gone to the wedding) brought back some dignity but that Shaun Edwards sprint showed the real difference in Cas, sorry class. I got the impression that Wigan always had a gear in reserve.

BATLEY 0 OLDHAM 44

Oldham: T—Round (3), Foy, Waddell, McCarthy, Warnecke, Burke, G—Walsh (3), Burke (3), H.T. 0-16. Att: 2,808.

The Gallant Youths (who dreamed that one up) last won the Challenge Cup in 1900/1 season and in 1908/9 - recorded their highest score against Widnes (52 nil). It's all a long, long time ago and a lot of traffic has flowed up and down the M62. Eight try Oldham showed that Gallantry is just not enough nowadays.

HULL 19 LEIGH 7

Hull: T—Patrick, G—Pearce (7), DG—Pearce. Leigh: T—Collier, G—P. Johnson. DG—P. Johnson. H.T. 4-7. Att: 3,832.

It seems Leigh lost their cool and incurred a flood of penalties. Gary Pearce booted them out of the competition with seven goals and a drop. Leigh leading at the interval and only one try per side. You find it hard in cup ties without a goal kicker.

LEEDS 20 HALIFAX 10

Leeds: T—Creasser, Schofield, Jackson, G—Crooks (4). Halifax: T—Anderson, Eadie, G—Whitfield. H.T. 0-8. Att: 13,648.

Megastars Crooks and Schofield are beginning to repay the massive debt as Bamford moulds his classy outfit together. Colin Whitfield who hardly misses against Wire, missed five goal attempts, a factor which no doubt demoralised the visitors.

SALFORD 14 DEWSBURY 5

Salford: T—Blease, Gibson. G—Jones (3). Dewsbury: G—Vasey (2) DG—Shuttleworth. H.T. 2-3. Att: 2,129.

Kevin was clearly disenchanted with his Reds performance against Dewsbury who are one place lower than Carlisle. Down 2-3 at the interval. The cup produces some magical performances. It's all in the mind you know. If you believe you're good enough, you are good enough — or nearly. Back to church Kevin.

SPRINGFIELD 14 WAKEFIELD T. 8

Springfield: T—Frodsham, Eccles. G—Smith (3) Wakefield: T—Rayne. G—Harcombe (2) H.T. 6-8. Att: 600.

That draw and midweek trip to the Minster will have done Wakefield no good but take nothing away from Springfield, 6-8 down at the interval, tries from skipper Bob Eccles and Tommy Frodsham (played with Wire 'A' before Blackpool snapped him up) were enough to put Trinity in purgatory.

ST. HELENS 40 MANSFIELD 0

Marksman were without one of any kind as Saints gave them a fine exhibition of what the game is all about. Good to see John Fieldhouse back on the scoresheet. No Holding or Arkwright but Saints are looking forward to their first John Player Trophy success, or at least a first time spot in the Final.

WARRINGTON 12 HULL KR 8

Warrington: T—Johnson, Holden. G—Woods (2) Hull K.R.: T—Mortimer (2). H.T. 12-4. Att: 4,500.

Denis Hunt is a highly valued member of Tony Barrow's coaching staff. In his spare time he controls the Wire hooter. Last week at Carlisle we were flat to the boards trying to put the brake on his finger as Wire did it with 14 seconds to spare. This time we were trying to get him into overdrive as Wire were under the last second cosh. Denis won't mind, you'll get eighty minutes and sod all else from him. Rover's timekeeper is a straight guy too. (Must be, he writes the programme for them . . .)

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IN TOUCH WITH R.L.

TOP TEN TRY SCORERS

1. MARTIN OFFIAH (Widnes) 16
2. HENDERSON GILL (Wigan) 14
3. SHAUN EDWARDS (Wigan) 14
4. ELLERY HANLEY (Wigan) 13
5. PAUL ROUND (Oldham) 13
6. DES DRUMMOND (Warrington) 12
7. LES QUIRK (St. Helens) 12
8. MARK ROBERTS (Warrington) 11
9. CARL GIBSON (Leeds) 11
10. KEVIN PAPE (Carlisle) 11

TOP TEN GOAL SCORERS

1. JOHN WOODS (Warrington) 68
2. DAVID STEPHENSON (Wigan) 64
3. JOHN MYLER (Widnes) 46
4. DAVID NOBLE (Doncaster) 46
5. KEVIN HARCUMBE (Wakefield T.) 45
6. GARY PEARCE (Hull) 44
7. MIKE SMITH (Springfield B.) 43
8. MIKE FLETCHER (Hull K.R.) 41
9. STEVE QUINN (Featherstone R.) 41
10. COLIN WHITFIELD (Halifax) 39

LEADING POINT SCORERS

John Woods of Warrington is this season's leading point scorer with 159 from 68 goals including one drop goal and six tries.

Wigan's David Stephenson is next with 148 points from 64 goals and five tries.

The only other player with a century of points is Doncaster's David Noble with 104 from 46 goals and three tries.

GARRY CLARK

Garry Clark of Hull Kingston Rovers needs three tries for a career century of touchdowns. The Test winger's total is made up of 83 for Rovers and 14 in representative matches.

A Hull K.R. Colt, Clark signed for Rovers after touring Australia and Papua New Guinea with the 1982 Great Britain Colts squad.

Clark was only 17 years 8 months when he made his debut for Rovers with a try in the 33-10 Division One home defeat of Workington Town on 22nd August 1982.

In his next match Clark scored the first of only two hat-tricks for Rovers, although he has also achieved the feat for Great Britain Under-24s and England.

On the 1984 tour of Australia and New Zealand, Clark scored seven tries in 10 appearances.

In his first two seasons Clark finished 10th in the try charts, with 24 tries in 1983-84 being his most prolific season.

Clarke's season-by-season try scoring figures are as follows:

HULL K.R.

1982-83 17 + 3 Great Britain Under 24s. 1983-84 - 24; 1984-85 - 16 + England, 1 Great Britain Under-21s; 1985-86 - 11; 1986-87 - 10; 1987-88 - 5.

TOTALS: Hull K.R. - 83; England - 3; GB Under-21/24 - 4; 1984 Tour - 7; Grand Total - 97.

JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY THIRD-ROUND

Of the remaining eight clubs in the John Player Special Trophy only Oldham and St. Helens have never reached the final. St. Helens have been in five semi-finals but Oldham's one semi-final appearance was in 1981-82 when they lost 22-6 to Hull.

On Saturday Oldham visit Warrington, last year's beaten finalists who have appeared in six semi-finals and won the trophy a record equalling three times.

Wigan, who have also been winners three times are aiming for another record of three successive final wins.

Three of last season's semi-finalists are hoping to be in the last four again — Hull, Warrington and Wigan.

Springfield Borough have gone the longest without a semi-final appearance. As Blackpool Borough they made their one appearance a winner before losing to Castleford in the 1976-77 final.

POINT SCORING RUN

David Noble has scored in 65 successive matches for Doncaster, starting with three goals against Salford in the Rugby League Challenge Cup on 9th February 1986.

The run has brought him 473 points from 218 goals including three drop goals plus 10 tries.

TRY SCORING RUN

Martin Offiah has touched-down in 11 successive matches for Widnes as follows: 2-1-2-1-1-1-2-1-2-1. Offiah's sequence includes seven successive League matches, leaving him four short of the Division One record run of 11 by Hull K.R. centre Gary Prohm in 1985.

LONGEST WINNING RUN

Oldham have the current longest winning run of seven matches made up of four Division Two matches, and three John Player Special Trophy ties.

LONGEST LOSING RUN

Bramley's losing run was extended to nine matches when they lost 20-6 at Carlisle on Sunday. Their run of defeats includes seven in Division Two, one John Smiths Yorkshire Cup tie and one John Player Special Trophy tie.

MILESTONES

Gary Hyde of Castleford needs four tries for a career century of Division One touchdowns.

Henderson Gill of Wigan needs two tries for a career century of Division One touchdowns.

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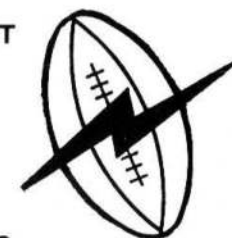
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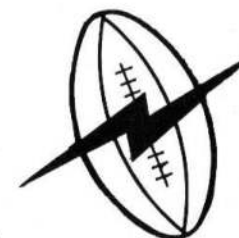
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TELEPHONE (0925)
415372

Flashback

THE PLAYERS No. 6 TROPHY - 1st Round 1973/74 WARRINGTON 31 OLDHAM 14 (16.9.73.)

PROG. TEAMS:

WIRE: Whitehead (5G), Curling (1T), W. Briggs, Pickup (1T), Noonan (1T): Murphy, Gordon: Chisnall, Ashcroft, Brady (1T), Nicholas (1T), Gregory (1T), B. Briggs. Subs: M. Philbin, Price (1T).

OLDHAM: Blair (1T, 2G), Elliott, Davies, Wainwright, O'Brien: Murphy (1T), Gorman: Clawson (2G), Taylor, Ashcroft, Goodwin, Munro, Farrell.
Half-time: 23-4 Attendance: 5,238 Referee: D. Kershaw (York).

The only time that Wire and Oldham have met in the John Player Trophy stretches back to the third year of the competition — 1973-4 Season. The competition was beginning to grow in stature with Wire taking the field as previous seasons league leaders winning 27 and drawing two of their 34 games.

Wire enjoyed almost total dominance in the first half, running in five tries to nil to blunt the visitors chance of further progress in the competition. A more resolute Oldham contributed to a lively second period gaining reward with tries from Blair and Murphy. Blair and Clawson with two goals each were the only other visiting scorers. Wire had little difficulty in keeping their distance from Oldham thanks to 5 Derek Whitehead goals and tries from backs Curling, Pickup, Noonan and forwards Brady, Nicholas, Gregory and Price — a good all round effort.

That victory became the springboard as Wire ran in further successes against Castleford (rd. 2) 18-9, Dewsbury (rd. 3) (20-12), St. Helens (semi final) 20-9 before beating Rochdale at Central Park, Wigan in the Final by 27 points to 16 points.



Previous action between the clubs.



1

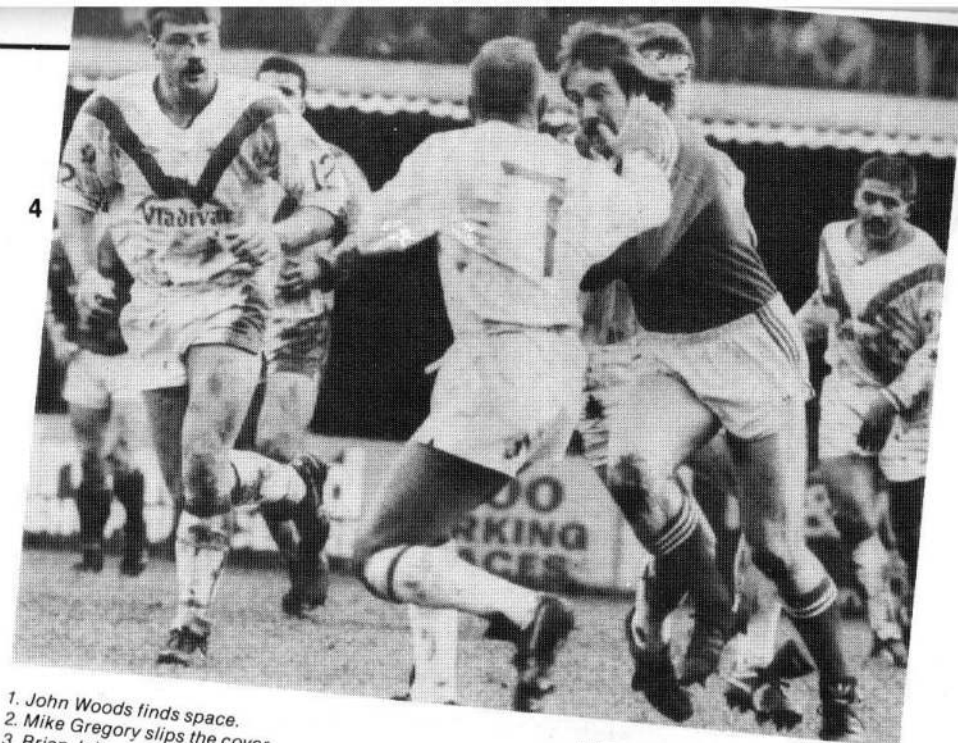


2



3

Photo's, Eddie Fuller of the
Warrington Guardian.

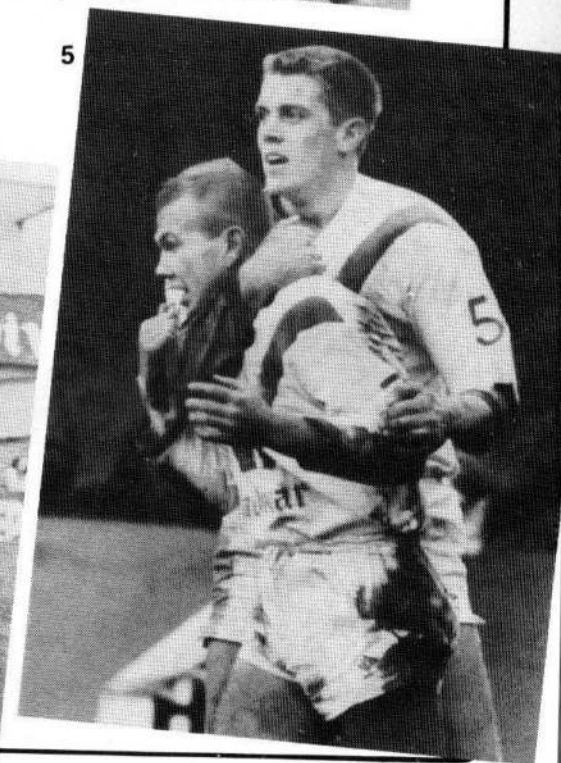


4

1. John Woods finds space.
2. Mike Gregory slips the cover.
3. Brian Johnson makes Mike Gregory's pass count.
4. Welcome back for Keith Holden.
5. Dave Lyon congratulates try scorer Keith Holden.
6. A welcome return to action for Tony Humphries.



6



5

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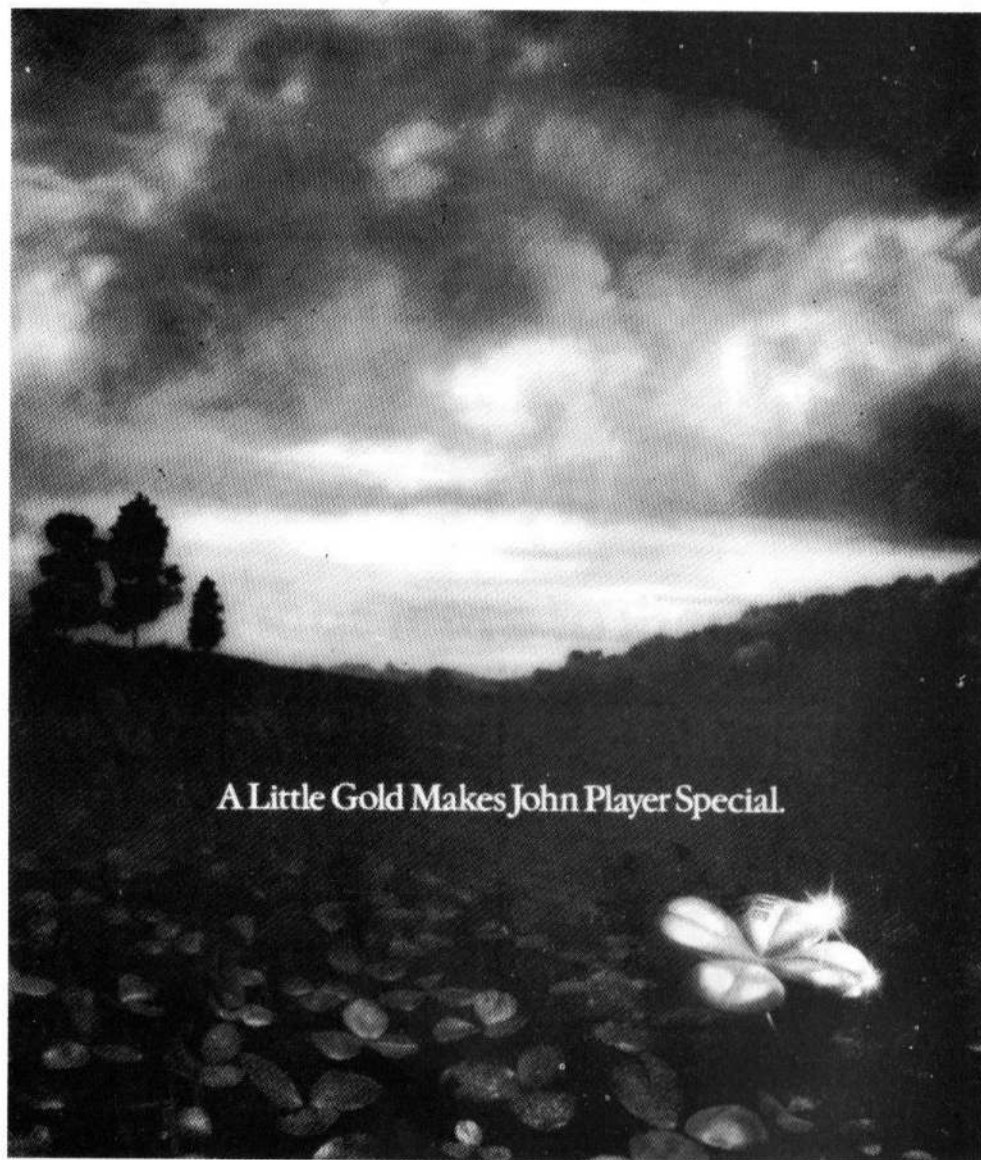
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OLDHAM R.L.F.C.

The last meeting at Wilderspool.
 Lancs. Cup Rd. 1. 13th Sept. 1987.
WARRINGTON 42 OLDHAM 8
WIRE: Johnson (1T), Drummond (1T),
 Cullen (3T), Peters, Ropati (2T),
 Woods (6G), Holden, Humphries,
 Tamati, Jackson (1G), Sanderson,
 Roberts, McGinty. Subs. M. Gregory,
 Knight.
OLDHAM: Atkinson (2G), Irving,
 Hawkyard, Meadows (1T), Edwards,
 Peters, Kirwan: Sherratt, Sanderson,
 Waddell, Worrall, Round, Graham.
 Subs: Copeland, Morrison.
 H.T. 14-2 Att: 5,615. Ref. C. Hodgson
 (Maryport).

TODAY'S REFEREE



JOHN HOLDSWORTH

Coach Eric Fitzsimmons has done a pruning job on Oldham's playing staff recently with a number of 'A' Teamers being listed. He is keen to bring the age of the 'A' team down and provide solid backing for his first team squad. Latest signing **Steve Robson** aged 24 made his professional debut against Batley last week but scored a try as an amateur in Oldham's fine win over Bradford in Round One. **MICK BURKE**, former GB Full back is firing again and was kicking goals last week for the first time this season. **KEITH ATKINSON** with twenty five goals is the number one kicker whilst Robinson will be competing with ex Saints and Wire winger **KEVIN MEADOWS**, **RICHARD IRVING** and **JEFF EDWARDS** for wing spots. The speedy **DES FOY** and goal kicking **MICK PARRISH** are challenged at centre by **BRIAN MCCARTHY** who has collected eight tries so far this term. Aussie **GARY WARNECKE** has now returned to the fold and Newcastle stand off **PETER WALSH** (5 tries) will be looking for a spot alongside top class No. 7 **PADDY KIRWAN**. Mick Worrall has moved on to Salford but this season's £65,000 forward from Saints **PAUL ROUND** is giving plenty of pace up front with 11 tries already. Hooker is three try **IAN SANDERSON** packing down between former Bradford prop **IAN SHERRATT** and **NEIL CLAWSON**, **MAL GRAHAM**, assistant coach and **COLIN**

HAWKYARD enjoying a fine season could be in the second row with Ex GB International **TERRY FLANAGHAN** at No. 13. Ex Blackpool prop **HUGH WADDELL** and ex Saints and wire **STEVE PETERS** will also challenge for places in the side. Oldham are already well placed to take the Second Division Championship and their stunning defeat of Bradford, who were having a good run, takes them well above lower division class. Here's to a good clean game with a lucrative semi-final to the winners.

J.P.S. TROPHY PROGRESS COMPARISON

Season	Wire	Oldham
1971/2	1st Round	1st Round
1972/3	1st Round	1st Round
1973/4	WINNERS	1st Round
1974/5	3rd Round	2nd Round
1975/6	1st Round	2nd Round
1976/7	1st Round	2nd Round
1977/8	WINNERS	2nd Round
1978/9	Runners Up	1st Round
1979/80	3rd Round	1st Round
1980/1	WINNERS	1st Round
1981/2	2nd round	Semi-Final
1982/3	Semi-Final	1st Round
1984/5	1st Round	2nd Round
1985/6	3rd Round	2nd Round
1986/7	Runners up	1st Round

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Warrington Rugby League Supporters Club

WELCOME

Welcome to Saturday football. Dark horses for the trophy, Oldham provide attractive opposition here at Wilderspool today. The men from Watersheddings are unbeaten for seven matches and are looking to create an upset. Let us hope the game is a treat for the T.V. cameras and Des Lynam!

PREVIOUS CLASH

Warrington and Oldham have met only once before in the John Player Trophy, that was in a First Round match in September 1973. The Wire won easily enough 31-14, scoring seven tries in the process, eventually becoming the Trophy winners by defeating Rochdale Hornets at Central Park.

JOHN PLAYER TRIVIA

This will be Warrington's 52nd match in the John Player competition. Warrington have never lost to a Second Division team in the John Player Trophy at Wilderspool (sorry Oldham!).

Last week's win against Hull K.R. made it four out of five against them and in no match did more than four points separate the teams. Wire have lost to Wigan on all three occasions and the Pie-eaters have gone on to win the Trophy each time!

Ace winger John Bevan scored twenty three tries for Warrington in John Player matches, and at least one in each Trophy winning final. Des Drummond scored five tries and John Woods kicked ten goals in a John Player Second Round match at Carlisle, for Leigh in 1983.

QUIZ

Sorry to relate — but both our Supporters Club Quiz teams got knocked out of the Second Round of the Brian Moore Memorial Trophy. The 'A' team put up a valiant fight before going down at the Warrington Conservative Club, whilst the 'B' team always struggled against top class opposition from Padgate Community Centre, finally going down by 21 points to 35 despite a gallant performance by one of their members!

HULL K.R.

Last weeks tense 2nd Round clash with Hull K.R. produced the following points award given by supporters at the game. Mike Gregory was 'top

with 7 points, then came the dynamic half back duo of Keith Holden (5) and John Woods (4), with Ronnie Duane and Kevin Tamati picking up a point each. All the points are transferred to a 'table', the eventual winners being presented with the Irene Spilling Trophy at the Supporters' Club Awards ceremony next May. This event is kindly sponsored by DAVID TABRON (High Class Painter and Decorator), Padgate 816603.

SPRAYER

The Wilderspool pitch has stood up remarkably well in recent weeks to the hammer given out by the elements (especially rain), and the number of games played. Credit must go to the ground staff, the unsung heroes, for doing such a good job. Recently the Supporters' Club purchased a "sprayer and extension" to make their task of keeping the turf in first class condition much easier. Keep up the good work lads.

NEW YEARS EVE

Our annual New Years Eve Disco in the Touchdown Taverners Social Club promises to be as good as ever. Tickets will be on sale at next weeks home match against Swinton.

SOUVENIRS

Stuck for Christmas presents? Why not pop down to the Souvenir shop at the Fletcher End of the ground. Latest items include plastic 'coin holders' at £1.50 or Warrington umbrellas, particularly useful after the recent bad weather! Lots of other 'goodies' including programmes, badges, hats etc. also available.

SUPPORTERS TALK

With reference to a recent article about 'Far Flung Fans' the Supporters' Club received a letter from a Mr. Darbyshire of Great Sutton, South Wirral. His father travels to Wire matches from his home between Llandudno and Bangor in North Wales regularly, and has been a supporter for nearly FIFTY years. They have listed this Warrington team to be the best of those seen since the war: 1. Fraser. 2. B. Bevan. 3. Challinor. 4. A. Naughton. 5. Johnson. 6. Fulton. 7. Helme. 8. Chisnall. 9. Ashcroft. 10. Riley. 11. Bath. 12. Ryan. 13. Palin. Maybe other supporters of the club will have different views — why not write in?

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THE 1987/88 JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL TROPHY COMPETITION

This is the 17th season of the John Player Special Trophy and the 21st Year of Imperial Tobacco's involvement with the Rugby League. To mark this anniversary, the league's longest running sponsors have increased the value of their support by 76% — taking this season's sponsorship to a record £150,000. This is divided into two parts — £85,000 in prize money for the John Player Special Trophy competition and £65,000 to the League's capital development fund. The increased support is part of a new two-year agreement worth a total of £320,000 and will take Imperial Tobacco's sponsorship of Rugby League since 1967 past the £1 million mark.

The prize structure for this year's competition is:-

Preliminary Round	— £1,100 each club	1986-87
First Round	— £1,100 to losers	£800
Second Round	— £1,600 to losers	£800
Third Round	— £2,825 to losers	£1,100
Semi-Finals	— £4,750 to losers	£1,700
Runners-Up	— £9,000	£3,000
Winner	— £16,000	£6,000
		£12,000

The round by round dates, including today's are:

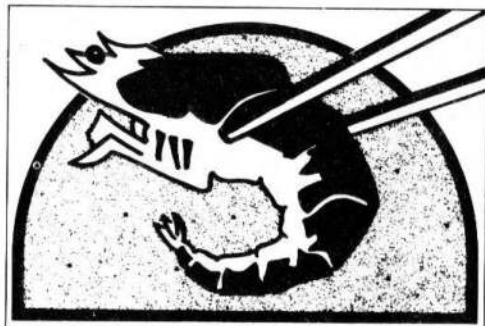
Third Round	— Weekend of 28/29 November 1987
First Semi-Final	— Saturday, 12 December 1987
Second Semi-Final	— Saturday, 19 December 1987
Final	— Saturday, 9 January 1988

The draw for the semi-finals of the John Player Special Trophy Rugby League competition will be made next Monday morning (30th November 1987), at 7.40 a.m. and broadcast over local radio stations in the North.

TODAY'S GAMES

THE Quarter Final stage of the John Player Special Trophy gives the last chance to make home advantage pay and Salford Coach Kevin Ashcroft, the most devout man in RL had his prayers answered when SALFORD drew favourites WIGAN at the Willows. If you're going to win the Trophy you've got to beat Wigan somewhere, so what better place than The Willows. This is a repeat of the 1982/3 season when the same sides met at the same venue and the same stage of the same competition. On that occasion Wigan were a shade fortunate to gain a 5-4 victory but went on to beat Leeds in the final. Salford will have to play to full potential to keep the game as close today. SPRINGFIELD BOROUGH have arrived in the Quarter final on merit, having beaten Barrow and Wakefield. The luck of the draw gives them another home tie in the shape of Big Money Club, LEEDS. All the other clubs were fancying Springfield as opponents, but cup-ties, as we have seen already, are not all that predictable. The last time Borough (as Blackpool) reached the third round they went all the way to the final and no one expected that either. Of course Leeds

should win but let's hope Springfield do well and enjoy a super gate. ST. HELENS are a side in form and they have played numerous cup ties against today's visitors HULL in recent years. Their last JPS meeting came at Knowsley Road in 1985/6 at the same stage with Saints fans enjoying a sensational 57-14 win, which may well have cost Arthur Bunting his job as Hull coach. I cannot see such a humiliation this time but the young Hull side are still learning and will find the going tough. WARRINGTON were first out of the bag in Monday's draw and OLDHAM must have groaned, having already made the trip to Wilderspool this season in the Lancashire Cup Round One. Wayward goal kicking cost Oldham their only Division Two defeat (at Doncaster 20-18) and their 22-6 win over Bradford was no fluke so clearly they must not be under-estimated, they are Division One material. On their day Wire can take on the best, the ball has not been running their way and that is due to change if luck evens out. If you keep winning without luck, you can surely win with it.

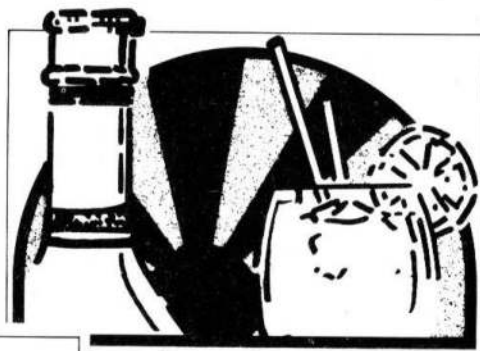


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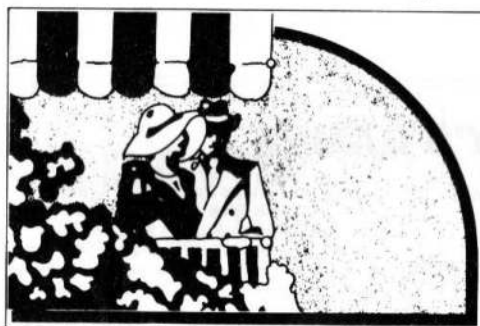
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ALLIANCE

ALLIANCE LEAGUE — WEDNESDAY 18th NOVEMBER 1987
WIZARDS 20 pts. LEIGH 'A' 16 pts.

WIZARDS: Damien Gregory: Geary, McGinty, Ropati, Williamson: Turner, Abram: Steve Jackson, Thursfield, Mark Jackson, Molloy, Capewell, Knight. **Subs:** A.N.O., A.N.O. A good decision to bring this game forward from Friday to give Tony Barrow a chance to try out some of his hospital cases backfired as Boyd and Jackson got the thumbs down from the medico. Humphries needed a little more time and Roskell could not make it. On the plus side Billy McGinty had a run at centre as did Joe Ropati who was strangely out of character at Carlisle. Coming back too early can be a problem but at the moment needs must, it's all shoulders to the wheel. Ken's side were flat to the boards with some heavy door knocking required to rustle up a couple of substitutes.

An early **TURNER** penalty was countered by Leigh before Turner sent the ball wide to **STEVE JACKSON** who after being held short of the line tapped forward and touched down. Turner's shot was just short. Leigh quickly replied with a try under the posts plus conversion. 12 minutes on the clock 6-8 down. Ropati got the ball away to Turner who cut through cleverly to find **DAMIEN GREGORY** backing up for a top class try. **TURNER** added the two (12-8). Leigh hit back with a penalty but **TURNER** booted two more home to make the interval score 16-10, which was not flattering to Wizards. In the second period the official went berserk with the whistle penalising the home side repeatedly for all sorts of rule book trivia mainly directed at Darren Abram who was only trying to get the ball into the scrum. Five minutes into the half **ROPATI** was on hand to make the most of a good passing movement which ended Wizard's scoring. Ex Wire player **JOHN KERR** quickly hit back with one of his electric heeled specials which was converted. 20-16 with 35 minutes to go. The effort put in by both sides deserved better than this, the remainder of the game was completely ruined as a spectacle. Mark Jackson enjoyed a fine game but came off late on with a cut over the eye. Mark Knight and Steve Molloy were seldom out of the action and Turner's passing of the ball and intelligent use of the boot is fast becoming a feature of Wizards play. Keep em at it Ken ...



Robert 'Rocky' Turner — Clever hands — Educated boot.



Damien Gregory — Classic try.

Warrington R.L.F.C.

Up to and including HULL K.R. at home on 22.11.87.

WARRINGTON R.L.F.C. APPEARANCES TRIES AND GOAL SCORERS

SEASON 86/87						ALL SEASONS					
PLAYER	APP.	SUB.	TRIES	GOALS	D/GLS.	APP.	SUB.	TRIES	GOALS	D/GLS.	
ABRAM, D.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
BISHOP, P.	-	-	-	-	-	57	7	26	169	30	-
BOYD, L.	-	2	-	-	-	58	2	18	-	-	-
CAMPBELL, R. ...	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	1	-	-	-
CAPEWELL, P. ...	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
CARBERT, B. ...	5	-	3	-	-	80	2	37	118	-	-
CROMPTON, M. ...	1	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-
CULLEN, P.	7	1	3	-	-	132	4	27	-	-	-
DRUMMOND, D. ...	14	-	12	-	-	31	-	20	-	-	-
DUANE, R.	4	-	1	-	-	133	8	46	128	-	-
FORD, P.	-	-	-	-	-	80	15	5	65	7	-
FORSTER, M.	7	1	2	-	-	118	9	51	-	-	-
GREGORY, M. ...	10	3	3	-	-	125	18	32	-	-	-
HARMON, N.	5	3	1	-	-	7	3	1	-	-	-
HOLDEN, K.	14	-	3	-	1	23	-	5	-	1	-
HUMPHRIES, F. ...	10	1	3	-	-	18	11	5	-	-	-
JACKSON, R.	5	2	1	1	-	110	2	20	8	1	-
JOHNSON, B. ...	15	-	4	-	-	81	2	42	-	-	-
KELLY, K.	-	-	-	-	-	301	15	73	-	10	-
KNIGHT, M.	-	2	-	-	-	2	8	1	-	-	-
McGINTY, W. ...	6	1	2	-	-	25	24	6	-	-	-
MORRIS, S.	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-
MOSSOP, A.	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-
PETERS, B.	14	1	3	-	-	37	9	7	-	-	-
ROBERTS, M. ...	14	-	10	-	-	79	10	36	-	-	-
ROPATI, J.	6	-	3	-	-	38	1	22	-	-	-
ROSKELL, M. ...	5	-	1	-	-	16	-	2	-	-	-
SANDERSON, G. ...	12	1	1	-	-	42	7	4	-	-	-
SCOTT, A.	-	-	-	-	-	31	15	5	2	1	-
TAMATI, K.	15	-	1	-	-	79	6	4	-	-	-
THORNILEY, A. ...	2	2	2	-	-	2	3	2	-	-	-
WEBB, C.	7	1	-	-	-	102	17	12	-	-	-
WOODS, J.	14	-	6	67	1	14	-	6	67	1	-
WORRALL, A. ...	-	-	-	-	-	71	34	3	-	-	-
BACON, M.	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
LYON, D.	1	3	1	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-
TURNER, R.	1	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	4	-	-
JACKSON, M. ...	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-

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AUGUST

Sun. 16th Wigan (Locker Cup) H W 28-20
 Sun. 30th Hunslet H W 54- 4

SEPTEMBER

Sun. 6th Halifax A W 19-10
 Sun. 13th Oldham Lancs Cup 1 H W 42- 8
 Sun. 20th St. Helens H W 24-20
 Wed. 23rd Workington Lancs. Cup 2 ... A W 50-10
 Sun. 27th Castleford A W 40-30
 Wed. 30th Swinton (S.F.L.C.Cup) HW 44- 6

OCTOBER

Sun. 4th Hull K.R. H W 36- 0
 Sun. 11th Wigan (Final L.C. Cup) N L 16-28
 Sun. 18th Leeds H1 H D 20-20
 Tue. 27th Auckland (7.30) H L 16-22

NOVEMBER

Sun. 1st Hull K.R. A L 0-17
 Sun. 8th Halifax H W 15- 8
 Sun. 15th Carlisle (J.P. 1) A W 22-16
 Sun. 22nd Hull KR (J.P. 2) H W 12- 8
 Sun. 29th Oldham (J.P. 3) H

DECEMBER

Sun. 6th Swinton H
 Sun. 12th John Player Cup 1st Rd. S/F A
 Sun. 13th St. Helens A
 Sat. 19th John Player Cup 2nd S/F
 Sun. 20th Bradford 3pm(Re-arranged) . H
 Sun. 27th Widnes A

JANUARY

Fri. 1st Wigan H
 Sun. 3rd
 Sat. 9th Hunslet A
 Sun. 17th Castleford H
 Sun. 24th Wigan A
 Sun. 31st Challenge Cup 1st Rd.

FEBRUARY

Sun. 7th
 Sun. 14th Challenge Cup 2nd Rd
 Sun. 21st Bradford N A
 Sun. 28th Hull Chall. Cup 3rd Rd. W

MARCH

Sun. 6th
 Sun. 12th 1st S/F Chall. Cup
 Sun. 13th Leeds A
 Sun. 20th Leigh H
 Sun. 26th 2nd S/F Chall. Cup
 Sun. 27th Salford A

APRIL

Sun. 1st Widnes H
 Mon. 4th Leigh A
 Sun. 10th Salford H
 Sun. 17th

ALLIANCE FIXTURES 1987/88

AUGUST

Fri. 28th Hunslet A 7.30 L 12-20

SEPTEMBER

Fri. 4th Halifax H 7.30 W 60-26
 Fri. 11th Widnes A 7.30 W 25-14
 Fri. 18th St. Helens A 7.30 W 30-22
 Fri. 25th Castleford H 7.30 W 24- 0

OCTOBER

Sat. 3rd Barrow (Shield Rd. 1) H W 36-10
 Fri. 9th Swinton H 7.30
 Sat. 17th Lancs. Combination
 Wed. 21st Oldham (Shield Rd. 2) H W 18- 5
 Fri. 30th Crosfields (Shield Semi) .. A W 25- 7

NOVEMBER

Fri. 6th Halifax A 7.30 L 18-30
 Fri. 13th Leeds A 7.30 Post.
 Wed. 18th Leigh H 7.30 W 20-16
 Wed. 25th Hull H 8.00

DECEMBER

Fri. 4th Swinton 'A' Shield Final ... H 7.30
 Sat. 5th Swinton A 2.15
 Fri. 11th St. Helens H 7.30
 Sat. 19th Hull K.R. A 2.15
 Sat. 26th

JANUARY

Sat. 2nd Wigan A 3.00
 Fri. 8th Hunslet H 7.30
 Fri. 15th Castleford A 7.30
 Fri. 22nd Wigan H 7.30
 Fri. 29th Salford H 7.30

FEBRUARY

Sat. 6th Slalom Lager Alliance
 Challenge Cup - 1st Rd.
 Fri. 12th Salford A 7.30
 Sat. 20th Slalom Lager Alliance
 Challenge Cup - 2nd Rd.
 Sat. 27th Hull A 3.00

MARCH

Fri. 4th Widnes H 7.30
 Fri. 11th Leeds H 7.30
 Fri. 18th Leigh A 7.30