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**SILK CUT
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CUP**



SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP
ROUND ONE

WARRINGTON v OLDHAM

SUNDAY 31st JANUARY 1988

KICK OFF 3.00 p.m.

Official
programme
60p



WARRINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB LTD.

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Match information: 571744

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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

NOTEBOOK

FOR the third time this season we have pleasure in welcoming the directors, players, staff and supporters from Oldham in a Cup competition. With one success each today's game promises to be a thriller for both sets of supporters.

Our Mitre Match Ball has been kindly donated by Craig Tinsley Electrical Co. Ltd., of Unit 2, Parkdale Industrial Estate, Howley (Tel. 34697). We welcome their representatives and guests and trust they will enjoy a pleasant afternoon.

Pre match entertainment is provided once more by the Warrington Junior Schools 'Miller Sevens' competition with two games:
2.05 p.m. Barrowhall Lane v. Bewsey
2.20 p.m. St. Barnabas v. Sacred Heart.

David Prince, chairman of the Warrington Junior Schools Association reminds us that Woolston Rovers ARLFC in conjunction with the Association will be taking three teams (Under 13, 15 and 16) to France this Easter. To help with funds a Programme Fair will be held in the Touchdown Club from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday 5th March 1988. Anyone wishing to donate programmes, or Hire a Table for personal sales can contact David on 0925 815694. Admission on the day is only 20p. Refreshments available.

All supporters are requested to cooperate by not parking vehicles in residential streets close to the ground. Apart from annoyance to residents they can constitute an obstruction and danger to emergency services. Town centre parking facilities are free on Sundays and Wilderspool Stadium is only a short walk across Warrington Bridge.

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Tony Barrow



TEN days in Rugby League can be a nightmare. With problems on the field we could well have done without that trip to Chapeltown Road over the hyped up altercation with Wigan and my own personal appearance leaves me with a feeling of sadness that much of the fun, give and take and bonhomie is dying out of the game.

We cannot dwell too long over that, it has happened and maybe we will all learn a little from the experience.

Encouraged by our form (despite losing), at Widnes, I had good grounds for believing that things were at last coming right again and the performances of which we know we are capable were within reach.

Our first half against Huddersfield in the Silk Cut Preliminary Round tie was clinical enough with Keith Holden again linking well with John Woods. At half time the game was won and Keith was brought off with a damaged hand. Huddersfield were not the most testing opposition but the only place to get things right is out there on the field.

A mid week visit to the Boulevard is not anyone's choice of a holiday but we had the ammunition on the field to win this game. After twenty minutes of dominance, as at Elland Road we allowed inferior (on paper) opposition to dictate the game. Hull suddenly began to believe in themselves and I was disappointed in the way our side and the pack in particular faded. Hull were nothing clever but tackled and backed each other up brilliantly to give some of our players a lesson.

I am looking for some answers from some tarnished reputations and those answers can only be supplied by action on the field. We have seen the commitment Oldham can provide on the day and no one is in any doubt as to what is required. In recent weeks we have built up a reasonable home and away following and those spectators will demand are entitled to get total commitment from each player for eighty minutes. Nothing less will be acceptable.

NEXT AT WILDERSPOOL
SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE CUP ROUND ONE
SATURDAY 6th FEBRUARY 1988. KICK OFF 3 p.m.
WIZARDS v WHITEHAVEN 'A'

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP
SUNDAY 7th FEBRUARY 1988. KICK OFF 3 p.m.
WIRE v CASTLEFORD

N.B. The draw for Round Two of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup can be seen 'live' on BBC Look North between 6.35 and 7 p.m. on Monday next.

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Match Report



SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP PRELIMINARY
ROUND AT WILDERSPOOL
SUNDAY 17th JANUARY 1988

WARRINGTON 48 pts. HUDDERSFIELD 10 pts.

WIRE: Johnson; Drummond, Lyon, Ropati,
Forster; Woods, Holden; Boyd, Webb, Tamati,
Jackson, Duane, McGinty. Subs. B. Peters,
Sanderson.

HUDDERSFIELD: Bostock, Lee, Farrell, Thomas,
St. Helaire; Hamilton, Meeham; Johnson, Cook,
Woods, Boothroyd, Simpson, Swale. A. Edwards,
A. Dickenson.

Referee: K. Dockray. **Kick off:** 3 p.m.

WOODS opened the account with a three minute penalty for a poor attempt to provoke Les Boyd. On seven minutes **BOYD** retaliated in the best possible way by crashing through a wilting defence to touch down after a Webb pass. No goal but Wire were well in command and it came as no surprise when Holden slipped **LYON** away for the centre to exchange passes with Drummond to be on hand to score under the posts in a move started in Wires 25. **WOODS** obliged, then added a penalty goal for offside. On 19 minutes McGinty slipped a beautiful pass to **JOHNSON** who glided through the opposition as though they did not exist. **WOODS** took the score to 20 nil. On 24 minutes Holden hesitated long enough at the scrum to create confusion and enough space for **WOODS** to race away from half way. **WOODS** conversion ended the first half scoring although Boyd crossed the line only to be pulled back for an infringement. As a contest the game was over with Holden leaving no doubts about his importance to

the side, giving Woods the space to weave his own brand of magic. Bob Jackson took a prominent place in the pack with McGinty always on hand to make the breaks, so non-existent at Elland Road.

Peters replaced Holden who had damaged a finger. Twelve minutes into the half Wire built up pressure until Boyd sent **McGINTY** crashing over the line, only to collect an ankle injury. No goal as Sanderson replaced McGinty. Twenty minutes into the second period saw Jackson feed **LYON** who made the most of his strength to bundle three tacklers over the line. **WOODS** converted and did so again two minutes later when a Peters break saw Lyon put **ROPATI** away.

On 66 minutes substitute **EDWARDS** gave Huddersfield something to smile about when the Wire line was stretched as he touched down in the Railway corner. A swift passing move saw **ROPATI** score after looking to be held and **WOODS** completed his sizeable contribution with his eighth goal to add to his first half try. Four minutes from time saw a ball skid away from Johnson and allow forward **BOOTHROYD** to score. **FARRELL** brought the visitors total to double figures with the conversion.

Woods took the M.O.M. as selected by the Press and reached the 100 mark with his third goal of the afternoon. Lyon also did well in the backs whilst Jackson was back to his Mr. Non stop in the pack.

In Mr. Dockray we had a referee who clearly enjoyed his rugby, seldom far away from the action, he kept smiling whilst cajoling minor offenders and even held a seminar stood between the two warring packs. Not vintage Wire but with Holden back some of the early season continuity returned.

DATA

Progressive score (Wire first): 2-0, 6-0, 12-0, 14-0, 20-0, 26-0, HT 30-0, 36-0, 42-0, 42-4, 48-4, 48-10.

Substitutions:

Wire: Peters for Holden 40. Sanderson for McGinty 53.

Huddersfield: Dickenson for Simpson 26. Edwards for Hamilton 54. Hamilton for Thomas 60. Simpson for Swale 60.

Scrums: Wire 13 Hudd. 14

Pens: Wire 8 Hudd. 6

Attendance: 3,500.



JOHN WOODS



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Match Report



STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP
AT THE BOULEVARD, Wednesday 20th Jan. 1988
HULL F.C. 22 WARRINGTON 4 pts.

HULL F.C. Fletcher: Eastwood, Vass, Leuluai, Brand: Pearce, McCaffery: Tomlinson, Crooks, S., Carroll, Brooks, Regan, Divorty. Subs. Dick, Wilby.

WIRE: Johnson, Lyon, McGinty, Ropati, Forster: Woods, Holden: Boyd, Webb, Tamati, Jackson, Duane, M., Gregory. Subs. Peters, Sanderson.

Kick off: 7.30 p.m. **Referee:** R.F. Tennant.

As in the Hunslet fiasco, Wire dominated the early play and laid siege to the Hull line. No points materialised and with the Wire defence up on attack, Hull broke through for **McCAFFERY** to score **PEARCE** goaled. Six nil. We are told this was the first Hull try in 267 minutes of rugby and it was just the tonic the home side needed. They quickly realised that big names without big actions mean very little on the day and this wire side was there for the taking. The first half interspersed with penalties and scrums ended at six-nil.

Len Casey had read the signs and two minutes into the second half Hull broke through again with Johnson out with the washing and no Drummond to cover at the back. **BROOK** touched down and **PEARCE** who had begun the move by stealing the ball from Tamati added the goal. 12-nil became 14-nil two minutes later as **PEARCE** made Wire pay for lying on in the tackle. After fifty minutes

WOODS put Wire's first points on the board with a penalty — also for lying on. Thus encouraged, the out half put up a towering 'up and under' from which Webb went close. From the ensuing scrappy play **MIKE GREGORY** touched down and **WOODS** gave us hope, bringing the score to 14-8. On 62 minutes **DIVORTY** booted home a drop goal from a mile out. Another four minutes and Pearce who is only a little faster than me slipped through for want of a better description the Wire 'cover' and sent **McCAFFERY** flying away for his second try under the sticks. **PEARCE** did the necessary and at 21-8 the most fervent Wire supporter began to have his doubts. With eight to go **CROOKS** added salt to our wounds with another drop goal. The persistent **WOODS** came back with a late try after combining with Holden and Ropati, then added the two to bring a little more respectability to the scoreline at 22-14.

Hull, as their records show, are no great shakes but with most of the big name stars a thing of the past, the lads have to earn their crust by hard work — a factor sadly lacking in the Wire ranks.

If that wally from the S.D.P. had been watching this lot with a Wire scarf around his neck, he would have wept buckets full.

As Mr. Barrow says so often — You get nowt without hard work. From the Boulevard we got just that — nowt.

DATA

Progressive score (Hull first): 6-0 HT. 12-0, 14-0, 14-2, 14-8, 15-8, 21-8, 22-8, 22-14.

Substitutions

Wire: Sanderson for Jackson 44. Jackson for Boyd 66. Peters for Tamati 66.

Scrums: Hull 10 Wire 9 (22)

Pens: Hull 11 Wire 14

Attendance: 3,583.



JOHN WOODS



Vladivar

THE IMPERIAL SPIRIT LIVES

Today's Silk Cut Challenge Cup Round One Games

WIGAN v. BRADFORD Played yesterday.

DEWSBURY v. WIDNES Bottom of Division Two take on Top of Division One. Need we say more?

DONCASTER v. BATLEY Batley won 12-8 at Doncaster in September. This could be equally close.

FEATHERSTONE v. YORK York enjoyed an early season home win over Fev. The home side have improved and have retained most of their best players. Post Office road is no place for the faint hearted.

FULHAM v. MANSFIELD The Londoners have a fair home record and Mansfield will not understand those Cockney accents in the crowd. I'll help them — bag of coal — goal, Tsetse Fly — Try.

HEWORTH v. HALIFAX Crowds at Wigginton Road will be greatly welcomed — even if they are mostly from Thrum Hall. Halifax are the Cup Holders and will not forget it.

HULL K.R. v. CARLISLE Carlisle have proved that they can rise to the occasion. Craven Park is another ball game.

KEIGHLEY v. WORKINGTON Keighley won 19-11 early season in a league game. Both clubs in forgotten areas have shown welcome improvement and this could be a tight game with maybe a replay.

LEEDS v. CASTLEFORD Losing J.P. Finalists, Leeds will be looking to improve on that and the locals will not contemplate defeat. Cas continue to be unpredictable. Are they good enough?

LEIGH v. ST. HELENS Leigh will remember that they put Saints out of the Lancashire Cup. Benyon will psyche his side up. Murphy's Saints are riding high and will remember an unlucky defeat at Wembley last year. They could return.

HUNSLET v. HULL Both sides surprised the uncommitted by taking Wire to the cleaners recently by mind over matter. Home advantage and knowledge of those wide open Elland Road spaces could tell, but Hull could be on the up and up and may win.

ROCHDALE v. BARROW Barrow won 11-9 at Rochdale in November. Rochdale have the better recent form. Barrow have the experience.

RUNCORN v. SPRINGFIELD BORO. Runcorn won the league encounter by 26-20 — goal kicking being the difference. Springfield have disappointed a little. With ex Wires players on each side it could be interesting. Eccles in the right mood could do it.

SALFORD v. SWINTON Salford won the Boxing Day meeting 36-8. Swinton are in some sort of trouble with transfer requests. Passion and Pride sometime win through. They will need a lot of both to quieten Kevin.

WAKEFIELD v. SHEFFIELD Trinity won 14-12 — by a goal kick at Sheffield early season. Both sides have maintained good form since and have top four aspirations. Trinity have the experience which counts in Cup ties.

WARRINGTON v. OLDHAM Oldham know that they can win this, having done it in the J.P. Wire know they have enough talent to beat any side and have proved it. Reputations mean very little when the gloves are off. The side which works hardest will win.

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Bert's View

ON THE SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP PRELIMINARY ROUND

13.1.88. KELLS 0 LEEDS 28 GI. Creasser 2: Trs. Gibson 2, Schofield, Gurr, Stephens, Lyon. The attendance shows that a bit of enterprise could bring better days to Cumberland. Class won the day. H.T. 0-16. Att. 4,874.

15.1.88. LEIGH MINERS 4 HUNSLET 23. Leigh M. Trs. Cooke. Hunslet: G. Platt 3 & 1 D/G. T. Tate, Senior, Lay, Irvine. H.T. 0-12. Att. 3,508. Miners picked up 4 points in the closing minutes and at the start held Hunslet at bay for 22 minutes. The rest of the game was Hunslet's.

17.1.88. BRAMLEY 6 SHEFFIELD E. 14. Bramley: G. Kilner, T. Bond. Sheff. E: G. Close, T. Nelson, McDermott, Luxbury. H.T. 6-4. Att. 1,035. Eagles continue to show steady improvement and deserve their moments of success.

17.1.88. CARLISLE 8 WHITEHAVEN 8. Carlisle: G. Tunstall 2, T. Lithgoe. Whitehaven: T. Lightfoot, Ackerman. H.T. 0-4. Att. 1,900. Carlisle were lucky to gain a replay with a try five minutes from time after being second best. Must have learnt from Wire's great escape.

17.1.88. HEWORTH 11 WEST HULL 4. Heworth: G. Rennison 3, D/G Butler, T. Tindall. W. Hull: G. Lumb 2. H.T. 6-4. Att. 1,122. Two top amateur sides produced a fine game with only one try scored. Winners home to Halifax — a great financial boost.

17.1.88. WARRINGTON 48 HUDDERSFIELD 10. Warr: G. Woods 8, T. Lyon 2, Ropati 2, Boyd, Woods, Johnson, McGinty. Hudd: G. Farrel, T. Edwards, Boothroyd. H.T. 26-nil. Att. 3,500. The visitors never gave up an unequal struggle, picking up ten late points. Woods reached his ton of two pointers for the season.

REPLAY

20.1.88. WHITEHAVEN 8 CARLISLE 22. W'Haven: G. Lofthouse 2, T. Ackerman. Carlisle: G. Tunstall 3, T. Armstrong, Lithgoe, Mills, Coles. H.T. 8-12. Att. 2,600. A complete turn around in this replay where the home side were home bankers. Get the mental attitude right and you can move mountains — or mud.

RUGBY LEAGUE ROUTEWAY

The popular Rugby League Routeway is once again available giving AA recommended routes to the professional grounds from the nearest motorway. The 1988 edition of the Rugby League Routeway — sponsored by the Stones Bitter Rugby League Call which provides a round-the-clock information service on 0898-121177 — is an essential aid for the travelling Rugby League fan and is now available priced at 80p plus 20p packing and postage from: The Public Relations Department, The Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds LS7 4HT.

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TOP TEN TRY SCORERS

1. MARTIN OFFIAH (Widnes)	25
ELLERY HANLEY (Wigan)	25
3. SHAUN EDWARDS (Wigan)	16
LES QUIRK (St. Helens)	16
DES DRUMMOND (Warrington)	16
CARL GIBSON (Leeds)	16
7. CHRIS BIBB (Featherstone R.)	15
8. HENDERSON GILL (Wigan)	14
PAUL ROUND (Oldham)	14
DAVID CREASSER (Leeds)	14

TOP TEN GOAL SCORERS

1. JOHN WOODS (Warrington)	106
2. DAVID STEPHENSON (Leeds)	73
3. KEVIN HARCUMBE (Wakefield T.) ...	72
4. STEVE QUINN (Featherstone R.)	66
5. MIKE FLETCHER (Hull K.R.)	64
GARY PEARCE (Hull)	64
7. MIKE SMITH (Springfield B.)	60
8. DAVID NOBLE (Doncaster)	57
PAUL LOUGHLIN (St. Helens)	57
10. JOHN MYLER (Widnes)	52

TOP FIVE POINT SCORERS

	Trs.	Gl.s.	D.Gls.	Pts
1. John Woods (Warr.)	9	103	3	245
2. David Stephenson (Leeds)	6	73	0	170
3. Kevin Harcombe (Wakef.)	3	72	0	156
4. Steve Quinn (Feath'stone)	4	65	1	147
5. David Creasser (Leeds) ..	13	43	0	138

FIRST CENTURY

John Woods of Warrington became the first player to kick a century of goals this season when he took his total to 103 with eight in the 48-10 Silk Cut Challenge Cup Preliminary round home defeat of Huddersfield on Sunday 17th January.

LONGEST WINNING RUN

Featherstone Rovers extended their winning run to eight matches — all in Division Two — with a 13-4 away defeat of Batley on Sunday.

LONGEST LOSING RUN

Dewsbury's losing run was extended to nine matches with a 18-12 away defeat against Doncaster on Sunday. They have lost one John Player Special Trophy tie and eight Division Two matches in a row.

MILESTONES

Gary Hyde of Castleford needs one try for a career century of Division One touchdowns. Henderson Gill of Wigan needs two tries for a career century of Division One touchdowns. Malcolm Agar of Batley needs seven goals for a career total of 500. Phil Ford of Bradford Northern needs three tries for a career century of Division One touchdowns. Peter Lister of Bramley needs three tries for a career century of touchdowns.

RUGBY LEAGUE STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Widnes	17	14	0	3	403	211	28
Bradford Northern ...	17	11	0	6	306	219	22
Leeds	14	9	3	2	332	199	21
Wigan	15	9	2	4	367	210	20
Warrington	15	8	2	5	341	227	18
Hull K.R.	17	8	1	8	300	313	17
St. Helens	13	8	0	5	276	203	16
Halifax	18	8	0	10	323	293	16
Castleford	15	8	0	7	271	301	16
Leigh	16	6	0	10	250	352	12
Hull	15	6	0	9	196	320	12
Salford	16	5	0	11	198	317	10
Hunslet	17	3	2	12	263	424	8
Swinton	15	1	2	12	179	416	4

DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Featherstone R.	18	13	1	4	428	236	27
Sheffield	20	13	1	6	367	243	27
Oldham	16	13	0	3	403	208	26
Wakefield	16	12	1	3	426	186	25
Workington	17	12	0	5	251	209	24
Runcorn	16	10	0	6	279	249	20
Springfield B.	17	10	0	7	258	262	20
Barrow	18	9	1	8	223	286	19
Keighley	19	9	0	10	317	312	18
Rochdale	18	9	0	9	205	291	18
York	17	8	1	8	307	323	17
Mansfield	19	8	1	10	289	342	17
Doncaster	20	7	2	11	313	373	16
Carlisle	15	7	1	7	209	239	15
Fulham	18	6	0	12	247	366	12
Bramley	19	6	0	13	265	414	12
Batley	19	5	1	11	189	238	11
Whitehaven	15	5	0	10	212	222	10
Huddersfield	16	4	0	12	227	291	8
Dewsbury	17	3	0	14	227	352	6

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Flashback

Season 1985/6 Silk Cut Challenge Cup Round Two
OLDHAM 13 WARRINGTON 6 (23.2.86.)

OLDHAM: D. Liddiard, M'Barki, Foy (1T.1 D/G), Warnecke, Taylor, G. Liddiard, Ashton, Jones, Sanderson, Hobbs, Worrall (1T, 2G), Graham, Flanagan. **Subs:** Parrish, Nadiole.

WIRE: Johnson: Carbert (1G), Cullen, B. Peters, Thackray: Kelly, A. Gregory: Boyd (1T), Hodson, Tamati, M. Gregory, Roberts, Rathbone. **Subs:** Forster, Gittins.

Half time: 7-6. **Attendance:** 6,526. **Referee:** J. McDonald (Wigan).

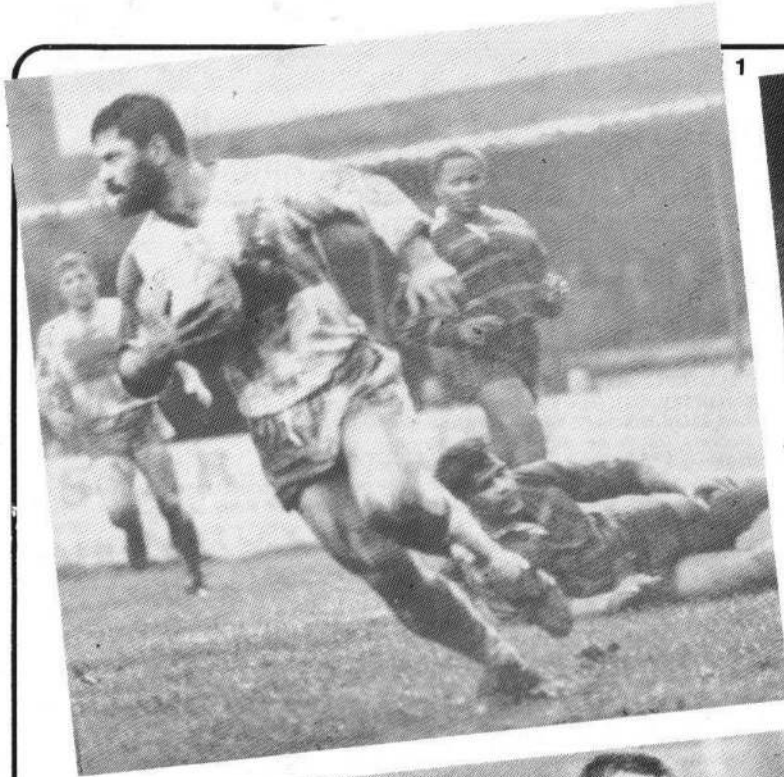
After a month without rugby due to the inclement weather, Wire returned to action to face the heat of a cup tie at overcast Watersheddings. Wire had Kelly and Rathbone back in the side but wonder boy Phil Blake had returned to Australia.

An early Foy drop goal gave the home team an encouraging start but a barn storming try by Les Boyd after only six minutes, goaled by Brian Carbert had Wire in command. The lead should easily have been doubled but instead, Mick Worrall shrugged off three attempted tackles to score one minute before half time and convert to leave Wire one point in arrears at the interval.

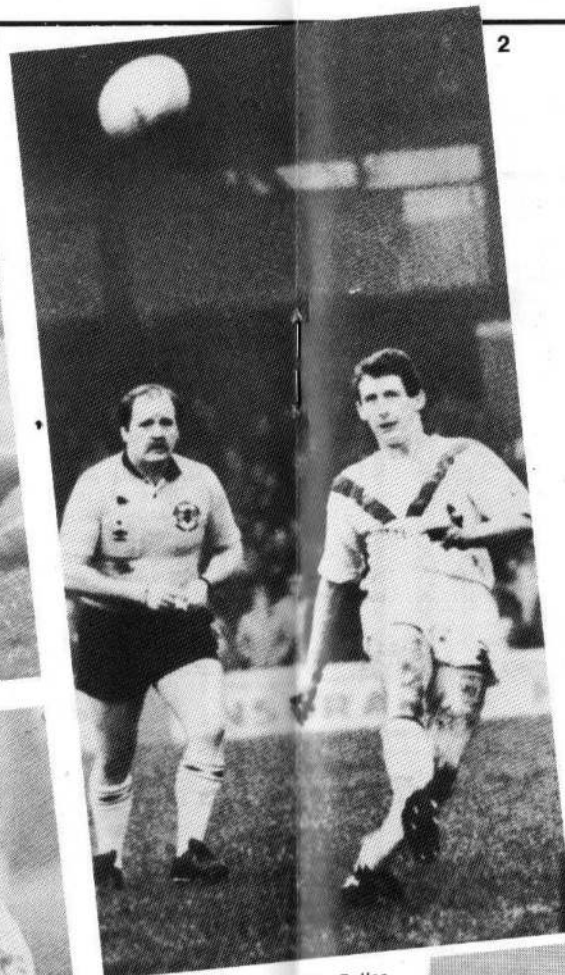
A mid field break by Mal Graham led to Des Foy running in Oldham's second try, converted by Worrall. Within the span of two minutes Wire had seen their cup aspirations dashed and a demoralised side could find no way back with Oldham defending brilliantly in the Wire half. Early injuries to Rathbone and Andy Gregory certainly did not help Wire's cause but Kelly, Cullen and Tamati refused at any stage to admit defeat. Ray Ashton deservedly took the M.O.M. Award with eye catching performances from the Liddiard brothers. Oldham eventually reached the semi final but were beaten at Central Park by eventual Cup Winners Castleford.

No hard luck stories, Oldham won by hard work — there's no other way ...
Progressive score: 0-1, 6-1, 6-7. **H.T.** 6-13.





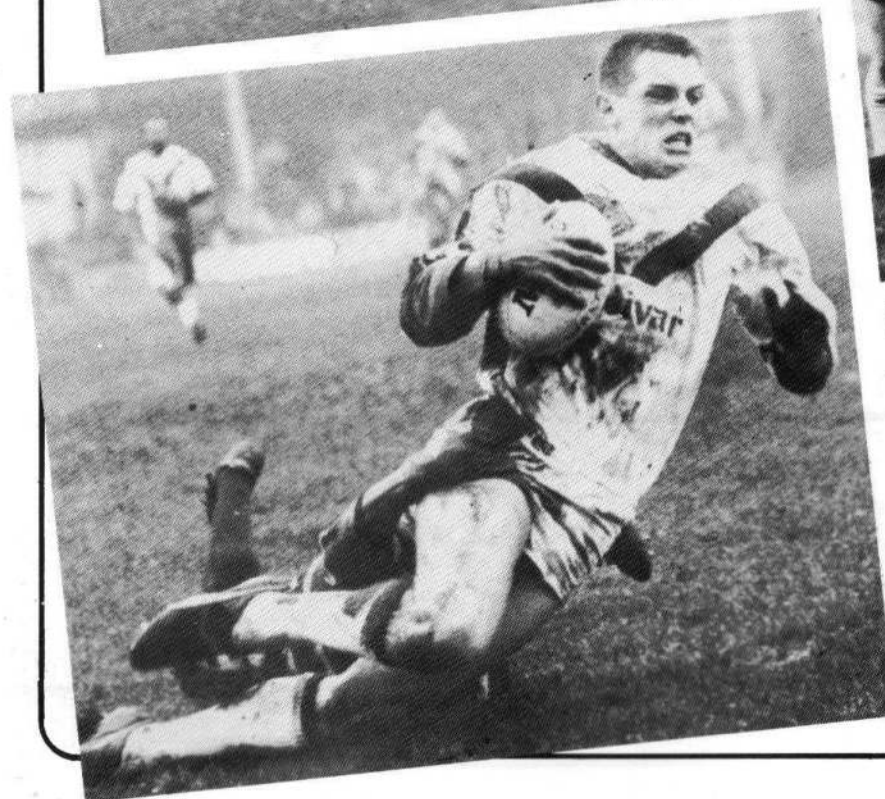
1



2



3



Pictures courtesy of Eddie Fuller,
Warrington Guardian.

1. Two second half tries for JOE ROPATI.
2. JOHN WOODS reaches 100 Two pointers.
3. Classic BRIAN JOHNSON try.
4. Two tries from centre by DAVE LYON.
5. LES BOYD opens Wires account.

4



5

STONES BITTER RUGBY LEAGUE

CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS 87/88

AWAY HOME		Bradford N.	Castleford	Halifax	Hull	Hull K.R.	Hunslet	Leeds	Leigh	St. Helens	Salford	Swinton	Warrington	Widnes	Wigan
Bradford N.	■	24-6	24-8	2-5	24-13		32-8	24-6	12-13		40-12		8-18		
Castleford	20-12	■	32-3					18-22	20-10	14-0		30-40			12-10
Halifax	10-12		■	16-20	36-13			26-18	14-12	29-20	36-0	10-19	4-19		14-16
Hull		16-37		■	2-11			22-21		16-11		22-14	18-33		
Hull K.R.		16-28	29-8		■	36-12	8-8		25-16	20-8	24-7	17-0			
Hunslet	8-24	15-18	10-42	22-17		■	8-12	48-10		12-14	32-32	20-16			10-38
Leeds		44-0	12-7	28-8		28-12	■	38-12	24-21	60-6			26-21		18-18
Leigh		14-6			13-6	28-22		■		18-0	22-16		12-19		8-36
St. Helens	38-10				31-16			23-14	■			17-14	25-0		
Salford	12-16			20-6	34-32	21-14			8-18	■	36-8		0-18		6-14
Swinton	8-12		12-32	9-15	18-26	4-4					■		12-52		8-26
Warrington	18-12		15-8		36-0	54-4	20-20		24-20		39-12	■			15-15
Widnes		31-12	28-6	26-22	32-8	30-10	14-8			22-2	20-21	20-17	■		
Wigan	16-18	44-18	14-17	38-4			26-6	34-24	22-32						■

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John Player Trophy Round 2.
28th November 1987.

WARRINGTON 10 OLDHAM 14

WIRE: Johnson, Drummond, Cullen (1T), Duane, Forster, Woods (3G), Holden, Humphries, Tamati, Jackson, Sanderson, Roberts, Gregory. **Subs:** Lyon, McGinty.
OLDHAM: Burke, Robinson, Warnecke, McCarthy, Meadows, Walsh (3G), Peters, Clawson, Sanderson, Waddell, Round (1T), Graham, Flanagan (1T), Subs: C. Myler, Bardsley.

Half time: 6-8. Att: 5,048. Ref: J. Holdsworth

TEN YEAR CHALLENGE CUP COMPARISON

Season	Wire	Oldham
1977/78	Semi	Rd. 2
1978/79	Rd. 1	Rd. 2
1979/80	Rd. 2	Rd. 2
1980/81	Semi	Rd. 3
1981/82	Rd. 1	Rd. 2
1982/83	Rd. 3	Rd. 1
1983/84	Rd. 2	Rd. 2
1984/85	Rd. 2	Rd. 1
1985/86	Rd. 2	Semi
1986/87	Rd. 1	Rd. 2

Ex Widnes and G.B. Full back MICK BURKE is now back in his best form after knee trouble and will probably occupy the No. 1 jersey today. The three quarter line will contain a permutation of KEVIN MEADOWS ex Wire and St. Helens, Ex Saddleworth and Widnes plus G.B. centre DES FOY, Aussies GARY WARNECKE in his third season at Watersheddings, Under 19 International RICHARD IRVINE and free scoring Aussie BRIAN MCCARTHY. Goal kicker PETER WALSH has been playing at No. 6 with cup deadline signing MIKE FORD at No. 7 Ex. Wire and Saints player STEVE PETERS and local signing PADDY KIRWAN will also come into the reckoning if available. The strength of the side is based on a solid pack with a fiercely competitive hooker in IAN SANDERSON packing down between new G.B. cap HUGH WADDELL an inspired signing from Blackpool Borough and NEIL CLAWSON who has made rapid progress since being signed from Featherstone by Frank Myler in May 1986. The likely back three are PAUL ROUND, this season's £65,000 signing from Saints who has put his critics to shame. Joint coach MAL GRAHAM a

fine Aussie secondrow/loose forward now married and settled in Oldham and G.B. Aussie tourist of 1984 TERRY FLANAGHAN one of the games best loose forwards. Pushing for places up front are IAN SHERRATT ex Bradford, signing from Widnes Amateur R.L. PAUL SHERMAN and one of Oldham's finest servants COLIN HAWKYARD. TOM NADIOLE former Wigan player has also featured in the Oldham side this season usually a second row forward but played wing against Saints in the J.P. Semi.

Cup ties have given Oldham the opportunity to prove, if proof was needed, that they are only in the second division for one season. Having seen off Wire and Bradford in the J.P. and matched St. Helens all the way in the semi final, who can argue. One thing they will not lack on this seasons form is COMMITMENT.



Previous Challenge Cup Meetings

1899 Rd. 2	Oldham 14	Wire 0
1907 Final	Oldham 3	Wire 17
1920 Rd. 2	Oldham 3	Wire 0
1925 Rd. 2	Oldham 12	Wire 2
1929 Rd. 2	Wire 7	Oldham 0
1954 Rd. 2	Oldham 4	Wire 7
1986 Rd. 2	Oldham 18	Wire 6

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WELCOME

The "Roughyeds" from Oldham are in town today for an intriguing first round clash in the Challenge Cup. This is the third time this season that the two sides have met in Cup competitions, been drawn together in the first round of the Lancashire Cup and the quarter finals of the John Player Trophy, the odds of that happening being more than 3000-1! Silk Cuts offer of £1,200 will be little consolation for today's losers.

CHALLENGE CUP CLASHES

You have to go back to pre Wembley days to find the last time Oldham's name appeared on the coveted Challenge Cup — 1927 to be exact. Since that time the gods have been unkind to the men from Watersheddings, even their great teams of the 1950s stumbled and fell.

Oldham have won the cup three times and come to Wilderspool today for what is the eighth time these two sides have been paired together. Of the previous seven encounters the Wire have won only three. One of them was way back in 1929 the only other time these two clubs have met at Wilderspool for Challenge Cup action. Warrington were victorious by a try and two goals to nil that time. Another Wire victory was in the epic 1954 season, when a certain Brian Bevan intercepted to score an 80 yard try to seal victory in a second round clash before 21,000 spectators.

The two sides have met in a Challenge Cup final at Broughton as far back as 1907. Oldham led in that game 3-2 at half time, but the Wire came back with a try and a goal to take a 7-3 advantage. Oldham attacked, and then disaster struck, when a loose pass was hacked on by legendary Warrington winger Jack Fish who followed up to score a sensational try. The Wire went on to win convincingly 17-3 and captain Jack Fish was presented with the Challenge Cup to the cheers of over 6,000 Warringtonians. Will either of today's captains be able to follow in his footsteps — only time will tell.

WEMBLEY '88

Keeping the Wembley theme going — Cup fever is just starting to catch with the climax at the stadium on Saturday 30th April 1988. Be sure you're there — book on the Supporters Club weekend trip and take the hassle out of organising your own

accommodation etc. Cost of the weekend will be approx. £75 plus match tickets to see the big game. For any further information contact Jean on 821859. All that is needed is a £20 deposit to secure a place — please hurry though places are limited.

ONE HUNDRED N.O.

Congratulations to ace goalkicker John Woods on kicking his one hundredth goal of the season against Huddersfield in the preliminary round of the Challenge Cup. That's not bad in only his 22nd game, keep it up John.

SECOND RATE?

Sorry to announce but the faithful Wire supporters who made the trip to the Boulevard were once again let down. An inept display, in front of fans, some of whom had taken a day off work to get to this hastily arranged match, left some wondering if we are a second rate club with second rate ambitions. Surely the league title has now gone. Since the introduction of two divisions in 1973 Warrington have played 24 league games in Hull/Hull K.R. with just 3 wins and 3 draws, surely a bogey town!

IRLAM STEEL PIES

In the New Year's Day programme column I enquired about the term Pie-eaters for Wiganers which provoked an interesting response. A Mr. Tushingham from Ashton-in-Makerfield (Nr. Wigan) states that it comes from when Irlam Steel Works first opened. They advertised for gangs of men to apply for vacancies and to state the hourly rate of pay. Leigh was thought to be the ideal catchment area with high unemployment, but gangs based in Wigan undercut them. The Leigh workers were incensed and said that the Wiganers had gone "Cap in hand" to Irlam Steel and had eaten "Humble Pie" — hence the term "Pie-eater". Any more explanations?

PREDICTIONS

Finally, as long as ball No. 29 is in the bag for the second round draw, here are my predictions for the rest who will be in. Doncaster, Featherstone, Fulham, Halifax, Hull K.R. Hunslet, Keighley, Leeds, Leigh, Rochdale H. Salford, Springfield B, Wakefield, Widnes and Wigan.

Thanks

Stan (P.R.O.)

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Wire Fixtures

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

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 K.R. (J.P. 2) HW 12- 8
Sun. 29th Oldham (J.P. 3) H L 10-14

DECEMBER

Sun. 6th Swinton H W 39-12
Sun. 13th St. Helens A L 14-17
Sun. 20th Bradford 3pm(Re-arranged) . H W 18-12
Sun. 27th Widnes A L 17-20

JANUARY

Fri. 1st Wigan H D 15-15
Sun. 10th Hunslet A L 16-20
Sun. 17th Hudders'ld (CC Prelim) H W 48-10
Wed. 20 Hull A L 14-22
Sun. 31st Oldham (CC 1) H

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

Wed. 2nd Swinton 7.30 A
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 W 16- 6
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 W 37-12

DECEMBER

Fri. 4th Swinton 'A' Shield Final ... H 7.30 W 21-19
Sat. 19th Hull K.R. A 2.15 W 15-14
Wed. 23 Swinton 'A' A 7.30 L 11-14
Mon. 28th Leeds A 3.00 L 6-36

JANUARY

Fri. 8th Hunslet H 7.30 W 26-22
Fri. 15th Castleford 'A' A 7.30 L 13-32
Tue. 19th St. Helens 'A' H L 24-26
Fri. 29th Salford H 7.30

FEBRUARY

Sat. 6th Whitehaven (All.Cup 1) ... H 3.00
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

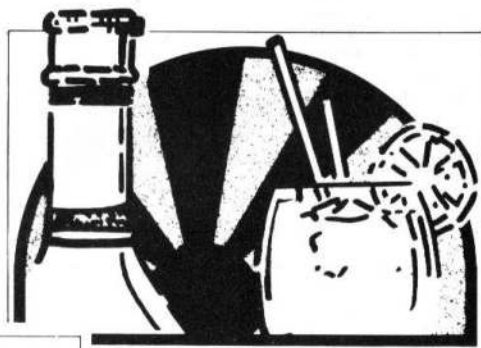


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SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE LEAGUE REPORTS
FRIDAY 15th JANUARY 1988 — **CASTLEFORD 'A' 32 pts. WIZARDS 13**

WIZARDS: D. Gregory, Bacon, Williamson, Thorniley, A.N. Other: Turner, A.N. Other: Harmon, Thursfield, Capewell, Percival, Roberts, Knight. **Subs:** A.N. Other, Molloy. Early Wizards pressure led to a **TURNER** drop goal from the half-way line. Castleford's Ketteridge hit back when Roberts was penalised for a high tackle to give the home side a 2-1 advantage. Wizards maintained the pressure and excellent play was only marred by inadequate finishing. On 33 minutes Cas had a lucky break when a Wizards player dropped a pass only to see an opponent hack on, follow up then be obstructed gaining a penalty try and easy conversion. A Ketteridge penalty for off side completed the half time scoring at 10-1. A brilliant Bacon run from his own half saw the winger carve up the opposition to slide over the Cas line. The referee did a 'homer', disallowing a perfectly good try from a male off the pace for not grounding properly.

Ketteridge extended the lead with a second half try and conversion after five minutes and at 16-1 the future looked bleak. Undeterred, Wizards hit back when the trialist scrum half put **NEIL HARMON** in possession to crash over the Cas line. **TURNER** converted. Poor handling ruined another possible score but on 55 minutes Thursfield opened up a gap and put the trialist No. 7 between the posts for **TURNER** to narrow the score to 16-13. After fighting back with great courage Wizards fell away badly with poor defensive cover as Ketteridge crashed in for two tries before the Cas right winger added another all in the last ten minutes. Two Ketteridge goals completed a disappointing result after much promise.

TUESDAY 19th JANUARY 1988 **WIZARDS 24 ST. HELENS 'A' 26 pts.**

WIZARDS: A.N. Other: Bacon, Thorniley, Williamson, A.N. Other: Turner, A.N. Other: Harmon, Thursfield, Molloy, Percival, Capewell, Roberts. **Subs:** A.N.O., A.N.O. A strong Saints side took an early lead from a penalty followed by a try in the corner. On 26 minutes **CAPEWELL** hit back with a strong driving run to give **TURNER** an easy conversion. A Saints penalty gave the visitors a two point lead at the interval. **WILLIAMSON** kicked through the cover on the restart but Saints hit back immediately with a converted try. Within a couple of minutes the Saints no. 2 got a flyer down the Leisure Centre side to score under the posts to give Dwyer an easy task — 10-20 down. On 57 minutes **THORNILEY** scored a sliding try but with 15 to go Liptrot made it all look so easy by putting one of his trainees under the posts with a slick dummy and pass. 14-26. Wizards showed plenty of spirit if not direction and came back with late tries from **PERCIVAL** and **CAPEWELL** — a superb effort — the latter of which was goaled by **TURNER**. Five tries to four but only two goals to five. Turner, normally an accurate kicker should learn by watching Dwyer's slow, deliberate technique. Every kick should be made to count — at the end of the day it was goal kicking which won the match.

Warrington R.L.F.C.

Up to and including HULL F.C. away on 20.1.88.

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

SEASON 87/88						ALL SEASONS					
PLAYER	APP.	SUB.	TRIES	GOALS	D/GLS.	APP.	SUB.	TRIES	GOALS	D/GLS.	
ABRAM, D	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
BACON, M.	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
BISHOP, P.	-	-	-	-	-	57	7	26	169	30	-
BOYD, L.	7	2	1	-	-	65	2	19	-	-	-
CAPEWELL, P.	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
CARBERT, B.	5	-	3	-	-	80	2	37	118	-	-
CROMPTON, M.	7	-	1	-	1	10	2	1	-	1	-
CULLEN, P.	13	1	5	-	-	138	4	29	-	-	-
DRUMMOND, D.	22	-	15	-	-	39	-	23	-	-	-
DUANE, R.	13	-	3	-	-	142	8	48	28	-	-
FORSTER, M.	11	1	4	-	-	122	9	53	-	-	-
GREGORY, M.	15	3	4	-	-	130	18	33	-	-	-
HARMON, N.	5	5	1	-	-	7	5	1	-	-	-
HOLDEN, K.	17	-	3	-	1	26	-	5	-	1	-
HUMPHRIES, A.	17	1	3	-	-	25	11	5	-	-	-
JACKSON, M.	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
JACKSON, R.	14	2	1	1	-	119	2	20	8	1	-
JOHNSON, B.	23	-	7	-	-	89	2	45	-	-	-
KELLY, K.	-	-	-	-	-	301	15	73	-	10	-
KNIGHT, M.	-	3	1	-	-	2	9	2	-	-	-
LYON, D.	8	3	4	-	-	8	3	4	-	-	-
McGINTY, W.	10	2	4	-	-	29	25	8	-	-	-
MORRIS, S.	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-
MOSSOP, A.	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-
PETERS, B.	14	3	3	-	-	37	11	7	-	-	-
ROBERTS, M.	17	3	11	-	-	82	13	37	-	-	-
ROPATI, J.	14	-	5	-	-	46	1	24	-	-	-
ROSKELL, M.	5	-	1	-	-	16	-	2	-	-	-
SANDERSON, G.	16	6	2	-	-	46	12	5	-	-	-
SCOTT, A.	-	-	-	-	-	31	15	5	2	1	-
TAMATI, K.	23	1	2	-	-	87	7	5	-	-	-
THORNILEY, A.	2	2	2	-	-	2	3	2	-	-	-
TURNER, R.	1	1	-	4	-	1	1	-	4	-	-
WEBB, C.	9	1	-	-	-	104	17	12	-	-	-
WOODS, J.	23	-	9	103	3	23	-	9	103	3	-
WORRALL, A.	-	-	-	-	-	71	34	3	-	-	-

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