

OLDHAM TEAM CHECK SWINTON

DUNCAN PLATT	1	PAUL MELLOR
RICHARD IRVING	2	SCOTT RANSON
DES FOY	3	JOE RAPATI
JOHN HENDERSON	4	GARY PEACHAM
PAUL LORD	5	IAN PICKAVANCE
BRETT CLARK	6	BARRY PETERS
MIKE FORD	7	BARRY ASHALL
LEO CASEY	8	MARK SHEALS
ANDY RUANE	9	ALEC MELLING
KEITH NEWTON	10	ANDY PUCILL
CHARLIE McALISTER	11	PHIL CAPEWELL
PAUL ROUND	12	SHANE TUPAEA
RICHARD RUSSELL	13	IAN SKEECH
TOMMY MARTYN	14	JULIAN HUDSON
KEITH ATKINSON	15	JACENT RABBITT

Referee: Mr. A. Bowman (Whitehaven). Touch Judges: Mr. J. J. Beech (Red Flag), Mr. W. H. Walker (Orange Flag)

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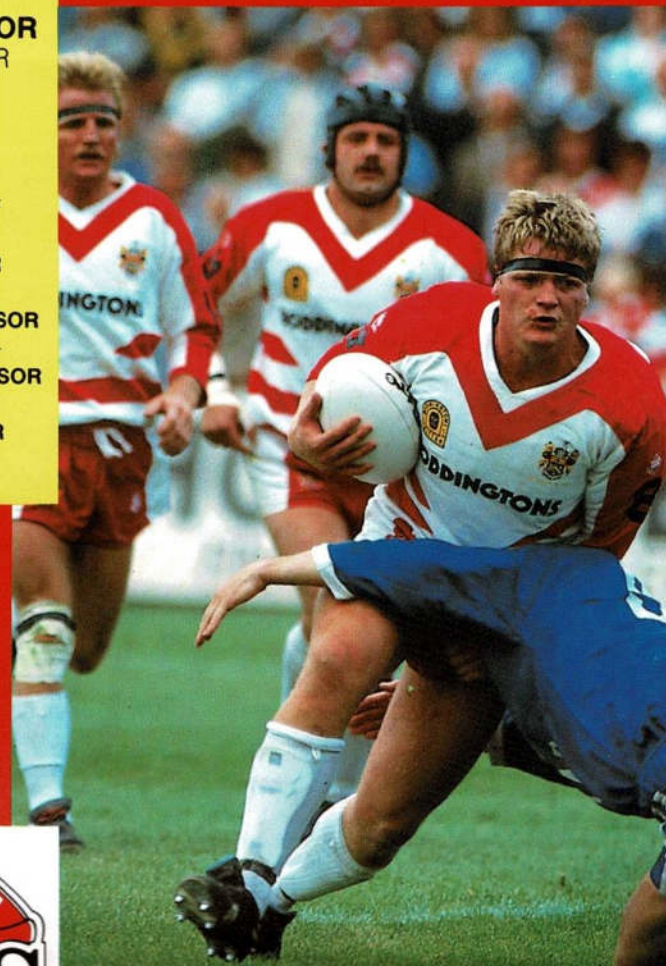
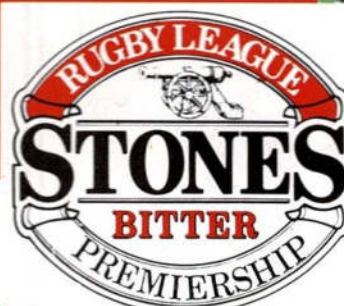
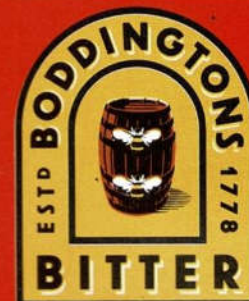
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Record Receipts: £37,505.50 v Wigan,
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Record Transfer Fee Paid: £70,000 to
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Record Try Scorers: Reg Farrar, 49 tries,
1921-22 season

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

Record Point Scorers: 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

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Second Division Champions:
1963-64, 1981-82, 1987-88

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, 1986-87, 1989-90

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

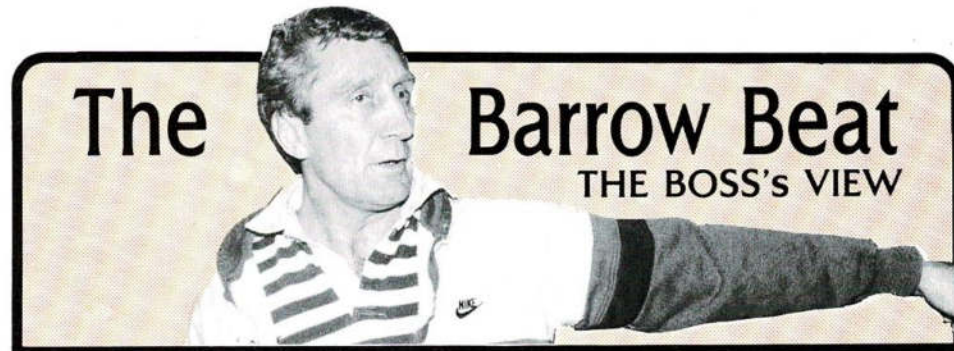
Colts Premiership Trophy:
1979-80

Second Division Premiership:
1987-88

WE'RE PUTTING OUR SHIRTS ON OLDHAM



The Barrow Beat THE BOSS'S VIEW



THREE days can be a long time in sport, and our experiences over Easter were no exception. We hit rock bottom when losing at Swinton on Good Friday and then produced a memorable performance to demolish Rochdale Hornets 30-2 at Watersheddings on the Monday.

I was very critical of the team's performance at Station Road, but I cannot speak too highly about how the boys came back off the floor to produce that terrific show against Hornets.

The tackling was top quality — the sort we had become renowned for before those bad defeats at Workington and Swinton — and we also played some terrific football to carve open the Hornets defence on numerous occasions.

To some extent I gambled by producing an attacking back-row of Charlie McAlister, Paul Round and Richard Russell ... but didn't they do well?

I thought our back-row was top class. Richard once again proved how versatile he is and sprayed out some lovely passes from the middle of the field.

Charlie set up the first try for Duncan Platt with a terrific break and a great pass in the tackle. He did a lot of punishing running and, for good measure, topped the tackle count with more than 30.

It's a big step to take for someone who has played all his rugby in the backs, but Charlie did a great job. He was a bit apprehensive before the kick-off and I know he was tired at the end, but in between he did a first-class job for us and

I cannot praise him too highly.

The same goes for Paul Round, who was always eager for the ball and the action, scored two first-half tries, and no doubt did a lot of work on the field in guiding Charlie through his first experience of forward play at this level.

The secret of success was the teamwork, and if we can continue to play like that in the premiership we will take some beating.

It was a pity we couldn't quite manage the winning margin of 29 points that we needed to secure second place in the league — always an advantage in the premiership.

When we led by 28 points we got a penalty late in the game, but it was from 40 yards out and I think Duncan Platt made the right decision to elect to kick for touch.

The wind was against us and was exceptionally strong last Monday afternoon. Duncan felt the odds were stacked heavily against him because of the distance and the wind and he did not want to surrender possession by failing to put the ball dead.

We went for touch and, as you all know, Hornets managed to hang on to second place by the skin of their teeth or, to be more accurate, one point over the course of a full season.

Still, that is all behind us now — and today we have the chance to avenge our Station Road defeat when we meet the Lions in the play-off.

TONY BARROW

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Welcome to Swinton

THE Lions of Swinton, who have appeared in two of the three Second Division premiership finals to be held at Old Trafford, are certain to come roaring into Watersheddings today after producing a shock win against us at Station Road on Good Friday.

There is a lot of Oldham connection at Swinton, of course, with three former Watersheddings players forming the coaching staff — Jim Crellin, Ray Clark and Ray Hicks — and another two, Terry Flanagan and Tony Morrison, key members of the senior squad.

Morrison was under suspension on Good Friday and could not play, while Flanagan, a former Oldham captain and tourist, was ruled out with a knee injury — one of several injury victims in the Lions den just at present. Other absentees on Good Friday were Logan Edwards, who has returned to New Zealand, and the injured Keith Holden, Steve Snape and Paul Topping.

It remains to be seen how many of these injury victims, if any, will be fit to play today, but there is a good squad at Station Road where no fewer than 28 players have been recruited since Crellin rejoined the club last summer. Many have left, of course, including winger Derek Bate, who came to Watersheddings in exchange for Flanagan, and the two players who turned out against us for Rochdale Hornets last Monday — John Myler and Mark Viller.

Still, Swinton showed when they beat us 15-12 last Friday that they have a useful squad despite their current problems, and the defeat we suffered that day will ensure that Oldham are on their toes in today's encounter.

Paul Mellor, who has been a very unlucky lad from the injury point of view, pulled off two try-saving tackles last week and produced an accomplished game at full back. **Scott Ranson** is a pacy right-winger and **Ian Pickavance** has a lot of strength on the other flank, the wingers playing outside two experienced centres in **Gary Peacham**, signed from Carlisle, and the former New Zealand Test player **Joe Ropati**, snapped up from Warrington.

Stand-off **Barry Peters** also joined the Lions from the Wires, while the little lad who had a great scrum-half game on Friday, **Barry Ashall**, was a former amateur with Thatto Heath, the St. Helens club at which the Barrow brothers have had such a major influence over the years. Ashall deservedly won the man-of-the-match award on Good Friday, so if he is playing today he will presumably not be given the freedom that was afforded him at Station Road.

In the pack, big No. 8 **Mark Sheals** had a strong game against us, while hooker **Alec Melling**, Oldham born and bred, will be keen to do well here. Another talented performer in the Lions pack is Kiwi back-row man **Shane Tupaea**.

We welcome the Swinton players and officials for today's first-round game in the premiership and look forward to a game befitting the great traditions of both clubs.

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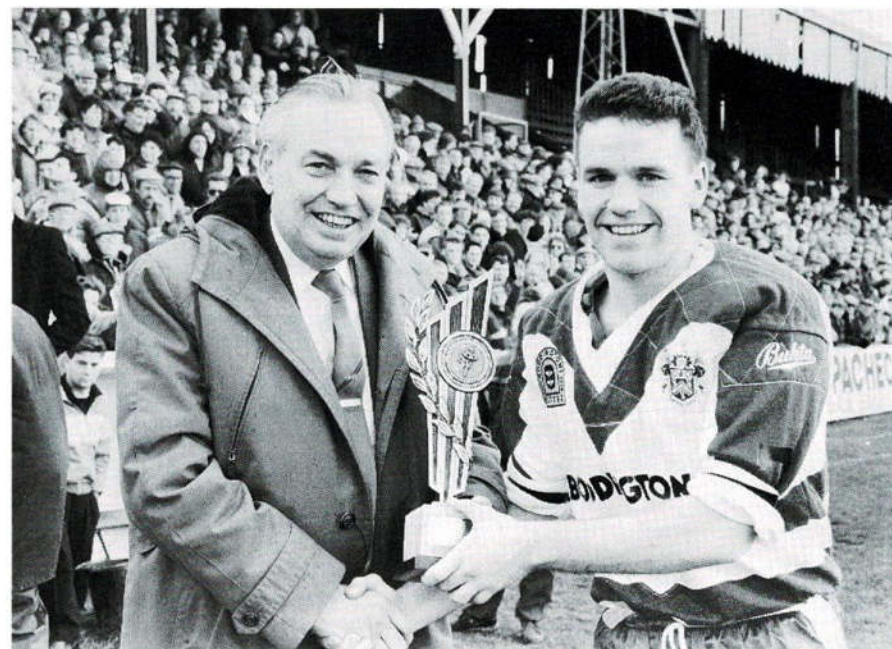
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OB Player of the Year MIKE FORD



Mike Ford, the fans' favourite for the 1989-90 season, was presented with his trophy for the Boddingtons-sponsored OB Player of the Year award by Boddingtons' representative Ken Reagan before last Monday's home game against Rochdale. Congratulations, Mike, who also received a £250 cheque and a case of Boddingtons Bitter to celebrate.

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OLDHAM may have had a great season winning promotion and enjoying two great cup runs, but forward Paul Round won't be too disappointed when the current campaign ends.

While Oldham have been thrilling the Watersheddings faithful with some memorable performances, Paul has spent most of his time out of the game with two major injuries restricting him to a handful of appearances.

Disaster struck for the utility forward in a pre-season friendly against Salford when he suffered a bad back accident which left him in hospital and out of action for the start of the season.

To add insult to injury, Paul, having returned to full fitness, tore his cartilage in October whilst training.

Paul who joined Oldham from St. Helens for a then club record fee of £65,000, remains philosophical: "Neither of my injuries were caused by aggressive playing — it was just bad luck! You can't go into the game worrying about injuries because they happen when you least expect them. Now that's what makes them so frustrating."

"I felt helpless sitting on the sidelines watching the team play while I was laid up and couldn't do anything. I've been playing the game professionally for eight years and a big part of my life was suddenly missing."

At 26 years old, Paul has a fair amount of experience in rugby.

He started playing the game at the tender age of 10, turning out for both his junior and secondary school teams in his home town of St. Helens.

Paul turned professional at 17 when he signed for St. Helens, winning GB Under-21 honours in 1984. Three years later he was picked to play for Lancashire in 1987.

"At 17, signing for St. Helens was a massive step to take. I learned a lot there and was playing on the first team by the time I was 18. I've



come a long way since then — I may have lost some speed but I've more than made up with experience!"

Although he still lives in St. Helens with his wife Carol and three dogs Gemma, Sheba and Ella, Paul has recently set up his own roofing business in Oldham to make life easier for himself where training is concerned.

"I learned the ropes a few years ago and decided to go into business on my own. It's a lot easier fitting in training than it was with my last job — I spent seven years working shifts down the pits!"

Paul is only too happy to be back on the team at Watersheddings and feels at home in Oldham's close-knit rugby community.

"It's great to play for your home town but I've always been made to feel one of the family here right from the start — Oldham is really in a class of its own!"

Throughout the summer he'll be concentrating on intensive weight and speed training to put himself back in top condition so he can put the disappointments of this season firmly behind him.

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*A touching moment for Paul Round after a season devastated by injury as he scores
in last week's 30-2 drubbing of Rochdale.*



Paul Round's smile says it all as he celebrates after scoring against Rochdale.

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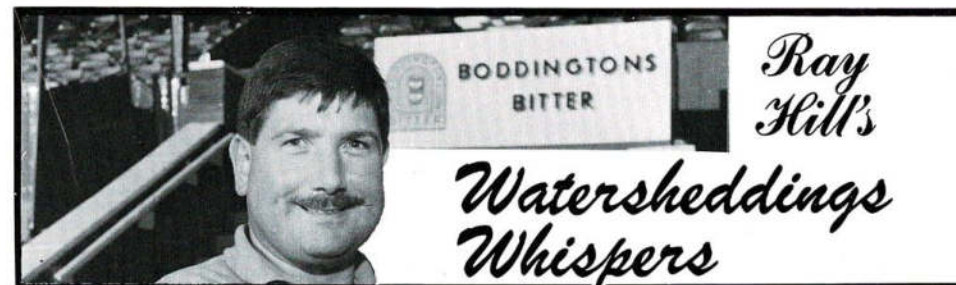


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WELCOME to my last Watersheddings Whispers column for what has turned out to be a truly memorable season. Promotion to the top flight, runners-up in the Lancashire Cup and semi-finalists in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup — a mere 80 minutes from a debut Wembley appearance for the club.

Unfortunately, as we all know, our Wembley dream was not to be this year, but that doesn't mean you can't visit London's famous twin towers for two historic finals next week.

We've lined up a fantastic two days in the capital, staying at a top hotel, to watch the Littlewoods Cup and Silk Cut Challenge Cup finals.

Our fun-packed agenda starts at 7.15 on Saturday 28th April at the Sheddings social club prior to breakfast at the High Point Hotel for a traditional English breakfast.

We're leaving the High Point at 9.30 to travel down to Wembley on the team coach. During the journey we'll be showing some great Rugby League videos.

As part of the trip we have arranged for fabulous seats for the Wigan-Warrington final later in the day. After this great final we'll be booking into and staying at the Holiday Inn Swiss Cottage near Regent's Park.

Saturday night, Sunday morning is yours, but make sure you're back at the hotel for the return to Wembley for the Littlewoods Cup final between Nottingham Forest and Oldham Athletic (come on you Latics). Sunday night is free time too before our return to the North West on Monday. We expect to be back in Oldham by 2p.m.

This great value-for-money trip costs a mere £195 per head. There are only a few seats left for the Wembley special, so if you're interested give me a call on 061-620 4870 as soon as possible.

Alternatively, catch me at the club sometime today to make sure you don't miss out on our unbeatable Wembley extravaganza brought to you courtesy of Oldham RLFC.

Finally, I'll leave the last word with one young fan who was inspired to write this poem after our dramatic semi-final. Rest assured, next season we'll be looking forward to going one better for Helen and all your sakes.

To the Lads at Watersheddings

'Twas a lovely day for a semi,
As we drove to Central Park;
Oldham and Warrington were playing,
This would be a lark.

We walked into the ground,
A sea of red and white;
The Oldham team came on,
We cheered with all our might.

At half-time it was nil all,
But things were soon to range;
Richard Irving scored a belting try,
We kicked, the score again had changed.

Six-nil we were now winning,
And Wembley was in sight;
But yes, they got a try,
After all our power and might.

With everything to play for,
The score it was 6-6;
Oh no! Warrington scored again,
But didn't get the kick.

Now in the dying seconds,
Paul Lord he scored a try;
The ref claimed he was offside,
I felt like I could die.

When the final hooter went,
The Warrington fans went mad;
A cloud of tears hung over us,
Men wept, they were so sad.

Another semi-final,
Had slipped right through our hands;
Our dream of Wembley came again,
Like wind blowing the sand.

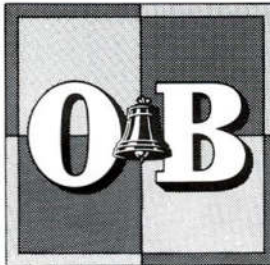
If you come to Watersheddings,
The chant you will still hear;
Ringing through the terraces,
From every year to year

is
We love you Oldham, we do!
We love you Oldham, we do!
We love you Oldham we do!
Oh, Oldham we love you!

HELEN BRIERLEY (aged 14)
Ashwood Drive, Royton

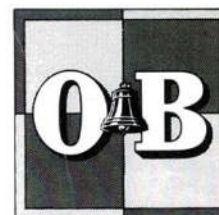


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BRENDA'S NUMBER ONE

YEARS of dedicated support for her beloved Oldham was rewarded when Brenda Rogers was named OB Supporter of the Year and presented with a magnificent trophy before the final home game of the season against Rochdale.

Brenda also receives a replica kit and a pair of season tickets courtesy of Boddingtons, who have sponsored the award for the second year running.

Congratulations to Brenda and everyone else who was nominated for the award.



Brenda is seen here being presented with her trophy by Boddingtons' representative Val Jackson (right).

TOMMY'S YOUR YOUNG PLAYER OF THE YEAR

TEENAGER Tommy Martyn, who has made several outstanding first team appearances this season, is the fans' choice for the Boddingtons-sponsored OB Young Player of the Year.

Tommy, who has scored four tries in as many games for the first team, has impressed in the A Team and was an overwhelming choice for the award, beating John Maxwell and Craig Mort into second and third place respectively.

His presentation, held over from last Monday, will take place before today's game. The young stand-off will receive a superb silver salver, a £150 cheque and case of Boddingtons Bitter to celebrate in true traditional style.

YES, THEY ARE BODDY PERFECT

EVERYONE who voted in the OB Player of the Year awards automatically entered a free draw held last Monday after the Rochdale home game. The first five names pulled out of the hat each won a case of Boddingtons Bitter... that's 24 cans of the North West's most popular ale.

The five winners are F. Percival, Robert Ryan, Dave Frost, Eric Buckley and Michael Turner.

Congratulations to all five — and everyone else who voted for this year's Boddingtons-sponsored awards.

NATIONAL COACHING SCHEME

THE Rugby League National Coaching Scheme is holding several courses in this area during the summer under the guidance of regional coach Eric Fitzsimons.

A level one course will take place at Saddleworth on May 19, 20, 26 and 27; a level one course will be held at Balderstone (Rochdale) on June 9, 10, 16 and 17; a level two course will take place at Saddleworth on July 6, 7, 8, 14 and 15.

Applications will be made to Ray Hicks (624 1766) for the first course; Neil Wood (0706 341226) for the Rochdale course; Eric Fitzsimons (682 8269) for the level two course; the Coaching Scheme (0484 544131) for all courses.

In addition, there will be skills courses for youngsters (geared to proficiency testing) on May 30, June 6, 13 and 20, hopefully at Watersheddings.

They will take place on each evening from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. for children in junior 3 and 4 classes and from 7.15 to 8.15 for senior 1 and 2 children.

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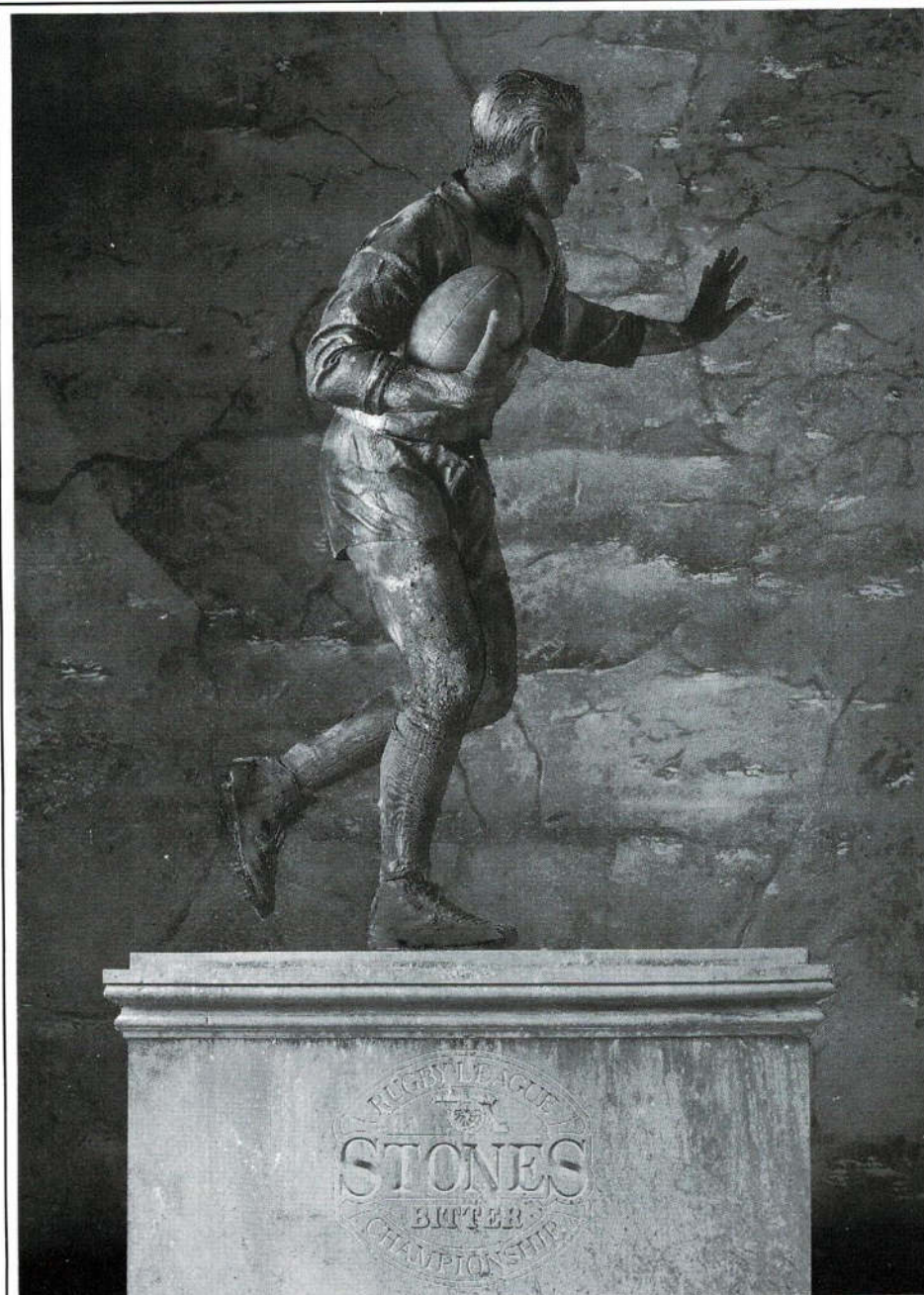


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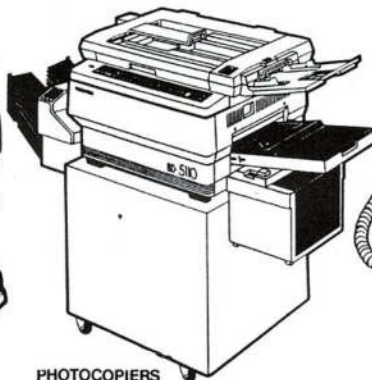
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Fixtures and Statistics

Date	Opponents	V	KO	P	Res	F-A	Tries	Goals	Att
Sep	3 Workington T	H	3.00	W	40-8	Henderson (2), Cogger (2), McAlister, Lord, Ruane, Russell	Platt (4)	Platt (4)	3,743
	10 Halifax	A	3.00	11	12-22	Platt, Cogger	Platt (2)	Platt (2)	8,612
	16 Barrow (Lancs Cup)	A	2.30	W	46-2	Lord (2), Ford, Casey, Platt (2), Allen, Hyde, Cogger	Platt (5)	Platt (5)	2,300
	27 St. Helens (Lancs Cup)	A	7.30	W	36-6	Robinson, Ford, Platt, Cogger, Allen, Newton	Platt (6)	Platt (6)	7,834
Oct	1 Hull KR	H	3.00	12	W	12-4	Lord	Platt (4)	5,797
	5 Wigan (Lancs Cup)	H	7.30	W	19-18	Fieldhouse, Newton, Ford	Platt, Hyde (2), Ford (dg)	Platt	8,603
	8 Runcorn H	A	3.00	9	W	34-6	Russell, Clarke (2), Meadows (2), Clawson, Irving	Hyde (2)	2,500
	14 Warrington (Lancs Cup final)	—	3.00	L	16-24	Irving, Robinson, Lord	Platt (1), Hyde (1)	Hyde (2)	9,895
	18 Halifax	H	7.30	W	14-3	Lord, Fairbank	Hyde (3)	Hyde (3)	6,953
	22 Carlisle	A	3.00	5	W	10-32	Fieldhouse (2), Hyde, Fairbank, Cogger, Meadows	Hyde (2), McAlister (2)	1,200
	29 Batley	H	3.00	3	W	22-4	Ruane, Martyn, Meadows, Irving	Martyn (3)	4,120
Nov	5 Doncaster	A	3.00	2	W	22-20	Casey, Lord, Hyde, Fairbank	Hyde (3)	3,813
	12 Keighley	H	3.00	2	W	50-34	Clark, Hyde, Irving, Ford, McAlister, Meadows, Ruane, Lord, Russell	Hyde (7)	4,113
	19 Fulham	A	2.30	2	W	40-10	McAlister, Ruane (2), Clark, Cogger, Allen, Ford	McAlister (6)	1,440
	26 Doncaster	H	3.00	2	W	30-8	Lord, Meadows, Ruane, Robinson, Clark	McAlister (5)	4,914
Dec	3 Bramley (Regal Trophy)	A	3.50	W	48-16	Robinson, Cogger (2), Lord, McAlister, Clawson, Clark, Croston	Platt (8)	Platt (8)	1,632
	10 Huddersfield (Regal Trophy)	H	3.00	W	22-8	Cogger (2), Croston	Platt (5)	Platt (5)	5,205
	17 St. Helens (Regal Trophy)	A	3.00	W	18-32	Fairbank, Cogger (2), Lord	McAlister	McAlister	7,752
	26 Rochdale H	A	3.00	4	L	24-12	McAlister, Lord	McAlister	8,150
Jan	1 Swinton	H	3.00	3	W	29-14	Ford, Lord (2), Cogger, Russell	Platt (4), Ford (dg)	4,954
	7 Hunslet	H	3.00	3	W	48-10	Foy (5), Cogger (3), Fairbank	Platt (6)	3,644
	14 Huddersfield (SCCC)	H	3.00	W	30-8	Clark, Allen, Newton, Cogger, Fairbank	Platt (5)	Platt (5)	4,593
	17 Hull KR	A	7.30	3	W	9-6	Irving	Platt (2), Platt (dg)	6,530
	21 Chorley	A	3.00	3	W	44-6	Irving (3), Foy (2), Cogger (2), Newton	Platt (6)	2,851
	28 Workington (SCCC Rnd 1)	H	3.00	W	30-8	Platt, Henderson (3), Clark	Platt, Atkinson (4)	Platt	3,710
Feb	4 Fulham	H	3.00	3	W	52-4	Henderson (4), Foy, Casey, Newton (2), Platt, Lord	Platt (5)	3,549
	11 Salford (SCCC Rnd 2)	A	3.00	W	18-7	Russell, Clark	Platt (5)	Platt (5)	6,542
	18 Chorley	H	3.00	2	W	66-16	Clark (3), Russell (2), Martyn, McAlister, Casey, Cogger, Irving, Foy, Round	Platt (9)	3,576
Mar	4 Huddersfield	H	3.00	3	W	16-4	Henderson, Newton	Platt (4)	11,820
	7 Keighley	A	7.30	3	W	30-10	Ruane, Lord (3), Martyn, Irving	Platt (2), Atkinson, Martyn (dg)	5,615
	11 Batley	A	3.00	2	W	30-14	Lord (2), Casey, Clark	Platt (3)	1,252
	18 Runcorn	H	3.00	1	W	60-2	Allen (2), Casey (2), Cogger (2), Lord, Irving, Anderson, Hyde, Clark	Hyde (7)	2,800
	21 Hunslet	A	7.30	1	W	42-14	Lord (2), Russell, Henderson, McAlister, Platt, Fieldhouse	Platt (8)	5,132
	24 Huddersfield	A	3.00	1	W	22-14	Ruane, Robinson, Fairbank, Irving	Platt (7)	2,000
	31 Warrington (SCCC semi-final)	—	2.00	L	6-10	Irving	Atkinson (3)	Atkinson	1,900
Apr	4 Workington	A	6.15	2	L	14-21	Atkinson, Fairbank	Platt	15,631
	8 Carlisle	H	1.30	2	W	48-16	McAlister, Clark (2), Lord, Henderson, Atkinson, Irving, Flanagan	Atkinson (2), Ruane	800
	13 Swinton	A	3.00	3	L	12-14	Foy, Casey	Atkinson (6)	2,865
	16 Rochdale	H	3.15	3	W	30-2	Platt, Round (2), Henderson	Platt (2)	3,600
	22 Swinton	H	3.00	W	—	—	—	Platt (7)	6,300

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Appearances and Scorers

	P	Sub	G	D	T	Pts
Shaun Allen.....	32	3	0	0	6	24
Tony Anderson.....	3	0	0	0	1	4
Keith Atkinson.....	10	12	16	0	2	40
Mick Bardsley.....	2	0	0	0	0	0
Ian Bates.....	1	0	0	0	0	0
Leo Casey.....	27	1	0	0	8	32
Brett Clark.....	33	2	0	0	16	64
Neil Clawson.....	4	1	0	0	2	8
John Cogger.....	34	0	0	0	24	96
Trevor Croston.....	4	4	0	0	2	8
John Fairbank.....	16	12	0	0	8	32
John Fieldhouse.....	34	1	0	0	4	16
Neil Flanagan.....	1	2	0	0	1	4
Mick Ford.....	33	0	0	2	6	26
Des Foy.....	16	0	0	0	10	40
John Henderson.....	20	2	0	0	15	60
Gary Hyde.....	20	3	28	0	5	76
Richard Irving.....	30	2	0	0	14	56
Chris Joynt.....	0	1	0	0	0	0
Peter Lewis.....	2	0	0	0	1	4
Paul Lord.....	37	0	0	0	25	100
Charlie McAlister.....	17	7	16	0	8	64
Tommy Martyn.....	4	1	3	1	4	23
John Maxwell.....	0	1	0	0	0	0
Kevin Meadows.....	6	5	0	0	6	20
Keith Newton.....	30	0	0	0	9	36
Duncan Platt.....	25	0	113	1	8	259
Steve Robinson.....	13	4	0	0	5	20
Paul Round.....	6	2	0	0	3	12
Andy Ruane.....	22	2	1	0	8	34
Richard Russell.....	34	4	0	0	7	28

Up to and including Rochdale match

Division Two Final League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull KR.....	28	13	0	1	613	91	12	0	2	489	99	50
Rochdale.....	28	13	0	1	630	201	11	0	3	347	221	48
OLDHAM	28	14	0	0	524	133	10	0	4	355	192	48
Ryedale-York.....	28	12	0	2	356	139	8	1	5	297	199	41
Halifax.....	28	13	0	1	442	147	7	0	7	299	213	40
Swinton.....	28	11	0	3	381	196	9	0	5	290	209	40
Dewsbury.....	28	11	0	3	277	151	8	1	5	226	260	39
Fulham.....	28	9	1	4	305	229	7	1	6	191	259	34
Doncaster.....	28	8	2	4	268	191	7	0	7	265	208	32
Trafford.....	28	8	0	6	272	243	7	0	7	279	308	30
Huddersfield.....	28	6	0	8	200	204	8	0	6	269	237	28
Batley.....	28	8	0	6	280	198	5	0	9	186	278	26
Bramley.....	28	5	0	9	207	316	6	0	8	206	307	22
Hunslet.....	28	5	0	9	256	302	5	0	9	175	283	20
Chorley.....	28	6	0	8	219	275	4	0	10	180	343	20
Whitehaven.....	28	8	0	6	237	252	2	0	12	159	458	20
Carlisle.....	28	6	0	8	263	224	3	0	11	248	401	18
Workington.....	28	3	0	11	167	306	3	0	11	144	402	12
Keighley.....	28	4	0	10	238	408	2	0	12	198	429	12
Nottingham.....	28	3	0	11	169	527	1	0	13	154	505	8
Runcorn.....	28	0	0	14	103	339	0	0	14	115	596	0

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'A' Team Round-Up

Slalom Lager Alliance League

FIRST DIVISION							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull	26	21	1	4	753	317	43
Leeds	27	20	1	6	764	410	43
Castleford	25	17	0	8	685	485	34
Hull K.R.	26	16	0	10	540	391	32
Warrington	27	15	1	11	640	607	31
Wigan	26	15	0	11	615	502	30
St. Helens	27	15	0	12	648	566	30
OLDHAM	26	13	1	12	538	481	27
Halifax	26	13	0	13	497	547	26
Widnes	27	11	0	16	450	677	22
Swinton	27	10	0	17	433	773	20
Featherstone	26	10	0	16	551	618	18
Salford	27	8	2	17	594	592	18
Hunslet	26	6	0	20	393	716	12
Carlisle	25	4	0	21	417	836	8

'A' Team Young Player of the Year

The winner of the OB Young Player of the Year award is teenage stand-off

TOMMY MARTYN

He will be presented with an inscribed silver salver, a £150 cheque and a case of Boddingtons to celebrate before today's match. Well done, Tommy.

'A' Team Fixtures and Statistics

Date	Opponents	Venue	Res	F	A
Sep 1	St. Helens	A	L	2-15	
8	Halifax	H	W	24-16	
15	Castleford	H	L	16-27	
29	Hull KR	A	L	14-20	
Oct 6	Salford A (LCCS)	A	L	0-6	
12	Halifax	A	L	10-22	
27	Hull	A	L	6-20	
Nov 3	Widnes	H	L	10-14	
10	Wigan	H	L	16-20	
17	Hull	H	D	16-16	
24	Leeds	A	L	16-28	
Dec 1	Warrington	H	W	36-12	
8	St. Helens	H	W	20-18	
22	Featherstone	H	W	28-26	
29	Swinton	A	L	20-23	
Jan 5	Hunslet	A	W	32-0	
12	Hull KR	H	L	6-12	
19	Warrington	A	L	12-18	
26	Salford A	H	W	26-18	
Feb 3	Salford (SACC Rnd 1)	A	L	12-30	
9	Castleford	A	W	32-18	
23	Wigan	A	W	17-12	
Mar 2	Featherstone	A	W	20-16	
16	Leeds	H	W	32-22	
23	Salford A	A	W	22-23	
30	Hunslet	H	L	18-35	
Apr 7	Carlisle	A	W	50-23	
13	Swinton	H	W	38-4	
20	Widnes	A			

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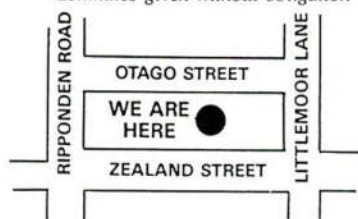
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Terrace Talk

A LONG, hard season draws to an end and as we look back upon its highs and lows, I think we can all be pretty well satisfied with the outcome. And for what looks likely to be the last programme of the campaign, let's take an alphabetical look at its events:

A is for ALMOST, as once again we were denied a Wembley appearance.

B is for BARROW, as in Tony, who has master-minded our return to the top flight.

C is for COGGER and captain as well.

D is for DIVISION, in our case it's TWO, it's farewell and thanks and goodbye to you.

E is for ENTRY back into DIVISION ONE. Let's hope to stay there for a long time to come.

F is for FANS, which the game needs to thrive, for without them it will not survive.

G is for GROUND, and the problems it brings, but with help from the council let's hope we can put an end to such things.

H is for HALSTEAD, a man we all know, but please try to remember he's a friend, not a foe.

I is for INTENTION, we've seen that in the past, let's hope that this time we can make the job last.

J is for JOHN, of the HALLSWORTH kind, who many people think is out of his mind.

K is for KICKING, which sometimes wins matches, and some can end up being wonderful catches.

L is for LORD, a winger of speed, his tries next season will be of great need.

M is for MONEY, which will help to supply the new stand which is needed, no one can deny.

N is for NEWTON, of the 'Beefy' kind, a second-rower of great power and what a great find!

O stands for Oldham, a real Rugby name, let's hope next season we bring the town fame.

P is for PROFESSIONAL, PENETRATION and POWER, three things you need to win our finest hour.

Q is for QUESTIONS, they will of course be asked, but not if the Second Division becomes a thing of the past.

R is for RUGBY, sport we all know, we follow league, to UNION we will never go.

S is for SENT OFF, too many of those we know, a word to referees, sometimes the sin bin is far enough to go.

T stands for TRIES, for which we shout loud and clear, let's hope Oldham's supply next season gives us something to cheer.

U is for UP AND UNDER, a tactic well used, which for an unsuspecting fullback can spell battered and bruised.

V is for VICTORY, this season nothing new, let's hope the First Division brings plenty, too.

W is for WORKINGTON and WEMBLEY as well, one would have been wonderful, the other brought hell.

X is for X-RAY, a word players fear, because it could mean injuries, of these they must stay clear.

Y stands for YOUNGSTERS — the future of the club—some have already made an impression, coming on as super sub.

Z is for ZOOMING, as we go on our way, hopefully leaving behind us Second Division rugby forever and a day.

Enjoy your sport.



Jack Dearden

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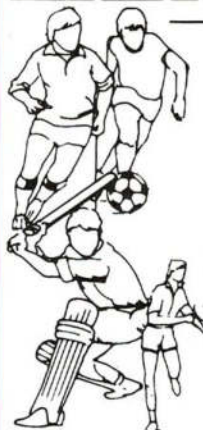
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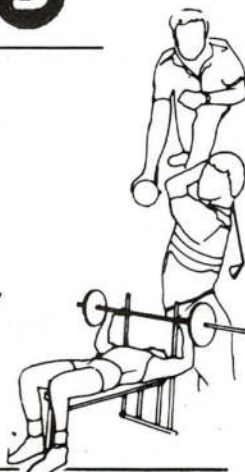
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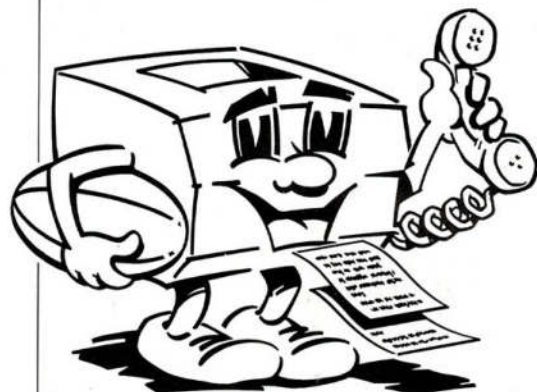
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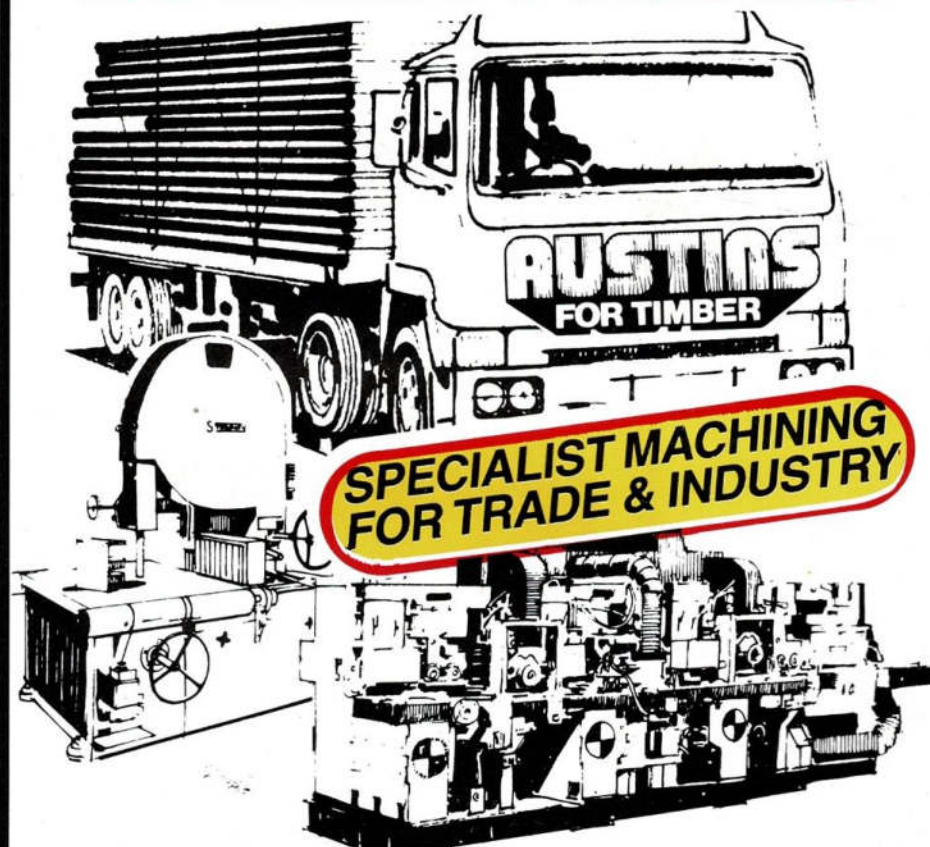
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