

RUGBY LEAGUE'S PREMIER DAILY



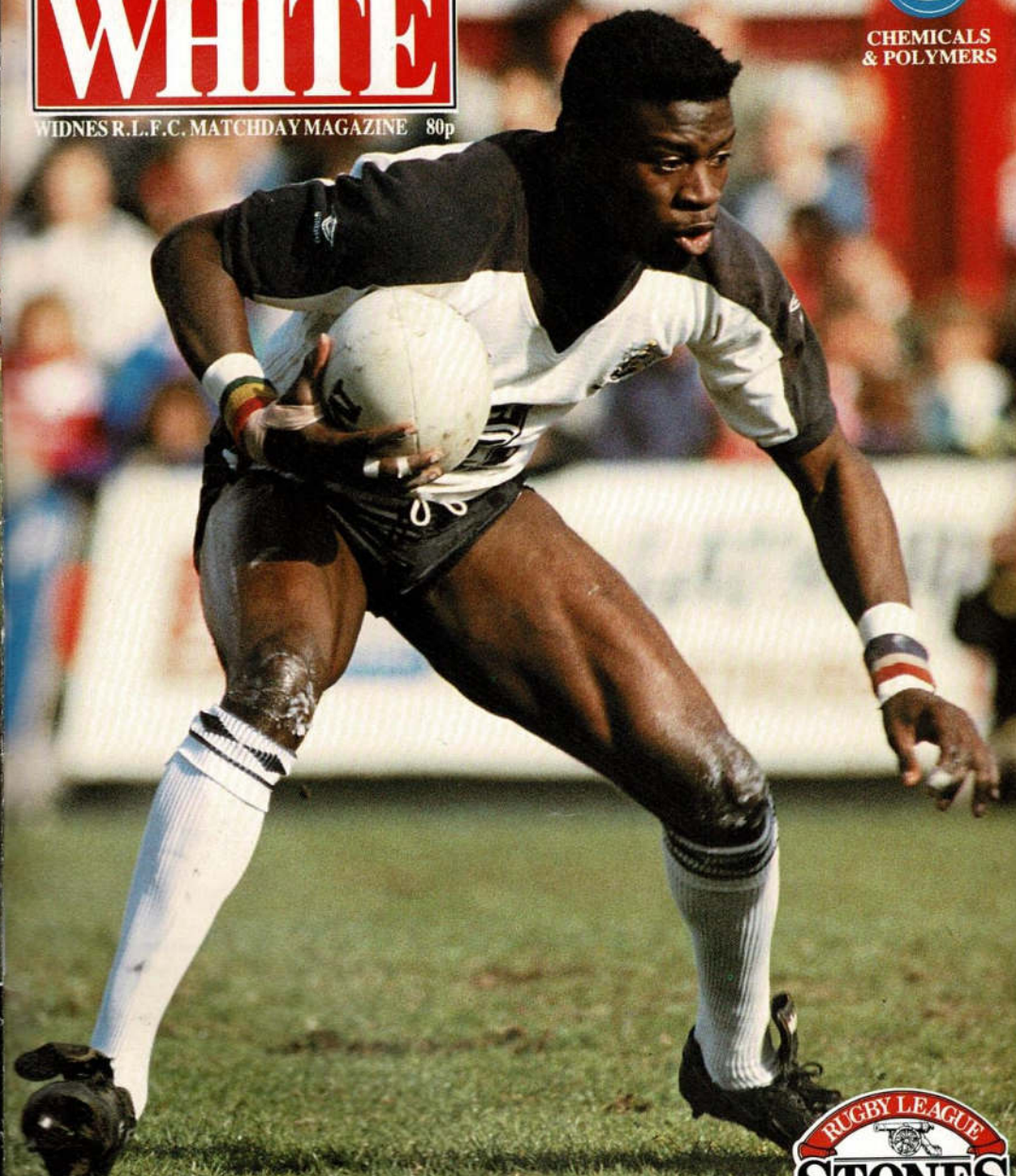
**BLACK AND
WHITE**

WIDNES R.L.F.C. MATCHDAY MAGAZINE 80p

CLUB SPONSOR



CHEMICALS
& POLYMERS



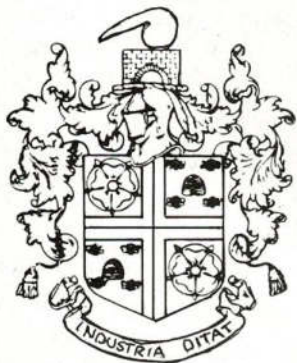
Tuesday, 2nd October, 1990. Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

WIDNES v OLDHAM



DAILY STAR

**WIDNES
R.L.F.C.**



C&P

**CHEMICALS
& POLYMERS**

Official Club Sponsors

THE WINNING TEAM

Tonight we welcome Oldham to Naughton Park for our re-arranged Stones Bitter Championship game. The boys from Watersheddings have had a fairly mixed start to the season, but will be keen to repeat the form that ended our Wembley hopes last year. Like their near neighbours Rochdale, Oldham have a Widnes Old Boys look about them. Derek Pyke has teamed up with Andy Ruane, Duncan Platt, Keith Newton and Des Foy to lead the Roughyeds challenge for honours.

Our second trophy of the season is safely in the cabinet after our close win against Salford, in last Saturday's Lancashire Cup Final. While never really hitting top form we just did enough to shade a very committed Salford line-up.

As this was our 13th Lancs Cup Final, I suppose we had the luck on our side from the word go.

And finally we are £500 better off, having been named Stones Bitter 1st Division Team of the Month for August/September.

Cover Story: Martin Offiah "gamebreaker" at Central Park last Saturday.

(Photography by Philip Brown).

General Office: Tel. 051-495 2250.

OFFICIALS

Chief Patron: THE EARL OF DERBY, M.C.
President: MR. R. C. HIRONS
Chairman: MR. R. OWEN
Committee: MR. S. EVANS
MR. F. NYLAND, MR. W. E. HUNT,
MR. J. PRESTON, MR. D. K. MORGAN,
MRS. A. SPENCER, MR. J. MILLS,
MR. T. A. SMITH.
Secretary: MR. JOHN STRINGER
R.L. Council Representative: MR. T. A. SMITH

*Lancs. & Alliance Management
Committee Member and County
Representative:* MR. D. K. MORGAN
Hon. Surgeon: MR. P. ROSTON
Club Doctor: DR. G. G. TANDY
Coaching Staff: D. LAUGHTON,
C. TYRER, K. SORESEN
Hon. Dental Surgeon: I. HAWLEY
Physiotherapist: MRS. V. GLEAVE

PROGRAMME

Editor: FRANK TOBIN Jnr.
Editorial: STEPHEN FOX, JOHN POTTER,
CHRIS MOORE, RON GIRVIN,
WILLIAM BOOT, PAT CLUSKEY.

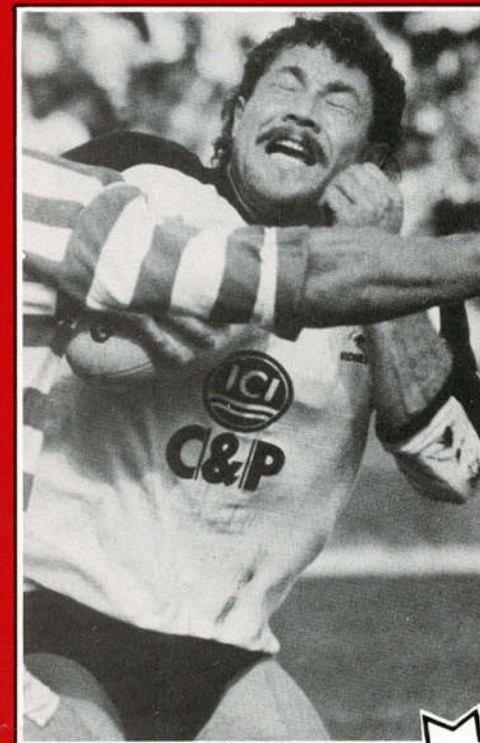
Photography: PETER HESTON,
ANDREW VARLEY, MIKE FLYNN,
RUGBY LEAGUER & OPEN RUGBY.

CLUB HONOURS

Division One Champions: 1977-78,
1987-88, 1988-89.
Challenge Cup Winners: 1929-30, 1936-37,
1963-64, 1974-75, 1978-79, 1980-81, 1983-84.
Lancashire League Winners: 1919-20.
Lancashire Cup Winners: 1945-46, 1974-75,
1975-76, 1976-77, 1978-79, 1979-80.

John Player Trophy Winners: 1975-76, 1978-79.
Premiership Winners: 1979-80, 1981-82,
1982-83, 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90.
BBC2 Floodlit Trophy Winners: 1978-79.
Charity Shield Winners: 1988, 1989, 1990.
European & World Club Champions: 1989.

BLACK AND WHITE



STAR MAN v. SALFORD
KURT SORESENSEN

TODAY'S MATCH SPONSOR P & O DISTRIBUTION

Typeset and Printed by:
Engraving Services Ltd., Manchester.

*Note: Views expressed by contributors
and correspondents do not necessarily
reflect the opinions of the Editor
or Widnes RLFC.*



"A TRIP AROUND THE MAZE THAT IS NEW ZEALAND RUGBY LEAGUE"

It would appear that the New Zealand authorities are finally getting round to making a decision on Esene Faimalo.

To be quite frank, if we didn't have so many games, I would like to fly out there and fix Esene up with a damn good barrister to sort things out. They seem to muck people around, just for the fun of it, irrespective of the fact that they are restricting people's earning potential. We are not the only club who are having a trip around the maze that is NZ Rugby League. It was only two seasons ago when they did, what I thought at the time, to be totally unacceptable, by allowing Kevin Iro to play at Wembley whilst stopping him from playing in the three games leading up to the final. How petty is that?

It seems they make the rules up as they go along . . . the goalposts keep moving and the touchlines keep coming in! But if they are foolish enough to think that British and Australian clubs will put up with the situation for much longer, they are sadly mistaken. The way I see it, it will come down to Aus 1 G.B. 2 and N.Z. nowhere.

I was a very proud man when the lads brought the Cup back for the first time in 11 years, and it doesn't bother me

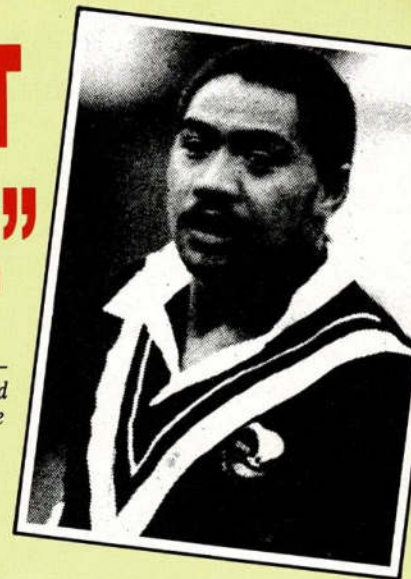
when people say "we didn't play well". Having said that, it wasn't one of our best performances.

If supporters can cast their minds back to Central Park a few seasons ago when we were robbed, it mattered not to Wigan as they stood on the Town Hall steps with the Challenge Cup.

All credit to Salford, who carried on the tradition of Second Division sides performing well in the competition, as happened last year in the Warrington v. Oldham final.

So let's enjoy our trophy, it's probably the nicest Cup of all, with the winning skippers names on little shields on the

ESENE FAIMALO—
Kiwi forward
in the middle
of clearance
wrangle.



base, just the sort of curiosity item to bring down to your local.

The way I see it, as the season unfolds, we have won the Charity Shield and the Lancs Cup, with the rest still to go for. If you're looking for a team to win the lot, then we have to be in pole position.



COACH DOUG LAUGHTON TELLING THE REAL STORY

VISITORS

The season got off to a dream start for Oldham, just what they needed to re-establish their claim as First Division material, by winning two of their three matches so far. They overcame the big spending Leeds, and the recent Yorkshire Cup winners Castleford by the scores 32-22 and 28-22 respectively at the Watersheddings, but sandwiched in between was a narrow defeat at Wakefield 17-12.

Coach Tony Barrow who came to Oldham in November 1988, believes a big squad of forwards is essential in his quest to stay up there with the top clubs. He sold prop Leo Casey to Featherstone for £100,000 and then spent the fee wisely buying Derek Pyke from Widnes for £50,000, Austin Donegan the St. Helens forward at £20,000, Ronnie Duane the Warrington forward/back for £15,000 and Norman Francis the Leeds winger for £30,000. These signings will no doubt strengthen the existing team with such notables as Ruane, Fieldhouse, Newton, Russell, Round, McAlister and Keith Atkinson who is currently injured. The backs are solid and pacey with Foy, Henderson, Lord and Irving a match for most sides.

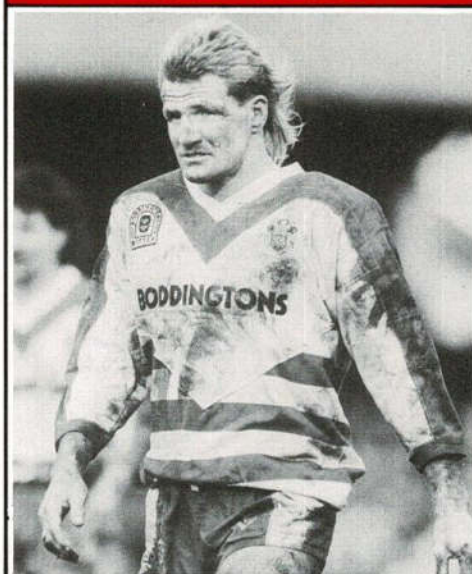
Oldham were most definitely the surprise package last season with notable Cup wins over St. Helens, Wigan, Salford, Barrow and Widnes, all First Division sides. However, they will be the first to realise that playing in the First Division week in and week out is a different proposition to

raising their game for a one off knock-out competition.

The rapport between Widnes and Oldham fans has always been very good. Many Widnes spectators wished them well after the Challenge Cup quarter-final last season here at Naughton Park and the support continued at last year's Premiership final, when they shouted for each other's team against the White Rose opposition. ■

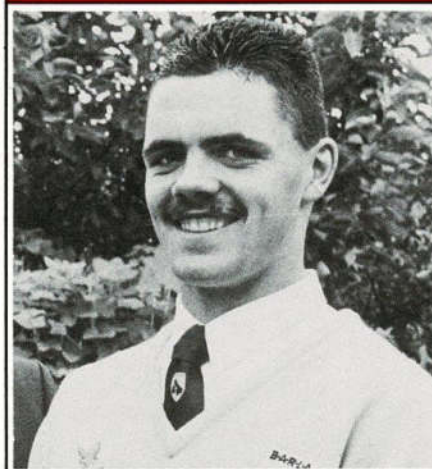
Tommy Martyn has been a bit of a teenage sensation after being a big hit on the young Lions tour of Australia in 1988. Oldham won the race for his signature, and with such illustrious relatives as father Tommy the ex-Leigh and Warrington international, and equally talented uncle

IMPORT



JOHN COGGER

ROOKIE



TOMMY MARTYN

Mick, young Tommy's feet will stay firmly on the ground.

Last season Martyn played only five first team games, plus five as substitute, and scored six tries, one of them in the Second Division Premiership final against Hull K.R. I don't know which was the most enjoyable, his try or his celebration of it afterwards!

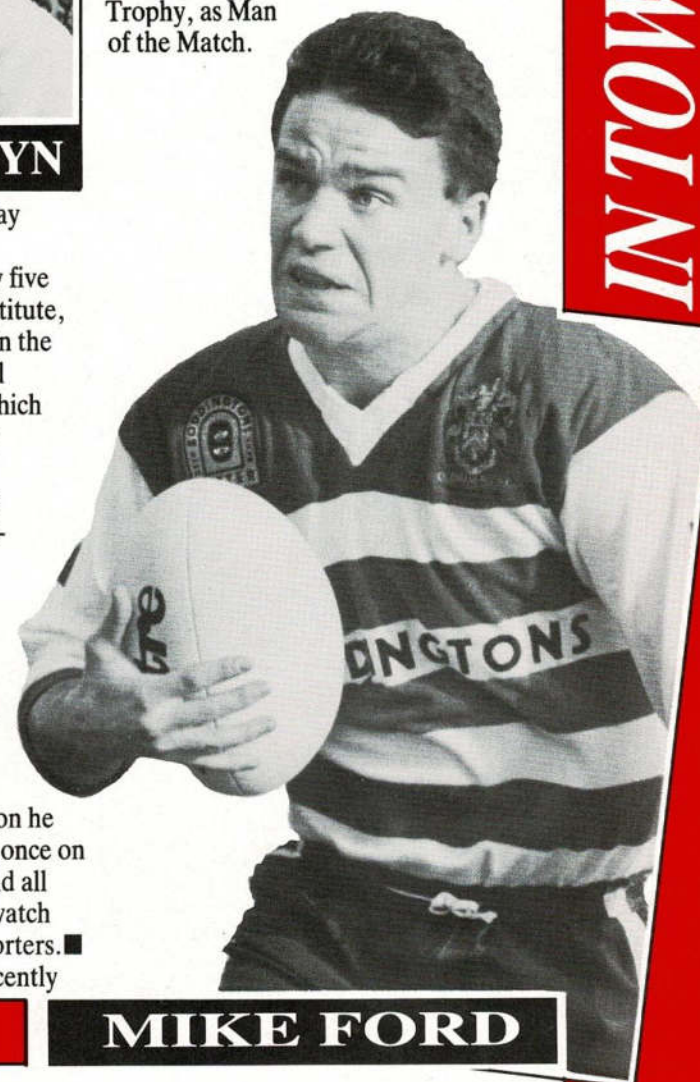
This season he has scored three times already with an unusual hat-trick against Leeds involving a try, a conversion and a drop goal. ■

Something of a prodigal son look about John Cogger at the moment, but for how long? John is just starting his second year of a three year contract, but wants an improved deal, hence the reason he stayed away for a short time. But once on the field this speedy aggressive and all action loose forward is a man to watch and a big favourite with the supporters. ■

Coach Tony Barrow quoted recently

MAIN MAN

that Andy Gregory is the only scrum half better than Michael Ford and few would argue with that statement on his present form. Since returning to play for his home town club in 1988, Ford's game has gone from strength to strength, and he has found the perfect half back partner in Australian Brett Clarke. Michael's inspiration is the key to many of Oldham's victories, and was much in evidence in that comeback at Old Trafford last season against Hull K.R., winning for himself the Tom Bergin Trophy, as Man of the Match.



MIKE FORD



OLDHAM

IN TOWN TODAY

It's a measure of the success of Widnes over recent times that so many talented players have left the club in order to seek regular first team football. For the spectators this is very frustrating, especially as such players have an uncanny knack of coming back to haunt us! For the players, their position is of course, understandable. Many of those who have moved on, knew that they had the talent to walk into any First Division team and yet they were confined to a life of toiling away in the reserves with only the occasional first team outing as a result of injury or suspension. Indeed these rare appearances could serve only

as a sharp reminder of what could be available at clubs such as Rochdale, Oldham, Warrington and others. This of course gave rise to a near critical state of affairs in our reserve team as the side was continually having to re-adjust in key positions happily the situation has now been dramatically improved with many close season signings. However I'm sure that the backroom staff need no reminder that it could happen again in the future!

The catalogue of players who have left Naughton Park in recent years, could almost form a team on its own. Today's opponents, Oldham seem to have benefitted more than most from Widnes' loss. They snapped us full-back Duncan Platt, pack star Keith Newton and the erstwhile A-team captain Andy Ruane. Each was proved that they can make it at the highest level, as Widnes found out to their cost in last season's Challenge Cup competition.

One of Oldham's more recent captures from the Chemics is of course Derek "Degsy" Pyke. In his years at Widnes he earned the respect of players and spectators alike. His undoubted lack of try scoring ability was matched only by his tremendous commitment and endless work-rate. Derek was well liked by all at Naughton Park and the man's personality led to some amusing incidents, one such instance was at the pre-season training camp on Anglesey. Poor old Pykie found canoeing a strange and somewhat complicated affair. His eskimo rolls were more like Leigh flops. He found little difficulty in rolling over to become submerged but the recovery proved almost impossible. When the boys tried their hand at horse riding it was a similar story. Derek's horse was quietly ambling along the beach minding it's own business when it soon became apparent that the saddle was slowly but surely slipping off the horses back and round towards its belly. Derek clung on for grim death but eventually he succumbed and fell face first into the dirt. As if that wasn't enough Derek looked up to see his team mates



Derek Pyke—ex-Widnes prop now with Oldham.

galloping towards him. Fortunately he successfully dodged the flying hooves to live another day!

It seems that 'Degsy' was also the victim of the odd practical joke. Before the Charity Shield match against Wigan on the Isle of Man the team were out for a meal. A phone call was announced for

Mr. Pyke. The caller pretended to be Andy Goodway, he then proceeded to tell Derek in no uncertain terms what he was going to do to him the next day! What Derek didn't know is that the caller was a certain Widnes centre!

It's to be hoped that Platt, Ruane and company go from strength to strength in their future careers and perhaps just as important, that talent of the future can be persuaded to stay at Widnes!

Supporters' club coaches to Hull K.R. on Sunday 14th October will leave at 10.45 a.m. price £4.90.

Wakefield on Sunday 21st October will leave at 1 p.m. price £3.60.

First test at Wembley on Saturday October 27th will leave at 7.30 a.m. price £10.

Book today with Alan Rae at the back of the Main Stand or in the week at Rae's Shop, 9 Sunningdale Avenue, Hough Green.

**TODAY'S
MATCH SPONSOR**

P & O

**DISTRIBUTION
LIMITED**

WARRINGTON RD, WIDNES
TEL: 051-495 1190

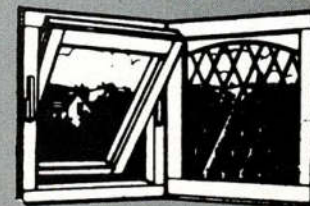
McDONNELL DOUBLE GLAZING

WINDOWS · DOORS · PATIO DOORS · CONSERVATORIES

Your Specialists for uPVC

- ★ Hardwood ★ Softwood ★ Aluminium
- ★ Double Glazed Units ★ All made to measure

15 LACEY STREET, WIDNES.
Tel: 051-424 3623.



Jiffy joins the Pie-Eaters . . . World Exclusive

Shock waves crashed against Wigan Pier this week as rumours were rife that J.D. had been lured away from Naughton Park.

The mecuria! Welshman was unavailable for comment, but sources close to Central Park revealed that Davies's ambitions to play stand-off have more of a chance of being realised with the Pie-Eaters than with Widnes!

Wigan's present number six, Shaun Edwards, refused to be drawn into the debate . . . but he was more than a bit miffed when Jiffy arrived at a recent training session, wearing his very own jersey, as our photograph reveals . . .

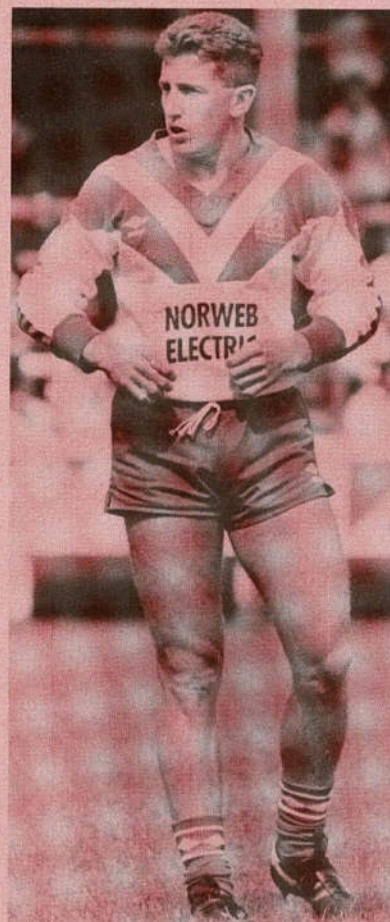
Has J.D. done a Myers? . . . is it part of the "Gregory Swap?" your guess is as good as mine.

While we're on about "Boy Wonder" Edwards, doesn't it get right up your nose that he is talked about as being the automatic choice stand-off to face the Roos.

Poor old Gary Schofield must wonder what he has to do to persuade the media that he deserves his place ahead of the overrated Edwards. Gazza's astute attacking play in New Zealand, not only brought him some magical tries but rightly earned him "Man of the Series." On present form, Schofield is head and shoulders above him. Talking of head and shoulders, that's who Boy Wonder looks like on the run . . . Gladstone Small!

What a day! Hold up at Worsley, delays at Pontefract and then one-way traffic at the Boulevard!! It was really quite entertaining spotting "Widnes cars" while diverting round Manchester and Leeds thanks to the chaos on the M62. Must do it again sometime!!

On the mega-journey home tuned-in to Rugby League Review and listened to smoothy Neil Hanson presenting the



programme. But did my ears deceive me? Castleford were in their 8th Yorkshire Cup Final this decade!! Come, come Neil it's only 1990!

Those Widnes fans lucky or should that be unlucky enough to actually get to Hull, had their hopes of a favourable refereeing performance boosted by the sight of ace whistler, John Holdsworth going through his extensive pre-match warm up sporting the new highly stylish Widnes tracksuit. As it turned out the Airlie Birds were more than a match for anyone.

I watched a video during the summer of the Widnes Under-11's trip to Wembley. I marvelled at the high level of skills in both training and the actual game, and I laughed at the impromptu celebrations afterwards in their hotel. It recalled my schoolboy day and I thought how times have changed. I was a budding second row forward, and in one particular game picked up a loose ball, handed off the first defender, side stepped the next two, and then put the stand off under the post with a peach of a pass. As I walked back to the half way line feeling rather pleased with myself, our coach's booming voice came across the field with a very clear message for me, "Boot cut out the fancy stuff leave it to the backs", ah well, at least I had the free milk to look forward to!"

I was browsing through an old copy of *Open Rugby* the other day when I came across this little "gem" sent in by M.J. Smith from the Isle of Man. **Boyhood Memories . . .**

1. Strong 'Wintergreen' smell from players tunnel.
2. Steam rising from muddled pack.
3. Rugged, hard to beat, Cumbrian visitors.
4. Winning programme numbers.
5. Yorkshire loose-forwards wearing 14.
6. Chemics in black and white HOOPS.

*Captain Gazza or Boy Wonder? Your votes please.
Photo: Open Rugby.*

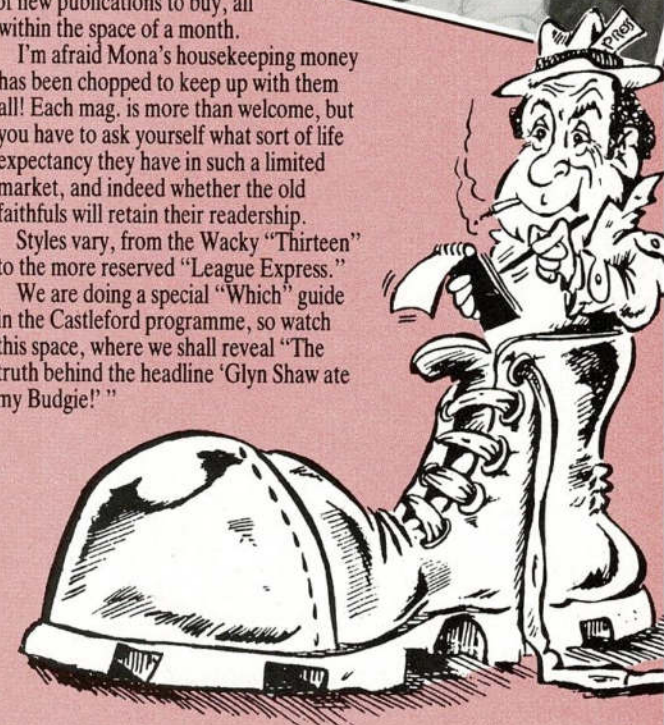


Once upon a time there was the Rugby Leaguer and The Eddie Waring Annual and that was your lot! Now all of a sudden the R.L. faithful have an avalanche of new publications to buy, all within the space of a month.

I'm afraid Mona's housekeeping money has been chopped to keep up with them all! Each mag. is more than welcome, but you have to ask yourself what sort of life expectancy they have in such a limited market, and indeed whether the old faithfuls will retain their readership.

Styles vary, from the Wacky "Thirteen" to the more reserved "League Express."

We are doing a special "Which" guide in the Castleford programme, so watch this space, where we shall reveal "The truth behind the headline 'Glyn Shaw ate my Budgie!'"



NEIL WRIGHT

SOLICITORS

78, Victoria Road, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7RA.

Conveyancing, Accidents, Divorce, Business Matters, Benefits, Housing . . . Whatever legal problems you may have speak to us for free initial advice.

Dial 100 and ask for FREEFONE NEIL WRIGHT SOLICITORS.

A RING-A-ROUND SERVICE
KEEP IN TOUCH!
RING NOW FOR
LIVE MATCH REPORTS
FEATURES-INTERVIEWS
24 HOURS
Chemics Call
0898 888 633

Best equipped in class.



Introducing the latest Sunny range.

Find Out More Locally
by Visiting

Widnes
CAR CENTRE LTD.
MOOR LANE · WIDNES · CHESHIRE
NEAR RUNCORN BRIDGE
Tel: 051-420 2000

The latest Nissan Sunny has more built-in luxury than any other car in its class. No quality family saloon or hatchback has ever offered this level of equipment.

Power Steering.

Every 1.6 litre Sunny in the range has speed sensitive power assisted steering, for effortless driving and easy parking.

... You won't find THAT on
Volvo 340GLE, Golf 1.6CL or Escort 1.6GL.

Tinted Glass Sunroof.

Fitted as standard on all the latest Sunny 1.3 and 1.6 litre hatchbacks and saloons. Electric touch-button on the GSX model.

... You won't find THAT on
Escort 1.6GL - its sunroof is manual. While Volvo 340GLE and Golf 1.6CL don't have sunroofs.

Electric Windows all round.

Every seat in the latest Sunny, front and back, offers touch-button window control. With tinted glass for extra comfort.

... You won't find THAT on
Golf 1.6CL, Escort 1.6GL (no electric windows at all) or Volvo 340GLE (front only).

Central Door Locking.

It's fast, simple and safe. And it's standard on every Sunny saloon and 5-door hatchback.

... You won't find THAT on
Golf 1.6CL. Only available with Volvo 1.7 litre and higher range Escorts.

4-Speaker, Electronic-Tune Stereo Radio/Cassette.

The four speaker system on the latest Sunny GS range delivers rich, clear all-round sound.

... You won't find THAT on
Volvo 340GLE or Golf 1.6CL.

Asymmetric Split-folding Rear Seats.

The new Sunny's roomy luggage space becomes totally flexible, with the option of leaving a seat free.

... You won't find THAT on
Volvo 340GLE or Golf 1.6CL.

BLACK AND WHITE CLUBLINE

LAST Thursday evening the Social Club held their Annual General Meeting. The meeting was chaired by Tom Smith in the absence of chairman Ray Owen who has been under the weather in recent weeks.

I am glad to report that Ray is feeling much better and was able to attend last Saturday's Lancashire Cup Final.

The Social Club A.G.M. referred to the present situation in the Rugby League where many Social Clubs have been sold back to the 'money lenders', presumably because of fall-off in customers and high overheads.

We are glad to report that the Widnes R.L.F.C. still own their Social Club and long may it be so.

At the year end (May 1990) the Social Club had transferred over £30,000 to the Football Club's bank account, and we hope for an even better return in 1991.

We hope to be able to boost our membership in the next few months with a hope that the Club will once again be the place to be for weekend entertainment.

David Alexander that tremendous entertainer was the star of our cabaret last Saturday week, and played to a packed house.

Sunday is our regular Disco night and is a must for all the youngsters.

Tuesday nights have now been taken over by David Hulme and his 'Young Persons' Disco. Everyone up to 16 years old are welcome and it has been a great success. Unfortunately the Disco is not on tonight because of the Widnes versus Oldham match, but will resume next Tuesday at 7.30 p.m.

We hope that supporters will rally round and take out membership of the Club. The cost is only £1.50 per annum and allows you many privileges within the Social Club.

We run a very successful 'games room' with all the major satellite TV companies installed including Sky, British Eurospace and B.S.B.

The Darts, Dominoes, Snooker and Pool teams have enjoyed great success this last season with League trophies being won.

The Widnes R.L. Social Club is ideal for that extra special occasion. We cater for weddings, anniversaries, christenings and Christmas parties are our speciality.

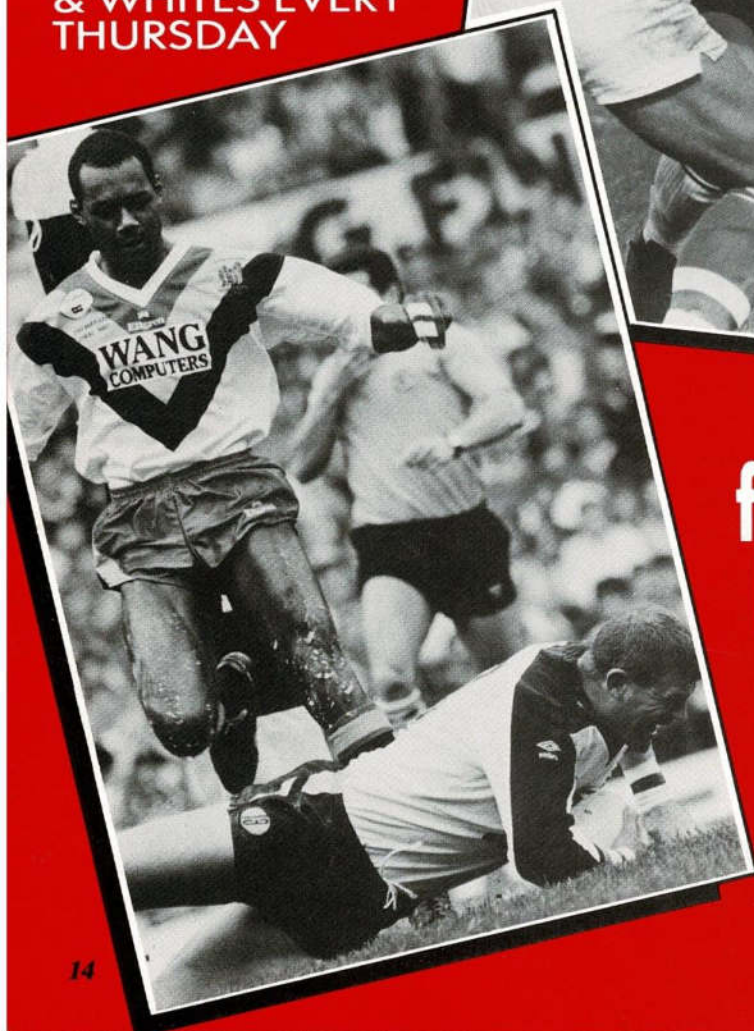
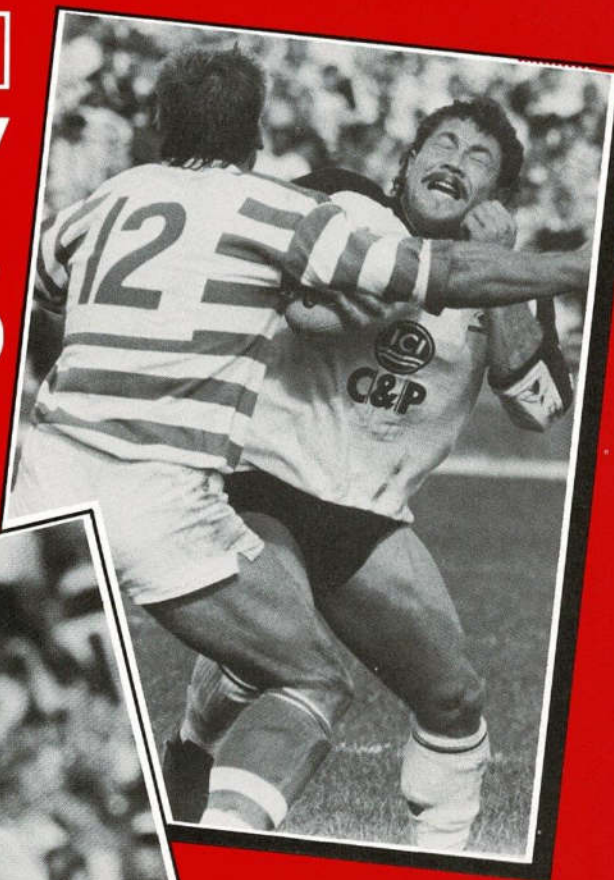
Any information you require, please telephone our Social Club manager Mr. Paul Brodick on 051-495 2250.

LEAGUE



THE WEEKLY NEWS

KEEP IN TOUCH
WITH THE BLACK
& WHITES EVERY
THURSDAY



for all that's
best in
Rugby
League
Action

THE names of ICT Widnes Hall of Fame will soon be announced, but one name on the list is certain to be Nat Silcock. Ron Girvin looks back on his career.

Nat, who lost count of the number of appearances he made for Lancashire, was one of only three forwards to go on two tours Down Under while on the Naughton Park staff.

He was the first in 1932 and 1936. He was later to be followed by Jim Mills and Mick Adams who is the only forward to have appeared in more Test matches.

Nat, a mountain of a man, who had tremendous power and pace, played 12 Tests from 1932-37.

Adams had 13 appearances but two of those were as a substitute, so perhaps Nat could claim some sort of record as the 'most' capped forward.

In those days of course, there were not the number of Tests that we have today. France weren't playing Rugby League then and there was no Papua New Guinea either.

Nat played two Tests, against New Zealand and Australia in the 1932 tour; all three when the Kangaroos came here a year later, all three in Australia in 1936—when he was accompanied on the tour by the great Tommy McCue—and two in 1937. He was on a losing side on only two occasions.

But the 1936 tour probably resulted in the big man missing out on perhaps the most coveted medal of all. In the days of a championship play-off, Widnes lost to Hull while Silcock and McCue were on tour.

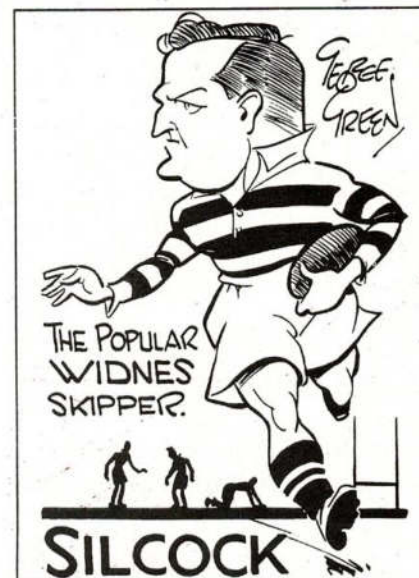
"If we had been playing in the final I'm sure Widnes would have won the title for the first time", he said.

It was, however, against the Australians in 1929 that Nat pulled off a feat which many old timers talk about today.

As the 1930 Wembley souvenir put it in his pen picture: "Combining weight with speed, Silcock has distinguished himself in the new style of open forward play. He has some spectacular tries to his credit and the wonderful way in which he overtook speedy Australian wing threequarter (Finch) will long be remembered".

Silcock played in the second row in that Wembley Challenge Cup final against St. Helens. It was the first time the Chémics had even been in the final but they pulled off what is regarded in RL history as one of the greatest Wembley shocks with a 10-3 triumph.

The Widnes team of local lads—only South



African Van Rooyen was an outsider—beat a star-studded Saints side 10-3, all the points coming in the first half.

Five years later Silcock had moved up to the front row, but his second Wembley trip ended in disappointment as Widnes lost 11-5 to a Hunslet side who played with 12 men for half the game because of a shoulder injury to Morrell sustained as he scored a try.

Nat had only two years to wait for another Wembley trip. This time he went as captain and led Widnes to a great 18-5 win over Keighley and put the icing on the cake by getting the fourth try.

Nat regarded that as possibly his greatest moment of his career. It was a career which started in 1923-24 and ended suddenly in the 1937-38 season.

"I woke up one morning before a Warrington match with pains in my chest. The doctor said that I had an internal problem and that my career was over." Unfortunately in later life he suffered badly from arthritis.

Sadly he reflected: "The conditions we played in were terrible some times. You couldn't get a proper bath and often in cold water. There are times when I wish I had never played the game."

Thankfully Widnes followers of the 20s and 30s were glad he did to become one of the greatest players of all time.



THE RON GIRVIN COLUMN

BLACK AND WHITE

FACTFILE

BLACK & WHITE
FACTFILE IS
SPONSORED BY

GRACE Dearborn

★ Man-of-the-Match

T Try

G Goal

• Top Tackler

Home Games in Bold

P. Substitute Played



AUGUST

Sun. 19 Wigan (CIS Charity Shield) N W 24- 8 11,187
Sun. 26 Whitehaven (Lancs Cup Rd. 1) . . . A W 70- 6 4,054

SEPTEMBER

Sun. 2 Wigan (Lancs Cup Rd. 2) H W 24-22 13,836
Sun. 9 Bradford Northern A W 14-10 6,701
Wed. 12 Warrington (Lancs Cup S-F) H W 20- 4 11,708
Sun. 16 Featherstone Rovers H W 41-14 6,566
Sun. 23 Hull A L 6-32 7,712
Sat. 29 Salford (Lancs Cup Final) N W 24-18 7,485

OCTOBER

Wed. 3 Oldham H
Sat. 6 Castleford H
Sun. 14 Hull K.R. A
Sun. 21 Wakefield Trinity A

NOVEMBER

Sat. 3 Leeds H
Sun. 18 Australia H
Sun. 25 Oldham A

DECEMBER

Sun. 2 Regal Trophy (Round 1)
Sun. 9 Regal Trophy (Round 2)
Sun. 16 Hull K.R. H
Wed. 26 Warrington A

JANUARY

Tue. 1 St. Helens H
Sun. 6 Castleford A
Sun. 13 Hull H
Sun. 20 Wigan H
Sun. 27 Rochdale Hornets A

FEBRUARY

Sun. 3 Wakefield Trinity H
Sun. 10 Silk Cut Challenge (Round 1)
Sun. 17 Leeds A
Sun. 24 Silk Cut Challenge (Round 2)
MARCH

Sun. 3 Sheffield Eagles H
Wed. 10 Wigan A
Sun. 17 Bradford Northern H
Sun. 24 Featherstone Rovers A
Fri. 29 Warrington H

APRIL

Mon. 1 St. Helens A
Sun. 7 Sheffield Eagles A
Sun. 14 Rochdale Hornets H

STONES BITTER TEAMS OF THE MONTH

Last weekend's Lancashire Cup Finalists Widnes and Salford are the Stones Bitter Teams for August/September.

Widnes receive a cheque for £500 as the First Division Team of the Month having retained the CIS Insurance Charity Shield with a 24-8 success over Wigan at Swansea, before defeating Whitehaven, Wigan and Warrington on the way to the Red Rose Final, averaging 38 points per match. In the Stones Bitter Championship the Chemics have recorded an away victory at Bradford Northern, and home success to Featherstone Rovers before suffering their first defeat of the season at Hull last weekend.

The Second Division Stones Bitter prize of £350 goes to a revitalised Salford side who have bounced back from relegation to reach the Lancashire Cup Final with home victories over First Division duo Oldham and St. Helens plus semi-final success against Leigh. The Red Devils top the Second Division with away successes at Barrow and Batley and a home victory over Workington Town to maintain a 100 per cent record.

David J. Howes, Public Affairs Executive.

HALL OF FAME WINNERS

Darren
Wright and
Richard
Eyres present
the winners of
the recent
ICT Hall of
Fame
Competition
with their
Free Season
Tickets.



Specialists in: PROFILE BURNING—TANK ROLLING—
WELDING & MACHINING OF MILD STEEL & NON FERROUS COMPONENTS

HUNT & PARKER

ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS

Walmsley Street, Tanhouse Industrial Estate, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0SS.
STEEL FABRICATIONS : PIPE INSTALLATIONS : SITE CONTRACTORS : HIRE LABOUR

Telephone: 051-424 2902.

NYLAND & BEATTIE SOLICITORS

Sponsors of Martin Offiah

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM SPEAK TO US . . .

63, Albert Road, Widnes.
Tel: 051-424 5656.

19, Honiton Way, Penketh.
Tel: 0925 724381.

mitre[®]
- official
suppliers
of points
for today's
game



MULTIPLEX

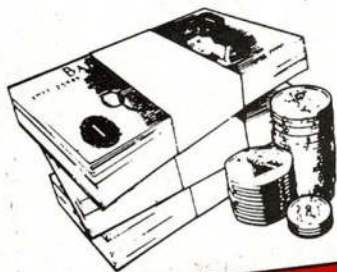


KIWI

mitre
QUALITY COMES FIRST

CHEMICS
LIFELINE

£1000
 TO BE WON WEEKLY



CHEMICS
CASHMAKER

£100
 TO BE WON DAILY
 PLUS

£500 VOUCHERS
 FOR MAJOR
 STORES

Widnes Rugby League Promotions . . .
Definitely the League's best.

TEAM TALK

The defeat by Hull sent many people into a bit of a panic. To my mind whilst we should certainly take note and try to learn from our mistakes I don't think that we should let things get too much out of proportion. These notes are written prior to the Lancashire Cup Final and hopefully the 'pot' is now on our mantle piece, if not, the same message applies. We have one of the most talented squads of players to be found anywhere and when they're all fit we are a force to be reckoned with.

I think that we are still playing too many games. It is only early in the season and already we are having to re-arrange games and play mid-week matches! Something has got to give. The demands of the top players are such that if we carry on at this pace the overall level of performance and therefore entertainment value is bound to slip.

There were no big surprises with the Australia Touring party announced last week. Its nice to see young Brad Fittler get his chance after what has been, by all accounts, a storming season for him in the Winfield Cup, for me though Greg Alexander, his Penrith colleague is the star man of the team. He has the complete game. The main thing tonight is the size of many of their players. Whilst I believe we Brits have just as many skills at our disposal, it's very difficult to show them when your being continually flattened by steaming great Aussies!

Our Paul is coming on well after his unfortunate start to the season. Its now just a matter of physiotherapy to build up the strength in his wrist. Paul Moriarty has had the pins taken out of his leg and is also well on the way to recovery.

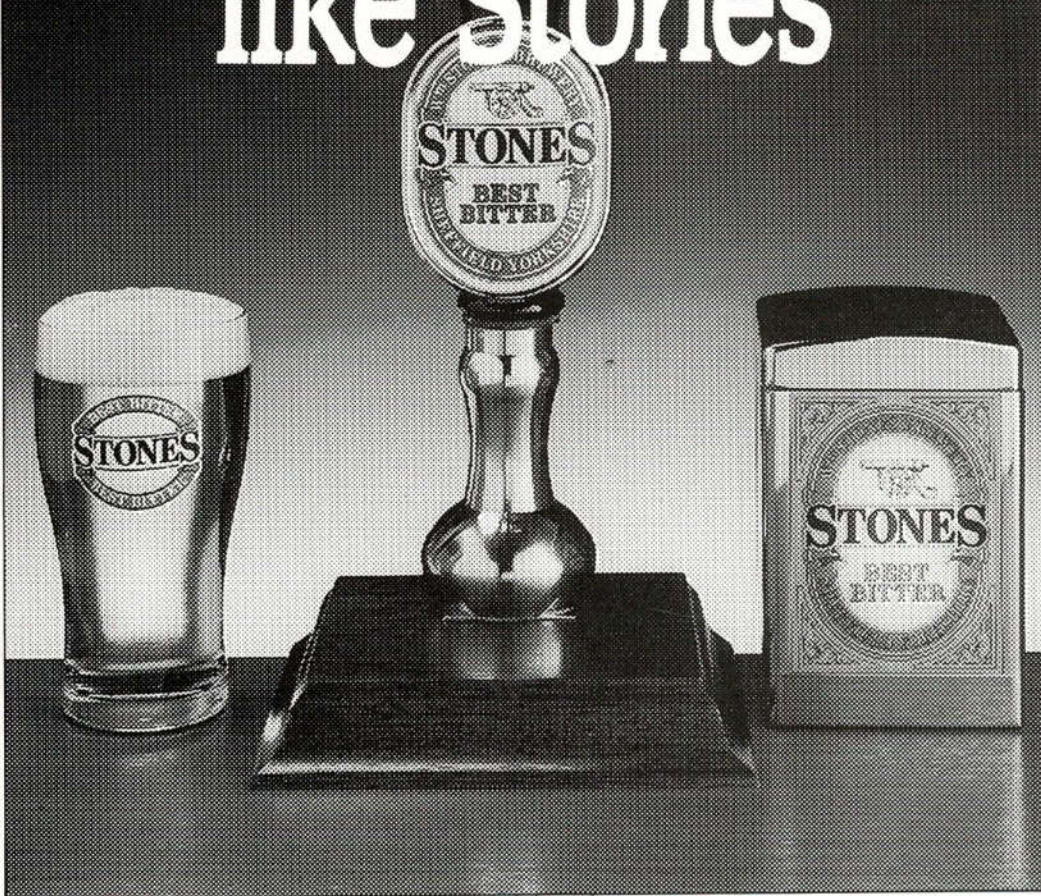
There are still a few places left for my Testimonial Dinner on the 29th October so hurry to avoid disappointment!

The Juniors Disco that was to be held in the Social Club tonight has for obvious reasons had to be cancelled. But please note as of next Tuesday it is back!

Paul Hulme



Wherever you may wander there's no taste like Stones



MAJOR SPONSOR OF THE RUGBY LEAGUE

KIDSCENE SCHOOL FEATURE ST. JOHN FISHER RC SCHOOL

In the middle 1970's St. John Fisher R.C. School in the Halton View District of Widnes was a great force in schoolboy Rugby League. Indeed one of the school's stars from 1974-1975 was current Widnes favourite Barry Dowd.

The school is now displaying a resurgence in playing fortunes as David Cavanagh from the school relates:

"Last season our school rugby team was not impressive, winning only game. This year the school is hoping for an improvement, particularly because we have a new coach, Mr. Hurst. He is a level two coach, so he has plenty to teach us.

"We have a mix of experienced players and newcomers to the game. There are non club players to look out for such as Chris Hanson, Peter Bond, Kevin Jenkins, Chris Melvin and Lee Faulkner.

"Added to these we have boys with club experience at Halton Hornets and Lunts Heath Lions; Stuart Yates, Chris Baxter, David Wall, Steven Leadbetter and myself.

"I think we may do well and possibly come out with a trophy by the end of the season."

KIDSFAX:

1986 only 2 Junior Schools playing regular competitive matches.

1987 4 Junior School playing.

1988 9 Junior Schools playing.

1988/90 12 Junior Schools playing.

Is your school one of these? If not, why not? Ask your parents, ask your teachers.

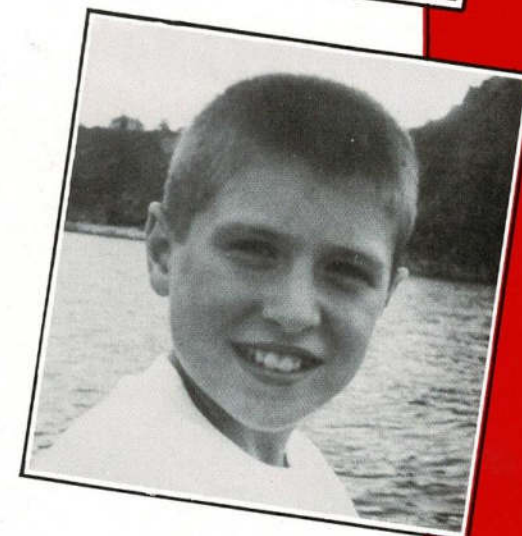
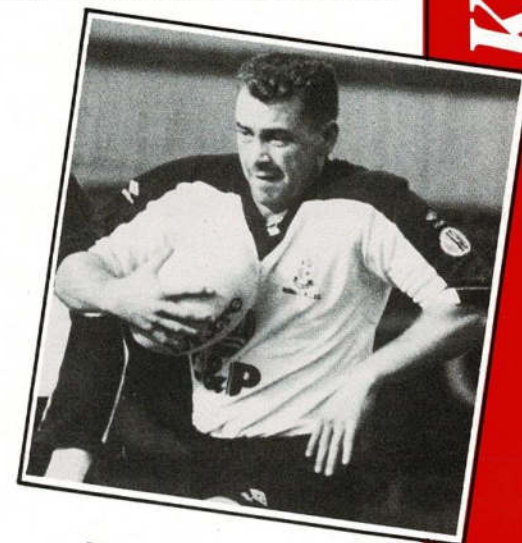
R.L. JOKERS CORNER:

What about the Irish R.L. Coach, Spud Murphey, who wouldn't send his sub on until it rained and the pitch flooded!

Paul Rostance, Cronton C. of E. School.

TONIGHT'S PRE-MATCH KIDSCENE ENTERTAINMENT:

St. John Fisher v. All Saints in the I.C.I. C. & P. Schools Knock-Out Trophy. Round 1. K.O., 6.35 p.m.



SHOOTING STAR—DAVID CAVANAGH
Currently right centre, Widnes Schoolboys.

HOUGH GREEN GARAGE



New & Used Car Sales · Accident Repair Work
24 Hour Breakdown/Recovery Service, Car Hire, Competitive Rates
M.O.T. & Service Workshop

Tel: 051-424 2148 · Fax: 051-424 1955.

PAUL HULME sponsored by

Fraser Chadwick Motors

First for quality used cars

Three Ways Service Station, Chester Road, Helsby.

Telephone: 09282 4302.

RICHIE EYRES SIGNS FOR RUNCORN OUTFIT!

Richie's on the move! In a Renault from

CLIFTON OF RUNCORN

Sign on now for a 1990 model. You too will be on a winning team.

CLIFTON OF RUNCORN
MERSEY ROAD, RUNCORN. (0928) 564444.

LEADER OF THE PACK ... FARNWORTH GARAGE LTD

Suppliers of cars to
Kurt Sorensen & David Hulme
DERBY ROAD, WIDNES
051-423 1663.



MATCH REPORT

WIDNES 27 v. FEATHERSTONE R. 5

Naughton Park, Friday, 14th September

his was a good workmanlike win from a side that got better as the evening wore on. With five of the lads who had been in the two opening games lined up for first team duty on the Sunday it was not surprising the game initially lacked the fluency of earlier performances. Nonetheless to maintain a 100% record after the three opening games augurs well.

Jason Critchley was the ICT Man of the Match with two very well taken tries and a sound all round display at loose forward. Dave Marsh impressed with an authoritative game also scoring two tries and notching 3 goals. The No. 5 trialist winger got his first try for the club and scrum half Hunter completed the scoring with a drop goal.

Widnes team: Hammond, Sarsfield, Fazackerley, Marsh, ANO, Ashton, (ANO 20/Ashton returned HT), Hunter, Grima (Edwards 74), Ogburn, Whitfield, Bowles, Turner, Critchley.

WIDNES 20 v. HULL 26

Naughton Park, Friday, 21st September

What a match this was. Four tries apiece and at the end Gary Pearce's 5 goals from 7 attempts proving the winning margin.

The game began with a first minute Darren Whitefield try and finished with an assault on Hull that brought Sarsfield two extremely well taken tries in the final quarter of an hour closing a 14 point deficit but with time running out Joe Grima's desperate lunge for the line left him inches short.

In between there were some memorable moments, such as ICI Man of the Match Paul Atchenson's powerful tackle into touch on Hull centre Marquis Charles, just before the interval, when the strong running centre looked odds-on a scorer.

The ex-Thatto Heath full back, now on a 5-year contract at Naughton Park impressed in his first come-back after a dislocated shoulder collected in the opener at Wilderspool.

David Marsh's individual try from 40 yards, straight from a Hull drop out, showed intent, purpose, commitment and class.

Widnes team: Atchenson, ANO, Marsh, Howard, Sarsfield, A. Eyres, Whitefield, (Bowles 79), Ogburn (Hunter HT), ANO, Bowles (Davidson HT), Grima, Critchley.

Scorers: tries Sarsfield 2, Whitfield, Marsh. Goals Marsh 2.

ONE TO WATCH

JASON CRITCHLEY

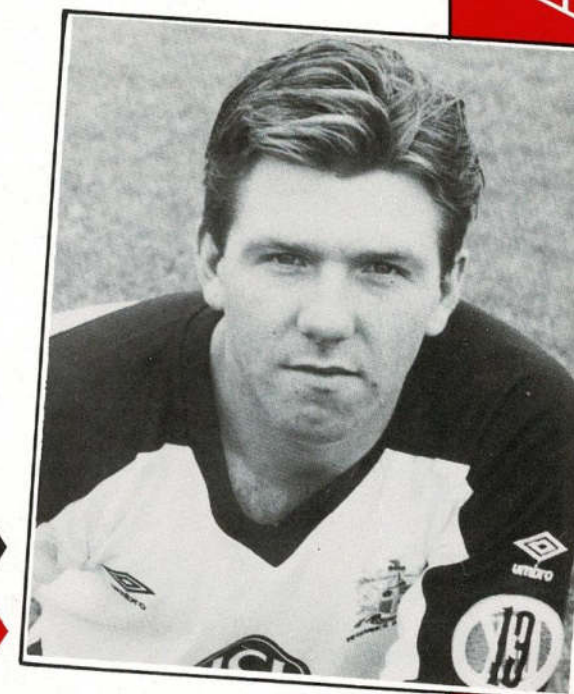
SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE LEAGUE TABLE

DIVISION ONE

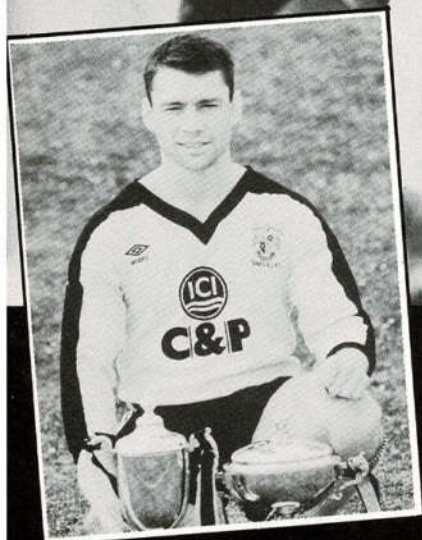
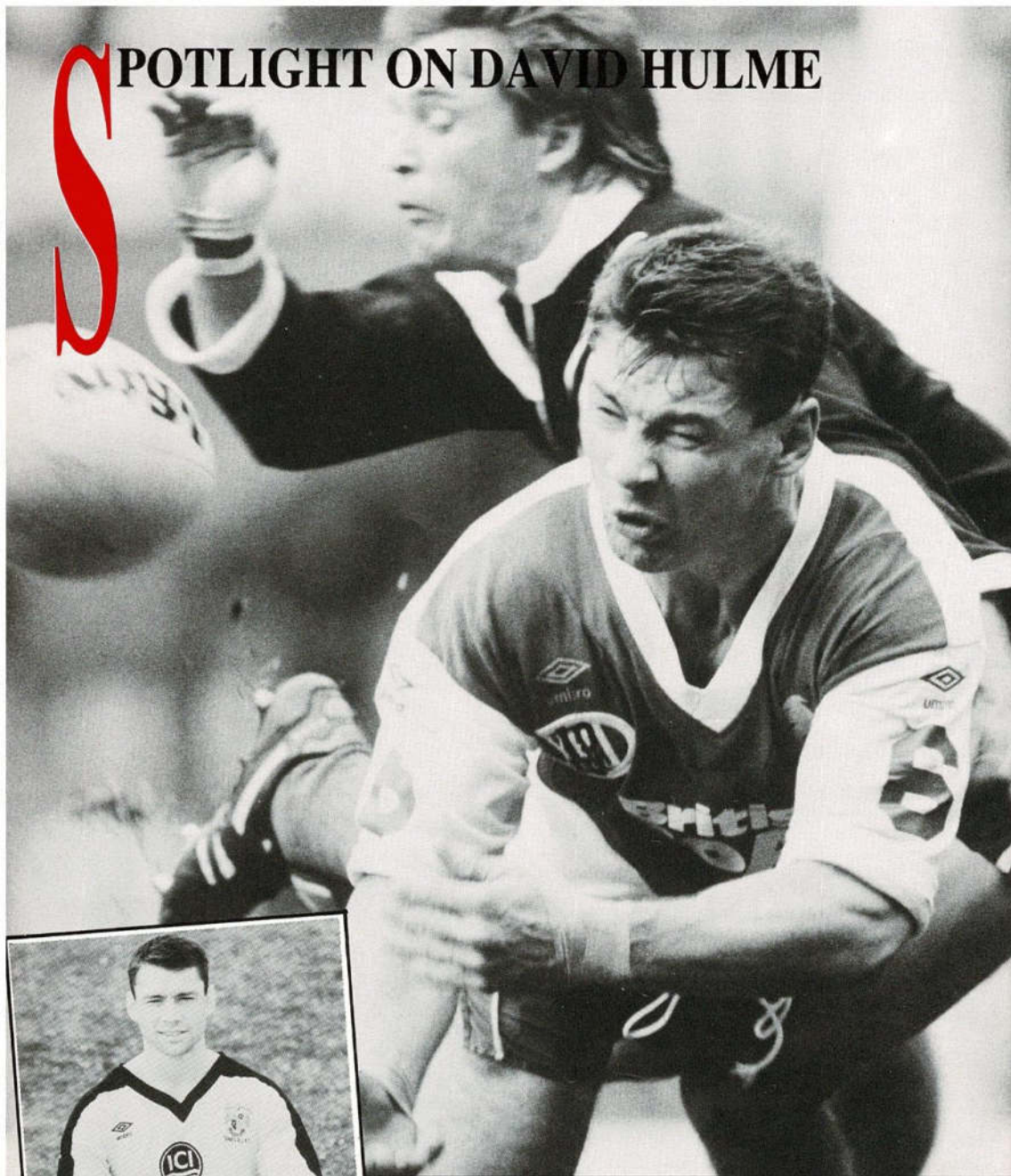
	P	W	D	L	Won Pts	Agst Pts	Pts
Hull	4	4	0	0	122	65	8
Leeds	4	3	0	1	103	60	6
Widnes	4	3	0	1	93	72	6
Hull K.R.	4	3	0	1	87	76	6
Oldham	4	3	0	1	84	75	6
Wigan	4	2	0	2	74	49	4
Salford	4	2	0	2	76	56	4
Halifax	4	2	0	2	86	78	4
Leigh	4	2	0	2	90	90	4
Featherstone R.	3	1	0	2	66	79	2
St. Helens	4	1	0	3	94	117	2
Castleford	3	1	0	2	60	108	2
Warrington	4	0	0	4	92	138	0
Wakefield T.	4	0	0	4	38	102	0

ALLIANCE FIXTURES

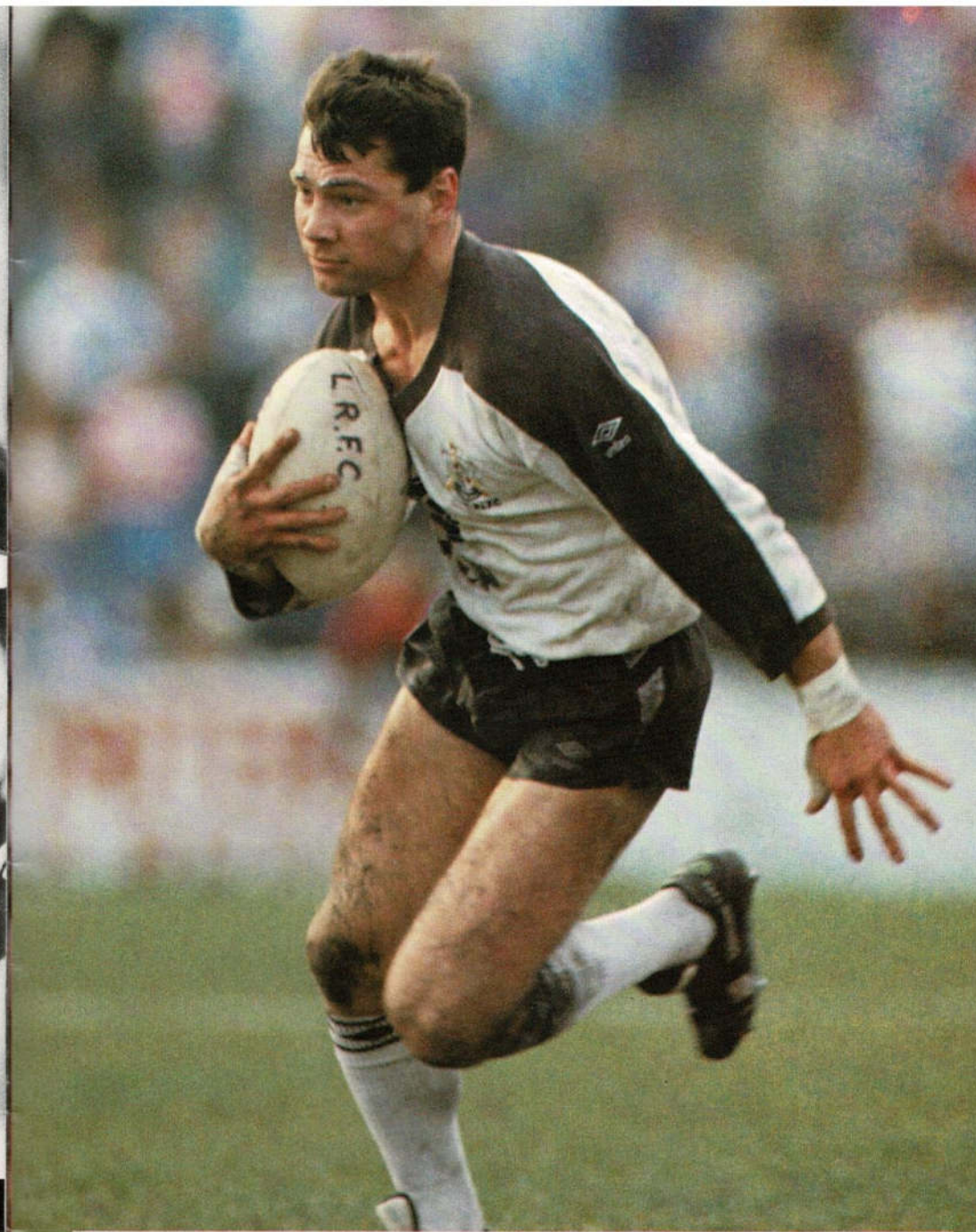
Date		Opponents	Grd
1990			
Aug.	Fri.	31—Warrington	A
Sept.	Fri.	7—Halifax	H
	Fri.	14—Featherstone Rovers	H
	Fri.	21—Hull	H
	Fri.	28—Oldham	A
Oct.	Fri.	5—Lancashire Combination Challenge Shield (Round 1)	
	Fri.	12—Hull KR	H
	Fri.	19—Lancashire Combination Challenge Shield (Round 2)	
	Fri.	26—	
Nov.	Fri.	2—Leeds	A
	Fri.	9—Oldham	H
	Fri.	16—Leigh	A
	Fri.	23—St. Helens	H
	Fri.	30—Salford	H



SPOTLIGHT ON DAVID HULME



DAVID HULME
SPONSORED BY...



Birmingham Midshires
Building Society 49 Sankey Street, Warrington, Cheshire WA1 1SL. Tel: 0925 56668.

J. PRESTON & SON.

STEEL FABRICATORS, BLACKSMITHS & FARRIERS

PITT STREET, WEST BANK, WIDNES, CHESHIRE WA8 0TG.

Telephone: 051-424 3718.

Hawley & Meek Dental Surgeons

Sponsors of Alan Tait

29, WIDNES ROAD, WIDNES.

051-424 2888.

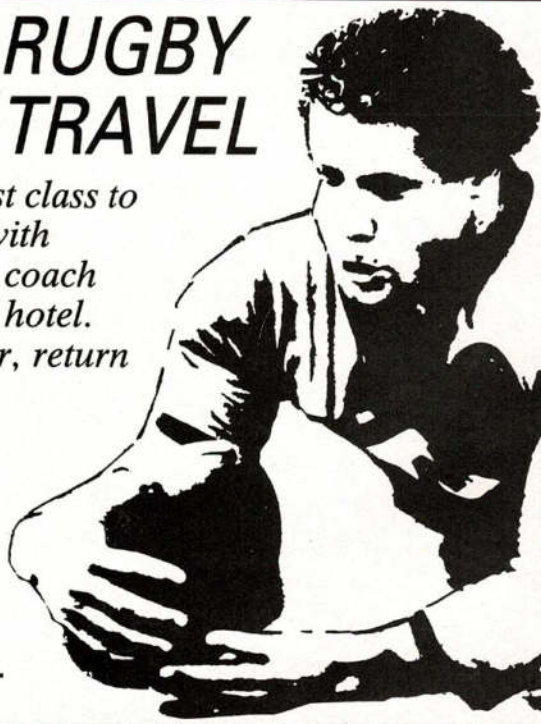
14, STANLEY VILLAS. 09285 72551.



RUGBY TRAVEL

SJT invites you to travel 1st class to London for the first Test with Australia, on an executive coach with a 3 night stay in a top hotel. Leave Friday 26th October, return Monday 29th October. Transport to and from the game, plus a sightseeing tour of London.

Contact: REG BOWDEN,
73 Lynton Crescent,
Widnes WA8.
Tel: Business: 051-495 2250.
Home: 051-424 7112.



This Saturday sees the second round of the Burtonwood Brewery Lancashire Cup with six of our local sides in action. There is an all-Premier Division clash at King George V Playing Fields with Simms Cross taking on Eccles.

Leigh Rec. is the venue for two Lancashire Cup ties, Widnes Albert taking on Premiers, Blackbrook, and St. Bede's entertaining Pennine League outfit Fitton Hill.

Another Pennine League side, Higgenshaw, are the visitors at IBIS, while St. Marie's visit ex-Pennine League side Prestwich, who are currently in Division Four of the North West Counties.

Manor Farm will have their work cut out when they visit First Division Irlam Hornets, who accounted for Appleton Park in the first round.

Another game scheduled for the second round is Farnworth v. Latchford, but this will have to be rearranged as on Monday next, Farnworth take on Trafford Borough in the first round of the Lancashire Shield. The match takes place at Naughton Park with 7.30 p.m. kick-off.

Four Widnes players are in the Lancashire Chairman's XIII to play Wigan Town tomorrow evening. They are the St. Marie's trio of Gary McKeown, Will Tilleke and Dave Webster plus Simms Cross winger Bob Stokes. They will all be looking

to make a good impression on the watching selectors and in particular to coach John Foran, who takes charge of the county side for this season's County Championship.

The Halton D.D.A. team had to withdraw from their British Coal Youth League fixture against St. Helens last Wednesday night, as they were unable to raise a side. It will be a shame if they have to withdraw from a competition which has seen players of the calibre of Paul Newlove (Featherstone), Gary Connolly (St. Helens), Tommy Martyn (Oldham), Sean Hoe (Hull K.R.), Augustine O'Donnell (Wigan), Jason Critchley and Stuart Spruce (Widnes).

Widnes ARL treasurer, Kevin Melvin, has long held the view that each club should provide a referee in case the appointed official failed to turn up. Well, he was able to put his theory to the test when there was no referee to take charge of the Simms Cross v. Blackpool Stanley Alliance match. It was quite an easy game to control with Simms winning 60-6, although at one stage it looked as if one of the Blackpool side would receive his marching orders, but Kevin sorted the problem out as only Kevin can!!



IMAGE WINDOWS

SPONSORS OF
WIDNES
AMATEUR SCENE

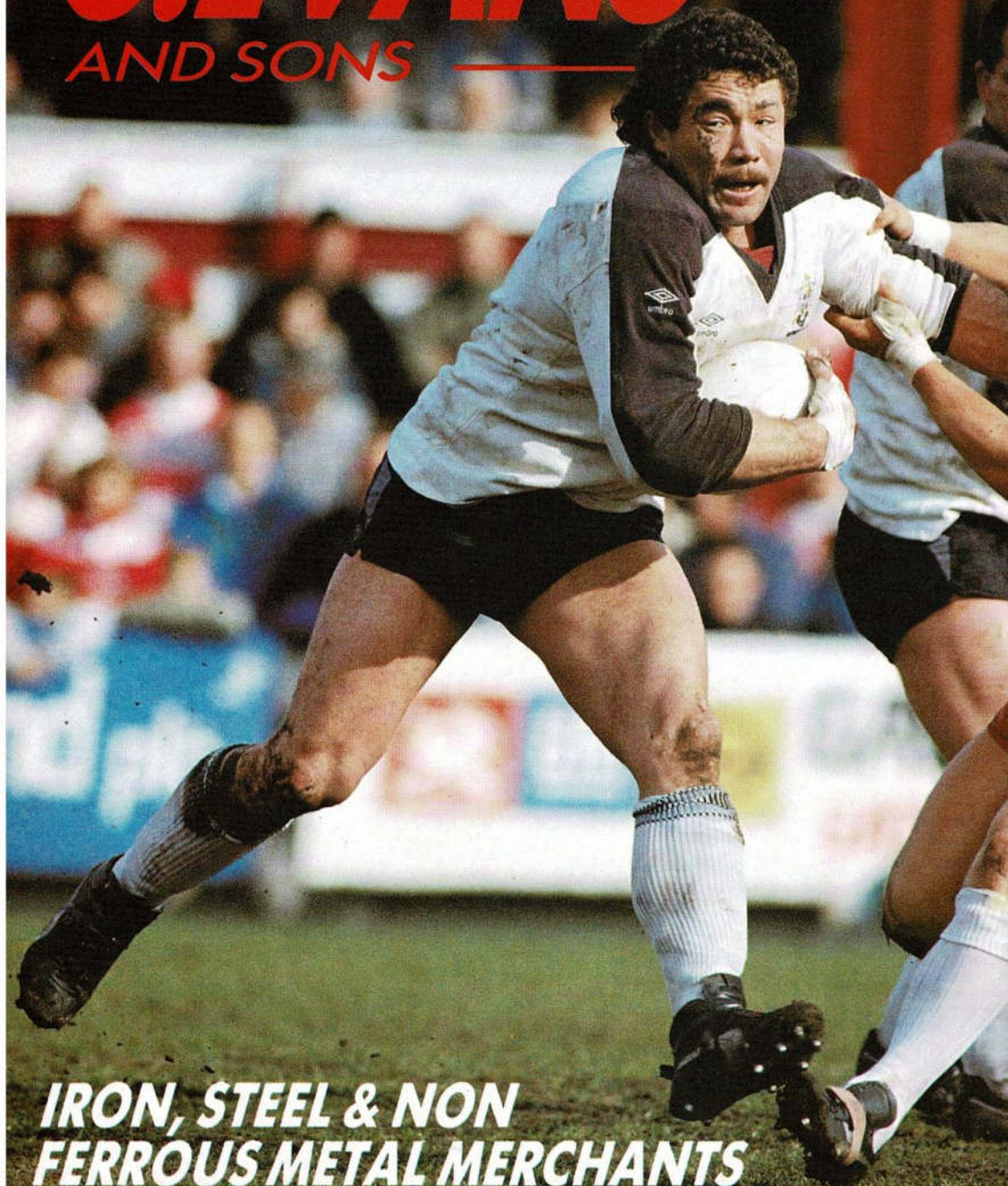
UPVC &
HARDWOOD
WINDOWS PATIOS
& CONSERVATORIES
TEL: 0925 574880



AMATEUR SCENE

S.EVANS

AND SONS



**IRON, STEEL & NON
FERROUS METAL MERCHANTS**

DITTON ROAD, WIDNES, CHESHIRE, WA8 8TW. TEL. 051 424 3944.



TOP TACKLE

QUICK QUIZ

1. Name the Oldham players who scored tries in four of the club's 1987-88 John Player Special Trophy matches.
2. Name the only Oldham player to win 20 test caps.
3. Who scored Oldham's six points in the 1986 Lancashire Cup Final loss to Wigan?
4. Who was named man of the match in the 1988 second division Premier Final?
5. Who scored most points for Oldham in 1987-88?

Answers on page 31.

TOP TACKLE

	Games	% per game	Tackle
1. L. Holliday	8	22	179
2. C. Ashurst	8	18	143
3. E. Koloto	8	18	142
4. R. Eyres	7	20	139
5. D. Hulme	7	17	117
6. P. McKenzie	6	17	105
7. K. Sorensen	7	14	100
8. D. Smith	5	17	89
9. T. Myler	6	14	8
10. J. Davies	8	9	



COMPUTER CONSULTANTS

TOP TACKLE AWARDS



Coach
DOUG LAUGHTON

WIDNES

Coach
TONY BARROW

OLDHAM

Player Sponsor		G T P					
	Hawley & Meek, Dental Surgeons	1	ALAN	TAIT			
	The Lewis Group PLC	2	JOHN	DEVEREUX			
	CD Construction	3	ANDY	CURRIER			
	Fairview Windows	4	JONATHAN	DAVIES			
	Nyland & Beattie Solicitors	5	MARTIN	OFFIAH			
	Terry Colquitt Builders	6	TONY	MYLER (Capt)			
	Birmingham Midshires	7	DAVID	HULME			
	Don & Nora Johnston, The Griffin	8	JOE	GRIMA			
	TAC Metal Forming	9	PHIL	McKENZIE			
	Black Eagle Passenger Transport	10	DAVID	SMITH			
	Derek & Jean, Travellers Rest, Runcorn	11	EMOSI	KOLOTO			
	DATS Holdings	12	RICHARD	EYRES			
	Jet Engineering Ltd.	13	LES	HOLLIDAY			
	James S. Randle Ltd.	14	DARREN	WRIGHT			
	United Co-op Travel	15	CHRIS	ASHURST			
		TOTAL					

G	T	P	
			1 D. PLATT
			2 N. FRANCIS
			3 T. MARTYN
			4 R. DUANE
			5 P. LORD
			6 B. CLARK
			7 M. FORD
			8 D. PYKE
			9 R. RUSSELL
			10 J. FIELDHOUSE
			11 P. ROUND
			12 C. McALISTER
			13 A. BARROW
			14 J. FAIRBANK
			15 A. DONEGAN
			TOTAL

SCRUMS/PENALTIES

WIDNES							OLDHAM						
SCRUMS													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
PENALTIES													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

KEY MATCHES

TODAY'S OFFICIALS



Referee:
Mr. G. KERSHAW
Touch Judges:
Mr. Spencer (Red Flag)
Mr. Tickle (Yellow Flag)

TODAY'S MASCOTS

Danial Young of 30 Lancaster Road, aged 9 and goes to Fairfield Infants. His favourite player is Martin Offiah. Stephen Myler of 7 Meadway. Stephen is aged 6 and attends Our Lady's Infants. His favourite player is Alan Tait.

PROGRESSIVE SCORE

**WIDNES
OLDHAM**

[illegible]

**MITRE MATCH
BALL SPONSOR**

PICOW ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING LTD.
Electrical Instrumentation Engineering Contractors
Telephone: Runcorn 67337.

QUICK QUIZ ANSWERS: 1. Brian McCarthy, Paul Round; 2. Allan Davies. 3. Gary Bridge (try), David Hobbs (goal); 4. Des Foy; 5. Peter Walsh.

MAN OF THE MATCH SPONSOR:

ROGERSONS Builders & Contractors
(0928) 576606/7. Stonehills Lane, Runcorn, Cheshire.

