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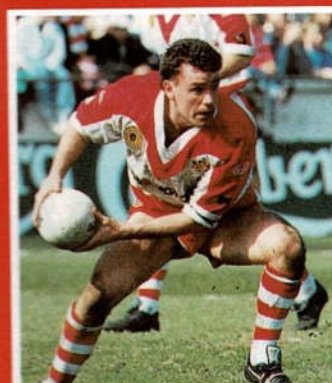


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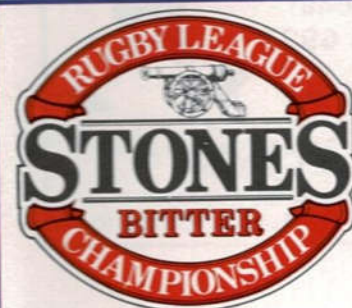
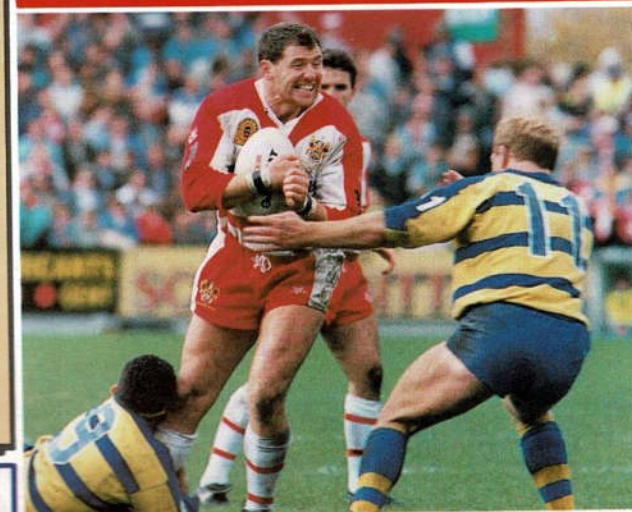
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Record Point Scorer: Bernard Ganley, 28 points
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ON THE BARROW BEAT

by *Oldham coach*
TONY BARROW



CONCENTRATION has to be the name of the game in the Oldham camp as we swing towards the New Year in need of First Division points to take some of the pressure off the team after recent league defeats.

Our performance against league leaders Hull at the Boulevard last time out looked very promising in the first half. At the interval we trailed only 6-4 and although our line had survived some Hull pressure, the home team had also had a few narrow escapes.

We had done well because we concentrated on the basics such as sound tackling, ball control, effective kicking and a good chase, and these tactics rattled Hull who, in the first 20 minutes, were losing a lot of ball and causing their supporters a lot of anxiety.

I have no doubt that we could have won had we continued to employ those tactics throughout the match but, for no apparent reason, we lost our way in the second half. We started to try and play football in our own 25, began to lose the ball, and put ourselves under an enormous amount of pressure.

Hull capitalised on this and went on to win the game 31-4, but I still can't believe how we came to abandon tactics that had worked successfully in the first half. I can only put it down to a lack of concentration for the entire match. We certainly had Hull on the rack in the opening 20 minutes and even at half-time I was still optimistic and hopeful of an Oldham victory.

The frustrating thing is that I am convinced that the Oldham players are good enough to do well in the First Division if only they will learn to concentrate for the entire match. Man for man, I think we are a better team than Hull, but we must show more professionalism and more concentration.

I know the Oldham players can do it in the First Division. I am not letting my heart rule my head by saying so. I am convinced it is true and I also know a lot of the Oldham players are highly-rated throughout the Rugby League.

It is no good having good individuals, however, unless the teamwork is right and that is something we have to keep working on as well as the need to improve the standard of concentration.

Finally, I hope you all enjoyed a good Christmas and will have a happy and prosperous New Year. You can rest assured that we will be going into 1991 at Watersheddings with a determination to do well and pull away from the bottom three.

A black and white advertisement for Boddingtons Bitter. On the left, a beer tap with a wooden handle and a metal body is shown. The tap has a label that reads "BODDINGTONS 1778" and "BITTER". To the right of the tap is a tall, slender glass filled with beer, topped with a thick head of foam. The background is dark. The text "DISCOVER THE PERFECT PINT" is written in large, bold, white capital letters across the upper right. At the bottom, the text "IF YOU DON'T GET BODDIES, YOU'LL JUST GET BITTER." is written in white capital letters. A small Boddingtons logo is in the bottom right corner.

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SKIPPER'S SPOT

by
Oldham Captain
**Mike
Ford**

FIRST of all, I'd like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the players at the club and hope we can give you the best present of all — a return to winning ways starting with today's game against local rivals Rochdale.

Two points today are essential for us, especially as November and December have proved to be such a disappointment for everyone as we have struggled to capture the form that took us to third place in the League in the early part of this season.

While you have all been enjoying turkey, Christmas pub and the odd drink or two, we'll have been training hard and preparing for the second half of what is proving to be an extremely hard season.

What we need to do now is put the last two months behind us and concentrate on the rest of the season.

Despite our recent lack of form, I am still convinced that we are a top-eight side and I am sure many of you will feel the same.

Now is the time for everyone involved in the club to pull together so we are pulling in the same direction, taking Oldham back up the First Division together.

Everyone has their part to play and, as I have said before, the players really appreciate your continued loyal support, on and off the field.

All the players agree that Oldham fans are, without question, the best in the country and we'd like to thank you for your great support this year.

We are really looking forward to the New Year and a chance to really give you all something to shout about and we all feel positive about the future.



ROGER'S FOCUS

*Oldham Evening
Chronicle Rugby
League writer,
Roger Halstead,
looks at today's
visitors*

IT will take a long time for the respective followers of Oldham and Rochdale Hornets to forget the derby game at Spotland this time last year. Rochdale won 24-12 in front of 8,500 spectators. It was a marvellous day for everyone with allegiance to the red, white and blue and a bitterly disappointing Boxing Day for Oldham, who earned their revenge on the Easter Monday with a 30-2 walloping of Hornets here at Watersheddings.

Both games were of extreme importance in the Second Division championship race and today's encounter is no less crucial to both camps but for very different reasons.

Life in the First Division is extremely hard and both Oldham and Rochdale are currently in the bottom three relegation zone. Hornets have only two points from 11 games, while Oldham have only eight points from 12 matches. It will take a miracle now to keep Hornets in the First Division, while Oldham are also desperately in need of points after a run of five consecutive First Division defeats and that morale-shattering Regal Trophy defeat at Batley.

Hornets, of course, can take great comfort from their performances in the Regal Trophy, particularly their outstanding third-round win at Castleford, which put them into last Saturday's first semi-final against Bradford Northern at Headingley.

These notes had to be written before that cup-tie took place but, whatever the outcome, Hornets must have derived great confidence from their surprise victory at Wheldon Road.

In the first round, of course, they put out Saddleworth Rangers and then they won at Doncaster before taking everyone by surprise with their victory at Castleford.

Today, Oldham will welcome several players in the Hornets camp back to their old happy hunting ground at Watersheddings, among them local boys Mark Lord and the Hall brothers, Martin and Robert.

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TODAY'S

VISITORS

Rochdale . . .

Tony Humphries: Signed from Warrington at the beginning of last season, Tony is a Lancashire player and a very solid prop forward. Has played in the second row. A deceptive runner and very strong tackler. Enjoys his try-scoring.

Mike O'Neill: Signed from Widnes at the start of the season for Hornets record fee. Mike has bags of experience and a drawerful of medals from his years with the World Champions. A hard-tackling, powerful running forward, at home either at prop or second row.

Bob Grogan: 29-year-old from the Gold Coast Giants playing in his second season in Britain after a successful spell with Halifax. Bob is a very good organiser and his experience will come in handy. Scored his first try for the club against Sheffield.

Neil Holding: Made his debut against Sheffield Eagles after his £55,000 transfer from St. Helens. A marvellous 13-year career has given Neil a wealth of experience. A very popular player with a gift for amusing people. A potentially devastating half back pairing with Bob Grogan is in prospect.

Darren Abram: Signed from Trafford Borough just in time to make his debut in a game he will want to forget at Leeds. A young, pacy centre who scored on his debut and should provide some much-needed penetration wide out.

Stuart Galbraith: Signed in the deal which brought Darren Abram from Trafford Borough. On the fringe of the Kiwi national side, Stuart had an impressive debut as sub against Leeds, showing why Hornets took over his contract. A young, confident type of player with an excellent eye for a gap and pace to exploit it.

Colin Whitfield: Hornets finally got their man after chasing him for half a season. 29 years old and a wealth of experience with Salford, Wigan and Halifax. A prolific points scorer who will surely have his sights on Steve Turner's record of 243.

Mark Lord: Oldham-born pacy centre, signed from Leeds where he had limited chances in the first team. Devastating running and a vicious side-step saw Mark land 23 tries last season.

Martin Hall: Busy hooker in the loose, a player with great potential. Martin was snapped up from neighbours Oldham at the start of last season. A nippy player who can always be relied on to back up a move.

Neil Cowie: In his fifth season with the club since signing from Todmorden ARLFC. Originally second row but an inspired conversion to prop forward. Neil is a fierce tackler and strong runner and is now looking to off-load the ball.

Mark Viller: Signed from Swinton in a double deal with John Myler, Mark made a try-scoring debut against Fulham coming on as substitute. A tough, gutsy player who attacks well from the full back position.

Phil Fox: Experienced winger signed from Wakefield to provide the finishing required on the right wing. Scored on his debut as he has on every debut he has made. Dogged by injuries this season, but has shown up well since his return.

John Blackburn: Signed from Castleford for an undisclosed fee as cover for the second row. An impressive debut against Hunslet last season, but this season has seen John mainly in the 'A' team, although he is turning in some excellent performances. An extended run in recent weeks has shown him to be willing to take the ball up at every opportunity. A solid tackler.

Karl Marriott: BARLA Under-19 International tourist Karl signed from his home town team despite offers from other clubs. Featured on the wing for Great Britain but has the ability and pace to play stand-off or centre; in fact, Karl has also turned out in the second row.

Robert Hall: The younger brother of current hooker, Martin, has progressed through the 'A' team this season. An eager worker who has played at loose forward and hooker since his debut.

Andy Sullivan: Top class scrum half with much First Division experience. Snapped up from Widnes when unable to hold a place in the face of competition from the Hulmes. A busy worker who struck up a good partnership with John Woods. Scored his first try for the club in the win over Swinton — his 29th game.

John Myler: Vastly experienced ex-Widnes star who moved on to Swinton two seasons ago with Steve O'Neill. Hornets see him as the ball-handling forward to provide the gaps for the backs to exploit. Made an impressive debut against Whitehaven, winning the man of the match award. This season has seen John turn out at stand-off following the departure of John Woods. Recently appointed 'A' team coach.

SUMMER 1991

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*Keith
Atkinson . . .*

This week's **PLAYER PROFILE**

KEITH Atkinson is, without question, one of Oldham's unluckiest — and bravest — players.

Prior to this season he has suffered a broken back, dislocated and broken spine, a removed disc, broken leg, two broken thumbs and numerous broken fingers.

His run of bad luck has continued this season. In an 'A' Team match against Leeds earlier this season, young Tony Barrow sat on his knee in the scrum and damaged his ligaments. He suffered the same injury in his first comeback match against the Wigan 'A' team.

Now, as a new year approaches, he wants to put his run of injuries behind him — after he had the ideal 26th birthday present when he was selected to play in the second row in the 31-4 defeat at Hull.

"I was glad to be back — but wish I hadn't after the end of the match," he says. "I've never felt so tired after a game as I did after Hull. The step up in class is incredible but after a couple of games back in the first team I'll be back to full fitness and looking forward to establishing myself in the first team."

Despite his horrific catalogue of injuries, he has no intention of changing his game. "I'll always put everything into the game so I've got to expect a few lumps and bruises although you cannot legislate for serious injuries. After all, who would have expected one of your own players to fall on my knee!"

All we need is a good win under our belts and I am sure we will rediscover our confidence. We've an excellent team here and we should be doing well, so hopefully we can get back to winning ways against Rochdale and give all our fans a belated Christmas present," said Keith, who spent the summer in Australia playing for a Canberra league side with team-mate Richard Irving.



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**WATERSHEDDINGS
WHISPERS**

*General Manager
Ray Hill
reports on the
Watersheddings
scene*

ON behalf of everyone at the club — directors, office staff, players and all the other people who help run the club — I'd like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

We ended 1990 in fine style with a fabulous sportsmen's dinner at the Periquito Hotel. Thanks to your generosity, we managed to raise over £4,000 for the club. This invaluable injection of funds will, I assure you, be put to very good use over the coming months.

The evening was a great success and I'd like to thank everyone who came along to join in the fun. I certainly enjoyed the spirit of the occasion and will treasure it for a long time.

Commercial fund-raising is now an essential fact of life for professional Rugby League clubs and I'd like to thank all our sponsors for all their support during 1990. We have established a good rapport with all our sponsors and I look forward to building on these firm foundations in the New Year.

Most of all, I'd like to thank all our loyal supporters who continue to support the club through thick and thin. Everyone at the club really appreciates your support and recognises that Oldham Rugby means a great deal to thousands of people.

We are working hard to get things right on and off the field, so you really can be proud of your club.

One way we can say thank you is by running competitions like the one below, which is drawing to a close. One lucky couple will be going to Paris in the New Year. Paris is a beautiful city and the winner of the weekend trip to France will have an unbelievable time.

Thank you for supporting the club this year. I look forward to seeing you all again when we play at Leeds on New Year's Day.

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Counthill Road, Oldham, no later than January 31st 1990. If you have missed out on any vouchers, we are including two bonus vouchers, one in this programme and one in the Featherstone programme, which can be used to complete your six. You can also purchase back-copies from the Souvenir Shop. Remember, there's no easier way of winning a trip to Paris, so make sure you enter.

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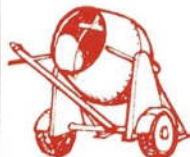
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TOUCH DOWN

PAUL ROUND'S MEMORABLE DOUBLE

OLDHAM forward Paul Round has won the Boddingtons Bitter sponsored November player of the month award for the second consecutive month.

He is seen here being presented with an inscribed Boddingtons Bitter tankard and a £100 cheque by Whitbread Beer Company representative Ken Regan before the recent home game against Salford.

Oldham Evening Chronicle Rugby League writer and award judge Roger Halstead said: "During

a difficult month where the side has lost all four matches, Paul Round has consistently performed well, both at prop and at second row. His attacking flair has never been in doubt. In addition, his tackling and workrate, particularly against Widnes, have been exemplary."

Paul follows in the footsteps of Oldham skipper Mike Ford, who has also won the award in consecutive months.

The winner of the December award will be announced in the match day programme for the Featherstone Rovers game.

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BODDINGTONS TEAM CHECK

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26th, 1990



OLDHAM

Team Changes

- 1 DUNCAN PLATT
- 2 RICHARD IRVING
- 3 TONY ANDERSON
- 4 JOHN HENDERSON
- 5 PAUL LORD
- 6 BRETT CLARK
- 7 MIKE FORD
- 8 JOHN FIELDHOUSE
- 9 RICHARD RUSSELL
- 10 JOHN FAIRBANK
- 11 PAUL ROUND
- 12 KEITH ATKINSON
- 13 RONNIE DUANE
- 14 DES FOY
- 15 CHARLIE McALISTER

ROCHDALE

Team Changes

- 1 COLIN WHITFIELD
- 2 KARL MARRIOTT
- 3 DARREN ABRAM
- 4 MARK LORD
- 5 PHIL FOX
- 6 BOB GROGAN
- 7 STUART GALBRAITH
- 8 NEIL COWIE
- 9 MARTIN HALL
- 10 JOHN BLACKBURN
- 11 MIKE O'NEILL
- 12 TONY HUMPHRIES
- 13 MARK NIXON
- 14 NEIL HOLDING
- 15 ROBERT HALL

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

Referee:
Mr. P. Gilmour (Cumbria)
Touch Judges:
Mr. W. H. Walker (Red Flag)
Mr. J. J. Beech (Orange Flag)

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

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OLDHAM STATISTICS 1990/91

Appearances and Scorers

	P	Sub	G	D	T	Pts
Shaun Allen	0	5	0	0	0	0
Tony Anderson	7	0	0	0	1	4
Keith Atkinson	1	0	0	0	0	0
Tony Barrow	3	1	0	0	0	0
Brett Clark	15	0	0	0	4	16
John Cogger	11	0	0	0	0	0
Austin Donegan	4	4	0	0	2	8
Ronnie Duane	12	1	0	0	0	0
John Fairbank	9	4	0	0	1	4
John Fieldhouse	6	1	0	0	0	0
Mike Ford	15	0	1	1	2	11
Des Foy	1	1	0	0	0	0
Norman Francis	11	0	0	0	3	12
John Henderson	2	0	0	0	0	0
Gary Hyde	3	1	1	0	1	6
Richard Irving	9	5	0	0	2	8
Paul Lord	15	0	0	0	6	24
Tommy Martyn	10	1	7	3	6	41
Charlie McAlister	10	1	1	0	2	10
Keith Newton	5	2	0	0	1	4
Duncan Platt	12	0	34	0	2	76
Derek Pyke	4	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Round	15	0	0	0	9	36
Andy Ruane	2	0	0	0	0	0
Richard Russell	13	2	0	0	2	8

Stones Bitter First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull	11	6	0	0	158	42	3	0	2	69	78	18
Widnes	10	5	0	0	165	50	3	0	2	80	88	16
Bradford	12	4	0	2	122	107	3	0	3	116	111	14
Hull KR	12	4	0	2	96	106	2	1	3	102	153	13
Leeds	10	3	0	2	166	66	3	0	2	97	86	12
Wakefield	9	4	0	1	101	52	2	0	2	54	98	12
Castleford	11	4	0	1	134	97	2	0	4	105	167	12
Wigan	9	3	1	0	104	39	2	0	3	120	93	11
St. Helens	9	4	0	1	160	90	1	0	3	64	79	10
Featherstone	11	3	1	2	121	98	1	0	4	69	129	9
Warrington	12	3	0	3	108	72	1	0	5	78	106	8
OLDHAM	12	3	0	3	123	116	1	0	5	81	152	8
Sheffield	11	1	0	4	88	110	1	1	4	95	161	5
Rochdale	11	1	0	4	93	128	0	0	6	43	238	2

NEXT HOME GAME

v FEATHERSTONE (January 6th, kick-off 3p.m.)

NEXT AWAY GAME

v LEEDS (January 1st, kick-off 3.00p.m.)

Opponents	Date	KO	Res	E/A	Alt	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Salford	2.9.90	A	3.00	L	24-27	4.236	—	Plant 4g	Irving	Foy	Henderson	Leed	Clark	Ford g	Pyke	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round t	McAlister t	Duane	Martyn t
Leeds	9.9.90	H	3.00	W	32-22	6.338	—	Plant 5g	Irving	Martyn 1 dg	Duane	Leed	Clark t	Ford t g dg	Pyke	Ruane	Newton t	Round t	McAlister t	Cogger	Russell*
Wakefield	16.9.90	A	3.30	L	12-47	5.651	8	Plant 1 2g	Irving t	Martyn	Duane	Leed	Ford	Clark	Fieldhouse	Ruane	Newton	Round	McAlister	Cogger	Russell*
Castleford	26.9.90	H	7.30	W	28-22	5.101	6	Plant 4g	Francis t	Martyn t	Duane	Leed	Clark t	Ford	Pyke	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round 21	McAlister	Barrow	Dongan
Widnes	2.10.90	A	7.30	L	16-24	7.161	8	Plant 2g	Francis	Irving	Duane	Leed t	Clark	Ford t	Pyke	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round	McAlister	Barrow	Dongan*
Hull KR	7.10.90	H	3.00	L	25-28	4.710	—	Plant 2g	Francis	Martyn 2g dg	Irving	Leed t	Clark	Ford t	Pyke	Russell	Fairbank	Round 21	McAlister	Cogger	Dongan*
Sheffield	14.10.90	A	3.15	W	24-14	5.500	6	Martyn 1 2g	Francis t	Irving	Duane	Leed	Clark t	Ford	Dongan	Russell	Fairbank t	Round	Barrow	Cogger	Hyde
Warrington	20.10.90	H	2.45	W	4-2	4.997	3	Plant 2g	Francis	Martyn	Duane	Leed	Clark	Ford	Dongan	Russell	Fieldhouse	Round	Newton	Cogger	Fairbank
Wigan	4.11.90	A	3.00	L	15-38	13.847	6	Plant 2g	Francis	Martyn g dg	Anderson t	Leed	Clark	Ford	Fairbank	Russell	Newton	Round t	Duane	Cogger	Allen
Bradford N	11.11.90	H	3.00	L	16-18	5.674	8	Hyde g	Francis	Martyn 21 g	Anderson	Leed	Clark	Ford	Fairbank	Russell	Newton	Round t	Duane	Cogger	Allen
Castleford	18.11.90	A	3.30	L	10-28	5.974	10	Hyde t	Francis	Martyn	Anderson	Leed t	Clark	Ford	Fairbank	Russell	Round	Duane	McAlister g	Cogger	Allen
Widnes	25.11.90	H	3.00	L	18-24	5.421	12	Plant 5g t	Francis	Irving	Anderson	Leed	Clark t	Ford	Fairbank	Russell	Round	Duane	McAlister	Cogger	Allen
Salford (Regal Trophy)	2.12.90	H	3.00	W	26-6	4.932	—	Plant 5g	Francis t	Anderson	Martyn	Leed	Clark	Ford	Dongan t	Russell t	Fairbank	Round	McAlister	Cogger	Allen
Batley (Regal Trophy)	9.12.90	A	3.00	L	16-20	2.054	—	Plant 2g	Francis	Anderson	Irving	Leed t	Clark	Ford	Dongan	Russell t	Fairbank	Round t	McAlister	Cogger	Fieldhouse
Hull	16.12.90	A	6.30	L	31-4	3.500	12	Platt	Irving	Anderson	Henderson	Leed t	Clark	Ford	Fieldhouse	Russell	Fairbank	Round	Atkinson	Duane	Foy
Rochdale	26.12.90	H	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leeds	1.1.91	A	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Featherstone	6.1.91	H	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hull KR	13.1.91	A	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wakefield	20.1.91	H	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Featherstone	27.1.91	A	3.30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St Helens	3.2.91	H	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
SCCR 1st Rd	10.2.91	—	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bradford	17.2.91	A	3.30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
SCCR 2nd Rd	24.2.91	—	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St Helens	10.3.91	A	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheffield	17.3.91	H	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rochdale	29.3.91	A	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wigan	1.4.91	H	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Warrington	7.4.91	A	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hull	14.4.91	H	3.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



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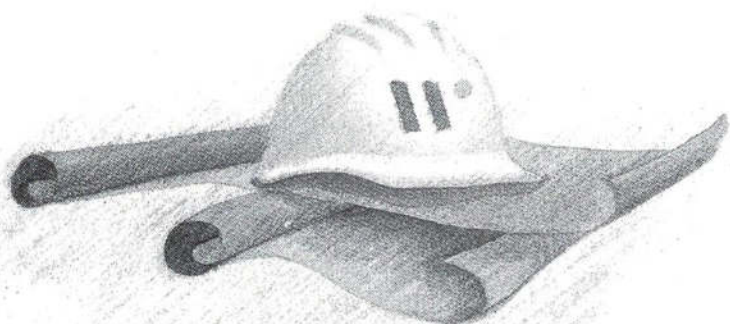
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A-TEAM ROUND-UP



The Coach's View

THE postponed match at Warrington gave the Alliance side a chance to get over some injuries, but it seems to me that teams should move heaven and earth to put a team on the field and fulfil league fixtures.

Many times, here at Oldham, we have struggled to put out a team, but we have always managed it by hook or by crook. In my 2½ years in charge of the 'A' team I cannot recall one match postponed due to a player shortage. In our recent game at Castleford we had to play a prop-forward in the centre (John Maxwell) and a hooker at scrum-half (Andy Ruane), but we did it and we put up a creditable performance, too.

Our terrific win at Wigan enabled us to avenge our 16-14 defeat in the Lancashire Shield, which Wigan went on to win.

Any win at Central Park has to be savoured, but I was particularly pleased with this one which was achieved despite a howling gale blowing right down the pitch.

Keith Atkinson's kicking was exemplary and Neil Flanagan scored two tries, but essentially the victory was achieved on the back of a terrific all-round team performance. Well done, lads.

We then faced league leaders Hull at Watersheddings on a fog-bound night and we were honoured with the presence of the Great Britain assistant coach, Phil Larder, who must have been impressed with the display of several youngsters on both sides.

Considering that we were forced to play a lightweight pack which was further hit when Shaun Allen had to go off injured, we did very well indeed to hold Hull to a 13-12 scoreline.

It took a late drop goal to give the Boulevard boys victory and with a little more steadiness on attack we could have won.

Full marks to everyone. I just wish we could have got out of defence quicker to prevent the late drop goal. Had we done so, I am sure we would have been the first team this season to take a point off the leaders.

This time last year, with only three points to our name and people thinking we were destined to return to the second division, we could easily have become downhearted, but we all pulled together to work very hard and we have since reaped the rewards by making terrific progress and turning our results the right way.

IAN TAYLOR

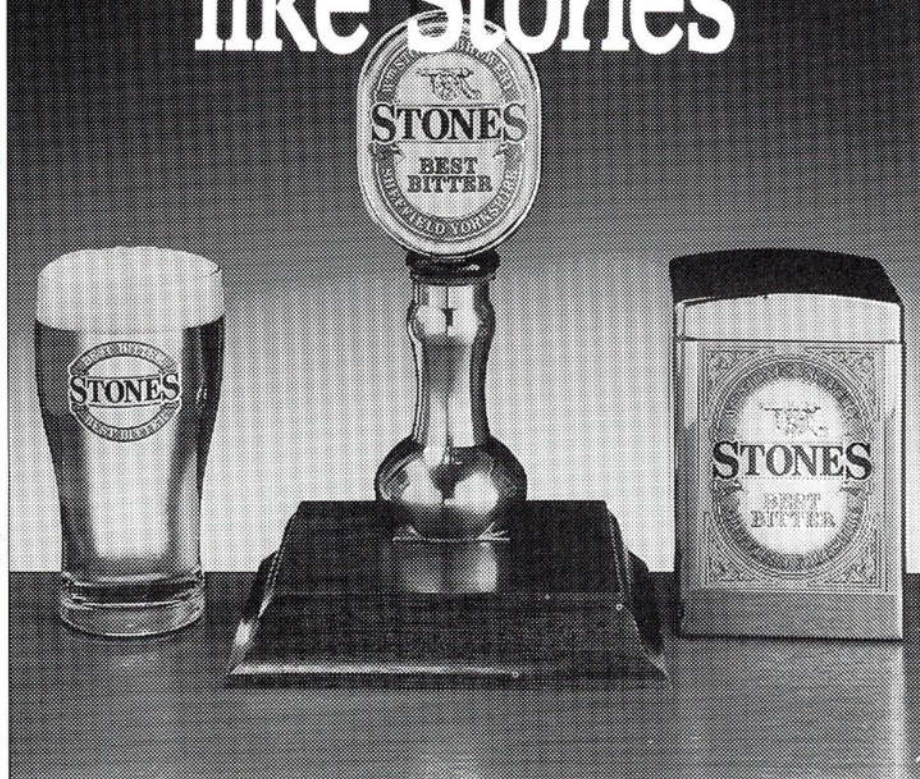
Slalom Lager Alliance Fixtures

Date	Opponents	Venue	Res	F	A
Aug 31	St Helens	H	W	32-8	
Sept 7	Leeds	A	L	12-18	
14	Wakefield	H	W	18-12	
21	Salford	A	W	22-17	
28	Widnes	H	W	34-10	
Oct 5	Workington (Lancs Shield)	H	W	28-10	
11	Leigh (Thurs)	A	L	8-24	
21	Wigan (Lancs Shield)	H	L	14-16	
Nov 2	Warrington	H	W	34-6	
9	Widnes	A	L	6-28	
16	Salford	H	W	22-6	
23	Castleford	A	L	10-14	
Dec 7	Wigan	A			
14	Hull	H			
21	Halifax	A			
28	Leeds	H			
Jan 4	Featherstone	A			
11	Hull KR	H			
18	Wakefield	A			
25	Featherstone	H			
Feb 1	St Helens	A			
8	Castleford	H			
16	Alliance Cup (Sat)				
22	Hull	A			
Mar 2	Alliance Cup (Sat)				
8	Halifax	H			
15	Warrington	A			
22	Hull KR	A			
29	Leigh	H			

Slalom Lager Alliance First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull	13	13	0	0	346	161	26
Castleford	12	8	0	4	307	275	16
Hull KR	13	8	0	5	255	234	16
Leeds	13	7	0	6	303	252	14
OLDHAM	12	7	0	5	236	194	14
Featherstone	13	7	0	6	308	271	14
Halifax	13	7	0	6	271	294	14
Widnes	11	6	0	5	229	245	12
St Helens	12	5	0	7	310	298	10
Leigh	12	5	0	7	200	261	10
Wigan	11	4	0	7	210	245	8
Salford	11	4	0	7	164	248	8
Wakefield	13	2	0	11	218	279	4
Warrington	11	2	0	9	204	304	4

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The superb programme includes travel and accommodation with the 19-man GB squad, attendance at a special Celebration dinner after the match and, of course, VIP stand seats for both internationals.

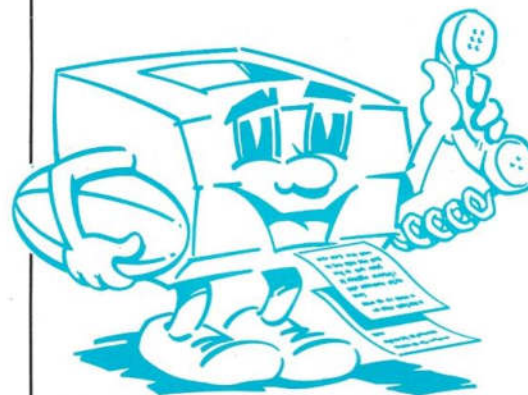
Travel is by private charter flight from Manchester to Perpignan, which leaves from Manchester International Airport at 09.50 on Friday 25th January, returning at 12.35 on Monday 28th January. Accommodation is three nights at Perpignan's Mas des Arcades hotel.

The all-inclusive price of £385 includes sharing a twin room, although there is the option of a £30 supplement for a single room.

Fans interested in taking advantage of this offer should write to The Public Affairs Department, The Rugby Football League, 180 Chapletown Road, Leeds LS7 4HT, indicating the number of places to be booked together with room requirements and names of people attending. All cheques should be made payable to the Rugby Football League.

Remember, the offer is subject to availability and is on a first-come, first-served basis.

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McCorquodale
looks at
Rugby League
around Oldham*

SPARE a spot of sympathy for our schoolboy signing Paul Barrow, his friend Mick Martindale from St. Augustine's and 24 other top 15-year-old players who had 'reluctantly' been forced to book the week off school to attend the special training week at Lilleshall.

Sadly the weather was so bad, the roads blocked and the forecast so terrible that the week's training was cancelled and the boys had to go into school. I'm sure they did so with their customary enthusiasm.

Today's collection is for the local hospital and will be added to the £235 donated by the players (special thanks to skipper Michael Ford, Charlie McAlister and Paul Round), club officials and club workers at their Christmas party, which was generously provided at the Periquito by director Mick Winterbottom.

No prizes for guessing which player tried to turn it into an aquatic gala!

Congratulations to North Chadderton's third year side. Captained by one of our ball boys, Steven Crowther, they are the only local school left in the Lancashire Champion School Competition, after a fine 46-0 win at St. Mary's, Leigh. They travel to favourites Deanery School, Wigan, in the semi-finals.

It has been a fascinating year for Rugby League at grassroots level in the Oldham area and there are a lot of promising players who are creating a lot of excitement in the game.

1991 promises to be even better. I hope it is for you, too.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

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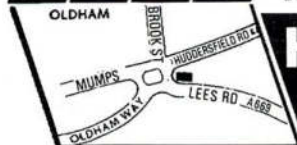
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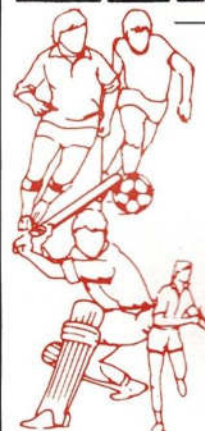
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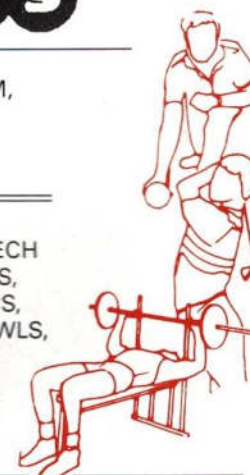
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