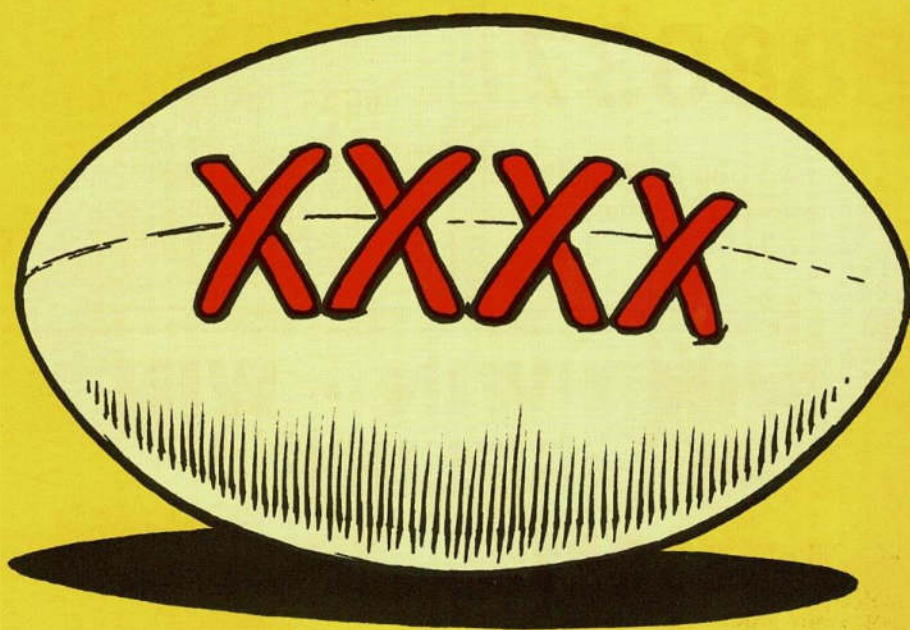


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1966-67, 1968-69, 1986-87, 1989-90

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1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57, 1957-58

Runners-up:
1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24,
1954-55

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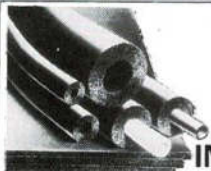
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WELCOME to today's fixture against Ryedale-York here at Watersheddings. Today we welcome well-known Kiwi and Widnes forward Joe Grima in his first outing in an Oldham shirt and hope it will signal the start of many new acquisitions over the coming season.

We also have fingers crossed that ex-Salford stand-off David Fell is in the line-up today, but at the time of going to press negotiations were still proceeding. If we were successful we would also like to extend a big welcome to him on his debut.

Last week's effort against London was certainly encouraging, particularly as Tim Street was sent from the field after only five minutes, and the injury toll was so severe that Tony Barrow Jnr. showed great courage and determination to go back onto the field and play the last 25 minutes with a bad injury.

Tommy Martyn continues to shine in the centres and Vince Nicklin comes back after injury after Duncan Platt picked up yet another knock at Crystal Palace.

Special mention must be made of Keith Newton this season. Originally out of contract, Keith has shown by his efforts on the field that he still intends to play a big part in our push for promotion this year. Whether filling in out wide when injury strikes, or playing in his more familiar back-row position, Keith has been a great example of what one can achieve with hard work and determination.

In conclusion, I hope that the team can perform to somewhere near their capability today to ensure a win which will keep us up in the top bracket of this super competitive second division.

Enjoy the game.

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Skipper's Spot

Oldham Captain
Paul Round
looks at today's game

SINCE my last column, we have unfortunately lost at Watersheddings to our neighbours, Rochdale Hornets, after a ragged display by ourselves which did not do us or you justice.

Following that surprise defeat, we had a long trek down south to Crystal Palace, where we needed to win to boost morale and maintain our promotion momentum.

The signs were not good as we were reduced to 12 men after only seven minutes following, in my opinion, a debatable 'head-high' tackle by player of the month Tim Street, which earned him an early bath. Further bad news followed with injuries to Duncan Platt and Paul Lord, who was replaced by an already injured Tony Barrow. Despite all this, we stuck manfully to the task and came away with the points in what is proving to be a very tight promotion race. Well done to all the players.

Early pace-setters Workington have slipped to their third consecutive defeat, two of which were in the league. That means Carlisle are top — which is where we are playing next week. It also means another long journey for us and all you loyal Roughyeds — but remember it is a trip worth making because the lads really do appreciate your support.

At home we have lost Austin Donegan with a broken bone in his hand, a similar injury picked up by new signing Shane Tupaea. They will take a little time to clear, but hopefully the rest of our injuries — including the ones picked up in London — are minor, so Peter will have no real worries when picking today's team.

Finally, it is my pleasure to welcome York to the Watersheddings. They have found it hard to register points in the new Second Division and unfortunately for them we'll be doing our best to make sure they don't break their duck today.

Have a good day, enjoy the rugby, and let me leave you with this:

"We often discover what will do
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A Watersheddings welcome to . . . Ryedale-York

Steve Craven: 19-year-old prop signed from All Blacks. A tough tackler who the Wasps hope will have a big impact in the game.

Steve Dobson: Wily scrum-half in his seventh season with the club. Signed from Hull KR. Consistently under-rated, except by York fans.

Chris Hammerton: Another player who missed all last season, failing to win back his place after a serious knee operation. The former Heworth scrum-half is keen to regain the form which made him a top second division player.

Rich Hayes: Been virtually an ever-present in the front row since turning professional at the age of 18 from York All Blacks. Voted York's player of the tour on their history-making trip to the Soviet Union last summer.

Paul Hutchinson: Signed from the Redhill club, he made the full-back spot at York his own until picking up a knee injury. Now back to fitness, the 20-year-old will be out to regain his place.

David Kettlestring: Top local cricketer, he made his name by equalling the York club record of six tries in one match at Keighley just weeks after turning pro from the All Blacks club. A series of injuries, however, meant he had a quiet second season.

Mark Laws: Ball-handling forward who joined the Wasps from the Newland club in Hull. Expected to emerge to claim a first team spot this season.

Alan Pallister: Hooker signed from York All Blacks last season and bidding to establish himself as first choice number nine.

Geoff Pryce: Hugely popular forward who has just completed a record benefit season. One of only 18 York players in their 123-year history to record 250 appearances for the Wasps.

Steve Pryce: Brother of Geoff and signed from Bradford's West Bowling club last season. Made his debut against Warrington in the Cup.

Nick Pinkney: Great Britain under-19 amateur international as a winger with Hull amateurs Greatfield, he made his biggest impact when switched to stand-off last season with 12 tries in nine games to finish as joint top try-scorer. Brought into the Great Britain under-19 squad by Mal Reilly during the summer.

Stuart Morris: Another who spent all last season on the treatment table, but his 14 tries in 20 games in his first season with York after signing from Dewsbury suggests he could be one to watch again this year.

Graham Sullivan: Started the season with the longest points scoring run in rugby league. Last season's top try-scorer and goal-kicker, he can play anywhere, but is most often found at full-back or in the second row.

Matthew Shaw: Spent the summer in Australia with Canterbury under-21s. Loose forward who made several first team appearances last season but is only 18 years old.

Steve Wheatley: Loyal hooker who turned pro from York's Soughlands club.

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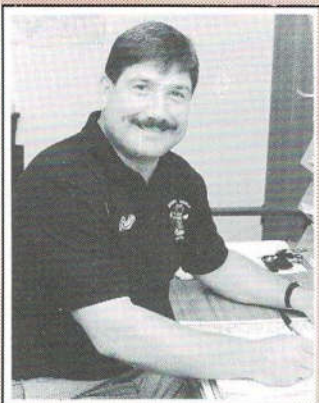
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BUSY times at Oldham RLFC. Today we stage our third annual reunion for former Watersheddings stars who will be taking the applause before the kick-off. It is going to be an emotional occasion and one for you all to savour.

Our next home game against Sheffield will be a special day for one of our Lifeline members, who will be driving away with a brand new J-reg Mini Metro. If you belong to Lifeline that winner could be you. If you don't, join today, as the chance of winning a car is just one of the many benefits of Lifeline membership.

Oldham RLFC's annual sportsmen's dinner, sponsored by Fiat dealers Greenhalgh Brothers, takes place on Wednesday 28th November at the Avant Hotel, Manchester Road, Oldham, with the reception at 7 p.m. and dinner at 7.30 p.m. Our sportsmen's dinners are one of the highlights of the year — and this one promises to be just as successful.

Guest speaker is the incredibly funny Stan Taylor, an ex-submarine commander, who will have you gasping for air with his unique sense of humour. Comedian Max Pressure is from across the Pennines and is one of the region's top young comics. Our compere for the evening is Laurie Ash, who handles all our public announcements on match days.

Tickets for the event are a mere £20, with all proceeds from the evening going to the club's Ground Fund. Special sponsorship packages for companies, clubs, pubs and groups are also available. Give me a ring on 061-620 4870 for more details. But hurry — demand for tickets is high already.

Finally, I want to hear from junior Roughyeds — anybody under 16. I want you to write in and tell me who your favourite Oldham player is and why. Simply name the player and give us your reasons, in no more than 30 words on a piece of paper, and send your nomination to Favourite Player, Ray Hill, Oldham RLFC, The Pavilion, Watersheddings, Counthill Road, Oldham. Also include a picture of yourself, as we will be featuring a young supporter's choice in future match day programmes.

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As I said — busy times. Enjoy your rugby.

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Talking Sport

by
Jack Dearden

FORGET Ellery Hanley, Wally Lewis and Mal Meninga! It is hats off to Ian Bates — or "Batesy" as he is popularly known — who cut short his honeymoon recently in the course of duty. That, in my book, deserves a pat on the back. Ian's willingness to sacrifice his honeymoon is just one example of the many dedicated "pros" who don't always get the credit they often deserve.

Remember, without the "Batesys" of the game, the big superstars would find it a bit more difficult to thrive.

Difficulties are something the Welsh Rugby Union team know all about. I don't know about you, but I am finding it increasingly difficult myself to treat the Rugby Union World Cup with any real sincerity. As I recall, most League fans were up in arms when we were well and truly walloped by the Aussies in 1982 and 1986. But with hindsight it has proved to be a blessing in disguise.

Whatever League's problems were then, and are now to a certain extent, it is nothing compared to the singing Welshmen who form the Rugby Union national team. What a humiliation! In their very own national stadium they are beaten by Western Samoa. (Good job it was only the West of Samoa and not the whole of Samoa or else the winning margin would have been even greater!). I don't mean to rub salt in an ever-widening

wound, but is Samoa's first-ever win over an international rugby board country going to end the singing in the valleys for some time to come? How will the Welsh cope with this pressure? I await developments with interest.

Pressure comes in all shapes and forms, but I must admit, perhaps for the first time in my life, to feeling a little sorry for a German sportsman.

I refer to the last act of drama at Kiawah Island in the Ryder Cup golf. A tremendous competition reached its climax when Bernhard Langer had to sink a fairly simple putt (that's if there is such a thing) but sadly he wasn't able to manage it. But I think all the lads who represented the European team deserve credit for even getting round a golf course that was more akin to the sand dunes at Lytham.

But I have to confess I really wanted that putt to go in because if there's something that really irks me it's to hear a Yank say "hard luck buddy."

Soccer is back once again in European competition. Arsenal manager George Graham, hearing that the Gunners must face Benfica in the next round of the Champions Cup, said "It's a tough draw — Benfica played 38 games like us last season, and they lost only one, again just like us. They conceded 18 goals, the same as us. They scored more than we did — we scored 74, they notched 89."

When asked how he would approach the game, he responded "It's hard to tell. I don't know a lot about them!"

Until the next time,

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SPOTLIGHT ON RICHARD PACHNIUK



OLDHAM'S ambitious youth policy, launched three years ago by former coach Tony Barrow, is beginning to pay dividends as teenage youngsters are now forcing themselves into the first team. Yorkshireman Richard Pachniuk, 20, is the latest youngster to follow Tommy Martyn into the first team and is looking to establish the hooker's No. 9 shirt as his own this season, alongside other contemporaries like Neil Flanagan and Tony Barrow Jnr.

He has an impressive start since making his debut against Leigh, proof that his decision to sign for Oldham rather than St. Helens was the right one. "I'd played for Yorkshire under-17s and had Oldham and St. Helens interested in signing me. I decided to join Oldham because they sounded like a well-run club with a lot of youngsters like myself, people like Tony Barrow and Richard Blackman."

Despite his name — he blames his Polish grandparents — Richard is proud of his heritage. "People always mention my name but I am Yorkshire born and bred. I still live in Dewsbury with my parents, Peter and Pauline, and I've just started a job as a joiner in the town."

Although he signed for the club in the summer of '89, it has taken him three seasons to break through into the first team. "I was in the squad towards the end of last season and played in the first team during the pre-season French tour. This season marks the breakthrough and I'd like to establish myself in the side."

Another ambition is to return to Australia following a summer playing with New South Wales Country Club, Yenda, with Chris Joynt and Paddy Mitchell. "Life Down Under is a lot different from Yorkshire and Lancashire. Totally different way of life. The game is quicker and harder, too. I'd like to go back and play in the Sydney league in the future."

But before he does that, Richard is looking to follow in Tommy Martyn's footsteps by winning a place in the Great Britain under-21 squad. An international call-up would cap what promises to be an exciting season for the Yorkshireman with the Polish name.

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TEAM CHECK

CASTLEMAINE
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OLDHAM

Team Changes

- 1 VINCE NICKLIN
- 2 RICHARD IRVING
- 3 PAUL LORD
- 4 TOMMY MARTYN
- 5 GARY CHRISTIE
- 6 DAVID FELL
- 7 NEIL FLANAGAN
- 8 JOE GRIMA
- 9 RICHARD PACHNIUK
- 10 TIM STREET
- 11 CHARLIE McALISTER
- 12 CHRIS JOYNT
- 13 KEITH NEWTON
- 14 SIMON LONGSTAFF
- 15 DAVE BRADBURY

RYEDALE-YORK

Team Changes

- 1 PAUL HUTCHINSON
- 2 PAUL WHITE
- 3 DEAN REVELL
- 4 TONY MARSHALL
- 5 DAVID KETTLESTRING
- 6 NICK PINKNEY
- 7 STEVE DOBSON
- 8 IAN PAVER
- 9 ALAN PALLISTER
- 10 STEVE CRAVEN
- 11 STEWART MORRIS
- 12 RICH HAYES
- 13 GRAHAM SULLIVAN
- 14 T.B.A.
- 15 T.B.A.

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. K. Allatt

Touch Judges:
N. Farrimond (Red Flag)
P. Catcheside (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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TIM IS FIRST XXXX MAN OF THE MONTH

EACH month Castlemaine XXXX will be presenting an award to the Oldham player judged to have made the most significant contribution to the team's performance during the past month. The choice of the first XXXX Player of the Month was not an easy one and there were a number of close contenders.

The month saw some superb play from Richard Pachniuk, Vince Nicklin, Austin Donegan and Neil Flanagan. Neil has shown such impressive play in his three games so far this season that had he made all six of Oldham's matches he could have been a strong candidate for the September title.

But, let's hear it for a worthy winner! Tim Street is the first XXXX Player of the Month, chosen for his consistently high standard of play throughout the first month of the 1991 season.

Says Roger Halstead, rugby correspondent for the Oldham Evening Chronicle and Player of the Month competition judge:

"Tim was outstanding against First Division opposition in the Lancashire Cup-tie at St. Helens. At Workington, he was instrumental in rescuing the game in the last few minutes, and also in creating Oldham's late authority in the Lancashire Cup win at Swinton.

Tim receives the very first XXXX Player of the Month medal — and a supply of Castlemaine XXXX!

SEARCH FOR NEW RUGBY QUEEN BEGINS

SADLY, the lovely Amanda Norris, a familiar face to Oldham fans, will soon be handing over her Miss Oldham Rugby title. The good news is that the hunt is on for a new Rugby Queen. So come on all you local beauties, the chance is yours to win some exciting prizes, including a modelling course at a top Manchester agency — and to take Oldham's most coveted beauty title. Watch this page for more details!

SHIRT WINNERS

OLDHAM fans are obviously impressed with the new-look team strip, if the number of entries for our competition to win a free replica shirt is anything to go by.

The two lucky winners are:

Steven McGarty, of Denshaw, and Mrs. I. Calow, of Shaw.

A stunning new team shirt (home strip) is on its way to both of you!

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Quartered Sweatshirts		£17.50	Record — Simply the Best	£1.00
Crew Neck Sweatshirts		£17.50	Videos — To Hire (per night)	£1.50
Hooded Sweatshirts		£16.50	To Buy	£10.00
Polo Shirts		£18.50	Car Roller Blinds	£6.00
White Dress Shirts		£15.50	Rugby League Trios Card Game	£2.00
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OLDHAM STATISTICS 1991/92

Appearances and Scorers

	P	Sub	T	G	D	Pts
Shaun Allen	2	0	0	0	0	0
Tony Barrow	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ian Bates	1	0	0	0	0	0
Dave Bradbury	0	1	0	0	0	0
Gary Christie	1	1	0	0	0	0
Austin Donegan	5	0	1	0	0	4
Neil Flanagan	4	0	2	0	0	8
John Henderson	4	0	2	0	0	8
Neil Holding	3	0	0	1	0	2
Richard Irving	7	0	2	0	0	8
Chris Joynt	1	1	1	0	0	4
Simon Longstaff	5	2	0	0	0	0
Paul Lord	4	0	3	0	0	12
Tommy Martyn	6	0	4	12	1	41
Charlie McAlister	7	0	2	4	0	16
Barrie McDermott	1	4	1	0	0	4
Keith Newton	4	1	0	0	0	0
Vince Nicklin	6	0	1	0	0	4
Richard Pachniuk	5	0	2	0	0	8
Steve Robinson	1	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Round	6	0	2	0	0	8
Richard Russell	5	1	0	0	0	0
Tim Street	6	1	1	0	0	4
Shane Tupaea	1	1	0	0	0	0
Steve Warburton	5	0	2	0	0	8

Stones Bitter Second Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	5	2	0	0	62	22	11
Sheffield	5	1	1	0	44	30	2
OLDHAM	5	1	0	1	64	45	1
Leigh	5	2	0	0	56	32	1
Rochdale	5	1	1	2	120	79	1
Workington	5	1	1	0	18	14	1
Crusaders	5	1	0	2	62	75	1
Ryedale	5	0	0	3	46	94	0

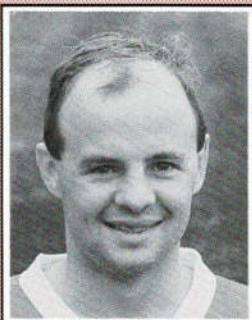
Roughyed Review

0898 888637

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Opponents	Date	KO	Res	F/A	Att	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Sheffield E	1.9.91	A	3.15	0	15.15	3.50	-	Nicklin	Irving	Warburton	McAlister	Robinson	Martyn	Holding	Donegan	Russell	Street	Allen	Longstaff	Newton	McAlister
Leigh	8.9.91	H	3.00	W	45.19	3.05	-	Nicklin	Irving	Martyn	McAlister	Henderson	Warburton	Flanagan	Donegan	Pachniuk	Street	Allen	Longstaff	Longstaff	McAlister
Swinton Lions Cup	22.9.91	A	3.00	W	22.21	3.05	-	Nicklin	Irving	Martyn	McAlister	Henderson	Warburton	Flanagan	Donegan	Pachniuk	Street	Newton	Russell	Longstaff	Tupaea
Workington T	29.9.91	A	7.30	0	6.6	3.00	3	Nicklin	Irving	Martyn	McAlister	Henderson	Warburton	Holding	Donegan	Pachniuk	Newton	Tupaea	Russell	Longstaff	Street
St Helens Blues Cup	26.9.91	A	7.30	L	26.29	7.05	-	Bates	Irving	Martyn	McAlister	Lord	Nicklin	Flanagan	Street	Russell	McAlister	McAlister	Jerrett	Chisne	Barbury
Rochdale H	28.9.91	H	3.00	L	12.25	4.05	5	Longstaff	Irving	Nicklin	Newton	Lord	Warburton	Flanagan	Donegan	Pachniuk	Street	McAlister	McAlister	Chisne	McAlister
Crusaders	6.10.91	A	3.00	W	23.26	6.50	3	Patt	Chisne	Martyn	McAlister	Irving	Holding	Flanagan	Street	Pachniuk	Barrow	McAlister	Longstaff	Jerrett	McAlister
Ryedale Park	13.10.91	H	3.00																		
Carlisle	20.10.91	A	2.00																		
Sheffield E	27.10.91	H	3.00																		
Leigh	3.11.91	A	3.30																		
Workington T	10.11.91	H	3.00																		
Regal Trophy - Round 1	17.11.91																				
Regal Trophy - Round 2	24.11.91																				
Rochdale H	1.12.91	A	3.00																		
Crusaders	8.12.91	H	3.00																		
Ryedale Park	15.12.91	A	3.15																		
Rochdale H	26.12.91	H	3.00																		
Leigh	1.1.92	A	3.30																		
Carlisle	5.1.92	H	3.00																		
Sheffield E	12.1.92	H	3.00																		
SOC - Round 1	26.1.92																				
Workington T	2.2.92	A	3.00																		
SOC - Round 2	9.2.92																				
Crusaders	16.2.92	A	3.00																		
Ryedale Park	23.2.92	H	3.00																		
SOC - Round 3	23.2.92																				
Sheffield E	1.3.92	A	3.15																		
Carlisle	8.3.92	H	3.00																		
Crusaders	15.3.92	H	3.00																		
Carlisle	22.3.92	A	2.00																		
Workington T	5.4.92	H	3.00																		
Ryedale Park	12.4.92	A	3.15																		
Rochdale H	17.4.92	A	3.00																		
Leigh	24.4.92	H	3.00																		

Key: t = try g = goal dg = drop goal * = played as substitute



Paddy's View

by

A-Team

Coach

Paddy Kirwan

FOLLOWING the great win against Workington and the heavy first team programme, it was inevitable that players would be required for first team duty. The promotion of six players — Paul Lord, Gary Christie, Neil Flanagan, Tony Barrow, Barrie McDermott and Chris Joynt from the team that did so well against Workington — is the main reason for Alliance rugby. I hope they can follow Richard Pachniuk's example and maintain their places.

The promotions did, however, leave a large hole in the team to play Halifax and meant a considerable reorganisation was required. After a reasonable start in which the front row of Tony Conroy, Mike Hough and Tony Barrow did well, the side allowed Halifax to score twice on their only raids into our half. In the driving rain, matters were made worse after 35 minutes when a trialist forward was sent off for a blatant high tackle, and the youngsters' "heads went down." In a disappointing second half performance, Halifax proceeded to win 26-6 with the only consolation for me being the continuing improvement of Tony Conroy and Tony Barrow in the front rows and the defensive work of Abraham Philip and Richard Blackman on the right flank.

The return of Ian Bates, Shaun Allen and David Bradbury boosted the pack for the trip into the unknown to Hemel Hempstead for the first round of the Alliance Cup. In a spirited first half display, the Londoners held up to a 10-8 lead after 30 minutes on a narrow park pitch. A terrific break by Richard Blackman, coming in off his wing to score a 60-yard try from first receiver at the play the ball, was just what was needed before half time. A slight change of tactics and a 20-minute burst of flowing rugby saw the Londoners fade away and allow Oldham to score a further five tries to eventually run out 46-8 winners. In a good team performance, the outstanding display from Tony Conroy, who led from the front, whilst Paul Barrow confirmed his promise in the centre and Keith Atkinson again kicked accurately to score 9 goals. Finally, a special word of thanks to all the supporters who made the long trip down — it was definitely appreciated.

**Roughyed
Review**

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Youngers Rugby League Alliance Fixtures 1991/92

Date	Opponents	Venue	Res	F A
Aug 30	Bradford Northern	H	W	24-14
Sept 6	Castleford	A	L	20-34
13	Warrington	H	L	12-16
21	Workington Town (2.30)	H	W	84-12
27	Halifax	A	L	6-26
Oct 5	Hemel Hempstead (Shield)	A	W	46-8
11	Widnes	H		
19	Shield — Round 2			
24	Bradford Northern	A		
Nov 1	Featherstone Rovers	H		
9	Workington Town (2.30)	A		
15	Leeds	A		
22	St. Helens	H		
29	Hull KR	A		
Dec 6	Wakefield Trinity	A		
13	Castleford	H		
20	Wigan	A		
27	St. Helens	A		
Jan 3	Hull KR	H		
10	Warrington	A		
17	Halifax	H		
24	Widnes	A		
31	Challenge Cup			
Feb 7	Hull	H		
14	Challenge Cup — Round 2			
21	Featherstone Rovers	A		
28	Wigan	H		
Mar 6	Hull	A		
13	Leeds	H		
20	Wakefield Trinity	H		

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Youngers Rugby League Alliance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds.....	5	4	0	1	204	74	8
Wigan.....	5	4	0	1	154	56	8
Hull KR.....	5	4	0	1	126	72	8
Warrington W.....	5	4	0	1	118	104	8
Widnes.....	5	3	0	2	176	98	6
St Helens.....	5	3	0	2	128	115	6
Featherstone R.....	5	3	0	2	108	109	6
Oldham.....	5	2	0	3	146	102	4
Hull.....	5	2	0	3	113	99	4
Halifax.....	5	2	0	3	95	100	4
Castleford.....	4	2	0	2	60	140	4
Bradford N.....	4	1	0	3	70	95	2
Wakefield T.....	5	0	0	5	60	182	0
Workington T.....	5	0	0	5	40	252	0

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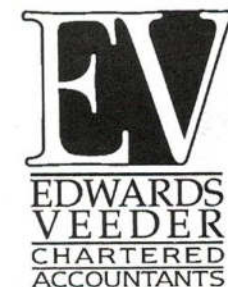
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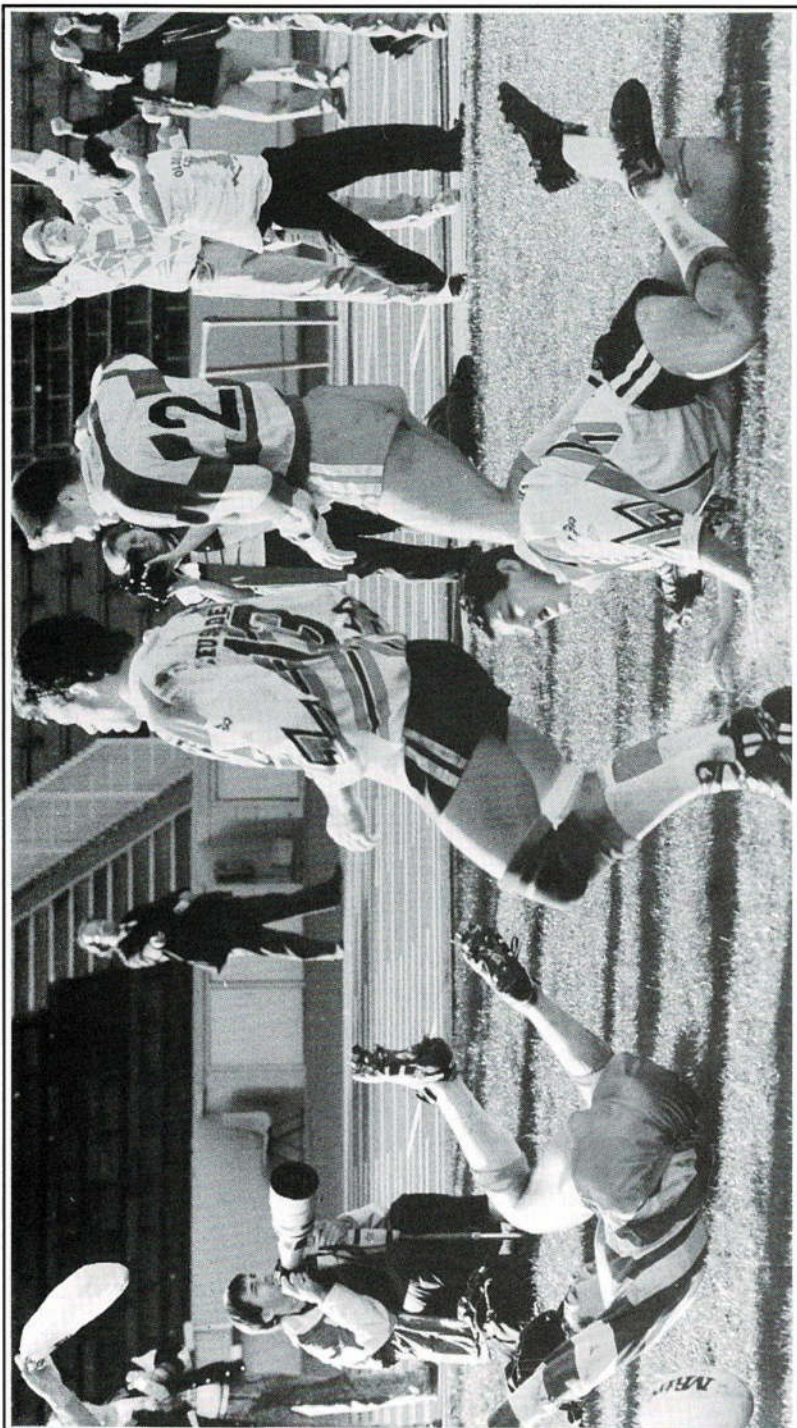
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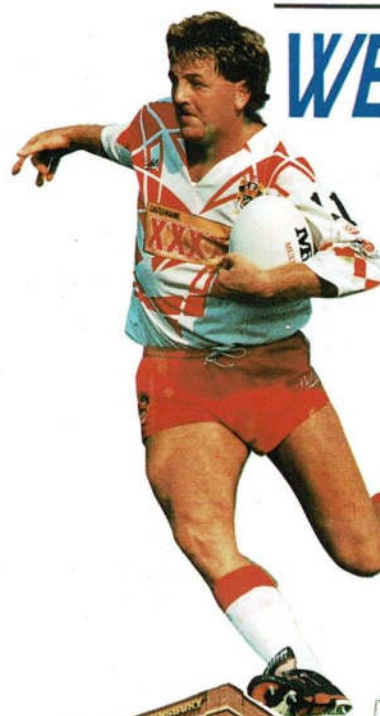


Bob Soper
TRAVEL

ACTION REPLAY



Tommy Martyn dives over the line in the dying minutes to secure the points against London Crusaders last Sunday. Gary Christie (No. 2), who created the try, looks on with appreciation. Tommy also kicked four goals and a drop goal for good measure.



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