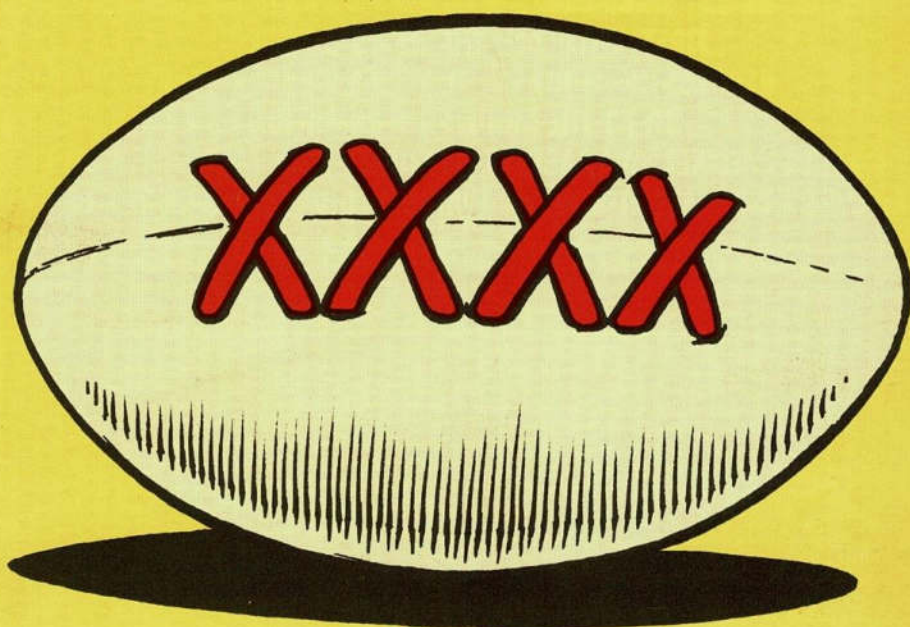


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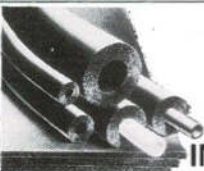
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Tunks' Talkback

Oldham's Coach
gives you his views

WELCOME to today's fixture against Workington. Certainly after our recent home displays against Rochdale and Sheffield, we would hope for a much improved performance in front of our home spectators.

Workington and ourselves are still recovering after that torrid Monday night encounter at Derwent Park early in the season. Since then Workington, as we know, have struggled through injury to get anything like their best team on the field, and their results have shown that they have made heavy work of it. But as the injury situation eases, I'm sure Workington will start to show the sort of form that so very nearly brought them an Old Trafford appearance last year.

Like today's opposition, we are also starting to get back players from injury and suspension, and if we are successful this afternoon, we can get back on target to pursue promotion.

Enjoy the game.

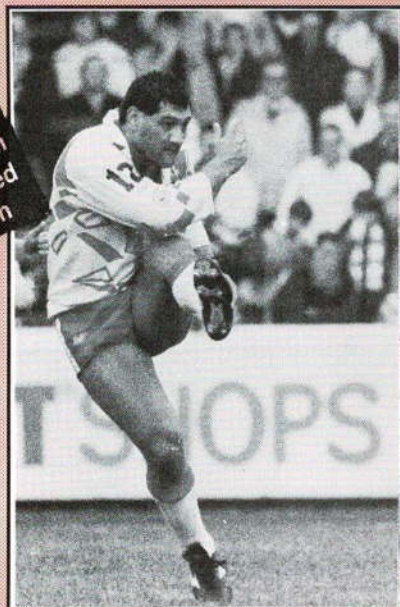
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Skipper's Spot

Oldham Captain Charlie McAlister looks at today's game

The Skipper's Spot had already gone to press when Oldham R.L.F.C. announced the new captain



WELCOME back to Watersheddings for the visit of Ray Ashton's Workington Town, a side who like us have struggled in recent matches after a promising start to this tough campaign. As everyone is aware, we slipped to our second home defeat against Sheffield, our first ever against the South Yorkshire side, two weeks ago amidst a certain amount of acrimony as supporters voiced their criticism.

Frustration at the result is understandable, but you must remember that Sheffield has kept the same side as the one they had in the first division last season, while ours has undergone a major transformation. Mike Ford, Paul Round, John Fieldhouse, John Fairbank, Andy Ruane, Brett Clark, John Cogger and Ronnie Duane have all left the club. That's an awful lot of experience to replace.

As in any sport, it takes time to adapt to changes. In our case, the changes will, hopefully, result in a stronger side that is able to win promotion to the first division and, more importantly, stay there.

While these changes take place, it is essential that you stay patient and give your full support to coach Peter Tunks and the rest of the players. Negative vibes from the terraces are destructive and will not do any of us any good.

I'd like to go on record to say Peter Tunks is a fine coach, who has played Rugby League at the highest levels. He was a hard, determined player, and is proving to be an equally hard man off the field as coach. He has my respect and the respect of all the players. It is essential that you show him the necessary respect, too.

Hopefully, you'll show that you are behind us 100% this afternoon by giving us your full vocal support right from the start of what promises to be a tough encounter with Workington Town.

They used to say that the noise of the Anfield crowd provided Liverpool with a goal start. Your vocal support at its best is well worth a couple of points, too.

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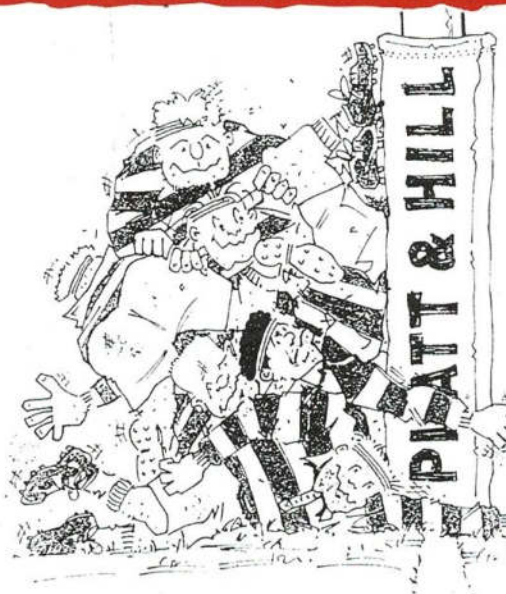
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A Watersheddings welcome to . . . Workington Town

Raymond Ashton (scrum-half/player coach): Height 5' 8", weight 12st. Ray made an excellent debut into the coaching world last season, being instrumental in a major revival at Workington Town. He will be hoping to keep the momentum going this term, with promotion the goal. Appearances 1990/91: 29+(5), 5 tries, 13 drop goals.

Colin Armstrong (front row forward): Height 6' 3", weight 15st. 10lb. Began his pro career with Carlisle before moving on to Hull Kingston Rovers, from where Town signed him early last season for a reported record fee. Cumbria county cap. Appearances 1990/91: 31, 3 tries, 25 goals, 4 drop goals.

Wayne Kitchen (scrum-half): Height 5' 7", weight 12st. 8lb. A niggling injury stifled Wayne's progress last season. However, now fully fit he is set to make his mark in the game. Appearances 1990/91: 9+(2), 5 tries, 3 goals.

David Lowden (winger): Height 5' 10", weight 12st. 7lb. Having shown excellent attacking qualities as a full back in previous seasons, David had no problems when coach Ashton transformed him into a very useful winger, which is typical of David's enthusiasm for the game. Cumbria county cap. Appearances 1990/91: 34, 8 tries, 14 goals, 2 drop goals.

Ian McLean (winger): Height 5' 10", weight 13st. 2lb. An excellent start to his Town career last season, scoring some crucial tries. Also good on defence, having made several appearances in the number one shirt. Appearances 1990/91: 29, 10 tries, 6 goals.

Alan McMullen (second row forward): Height 5' 11", weight 14st. Alan featured in all of last season's 36 fixtures, the only Town player to do so. Mr. Superfit, who always gives 100% of true Cumbrian grit. Voted player of the year by Town supporters. Appearances 1990/91: 34+(2), didn't score.

Martin Oglanby (loose forward): Height 5' 9", weight 13st. 7lb. A former B.A.R.L.A. open age international, good ball-handler with a fair amount of pace. The injury bug somewhat curtailed his progress at the latter end of last season. However, big things are expected of a fit 'Oggy' this term. Appearances 1990/91: 19+(9), 4 tries.

Paul Penrice (centre): Height 6' 1", weight 14st. A strong, hard-to-stop runner, whose versatility allows him to fill in as a forward if required. Appearances 1990/91: 21+(7), 7 tries.

Ian Scott (second row forward): Height 6', weight 13st. 7lb. Signed last season from neighbours Carlisle and settled in well. Should be a regular this term in what is becoming a formidable Town pack. Appearances 1990/91: 17+(6), 3 tries.

Gary Smith (full back): Height 5' 7", weight 11st. Fleet footed and a strong tackler, equally at home in the centre or stand-off. County cap. Appearances 1990/91: 19+(1), 1 try.

Stephen Wear (stand-off): Height 5' 9", weight 11st. 7lb. Elusive runner with a good footballing brain. Stephen looks to have a great future in R.L. Appearances 1990/91: 21, 6 tries, 42 goals, 4 drop goals.

Dean Williams (second row forward): Likeable Kiwi, who has made a great impression on the Town fans since joining the club last term. A very strong runner, with big-hitting defence. Appearances 1990/91: 14+(2).

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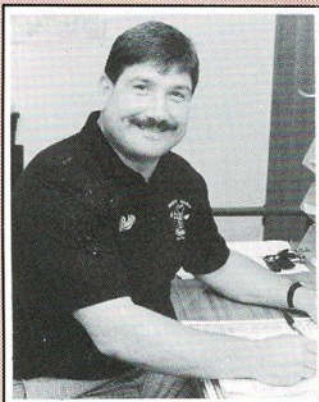
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Hill's Highlights

Commercial Manager
Ray Hill reports on the
Watersheddings Scene

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THERE'S an old cliché that I'd like to revive today which is appropriate given our present position at the club — When the going gets tough, the tough get going! Life is not easy at the club at the moment as we go through a difficult transition period which isn't helped by our financial predicament. (How the club finds itself in this position is revealed by Roger Halstead's definitive

explanation on the current plight of O.R.L.F.C. in the Oldham Evening Chronicle on October 31. Roger's been reporting objectively on the happenings at the Watersheddings for over 25 years so there is no better authority to pass comment).

However, I was saddened by the response of a minority of supporters after the Sheffield defeat two weeks ago. They were threatening to withdraw their support for the club, not just as spectators but also as backers of the club's fundraising activities like Lifeline and Cashline. Now is not the time for taking balls home. Instead, all of us — directors, coaching staff, players, club officials and supporters — should be pulling in the same direction to ensure Oldham R.L.F.C. survives and thrives.

Everyone at the club is working harder than ever before to get things right on and off the field. Your continued support is essential. Remember, Oldham R.L.F.C. is your club, so it is up to you to help us turn the corner. Continue to support the team in person on match days. Continue to support Lifeline, Cashline and the rest of the fundraising activities we arrange to bring in much needed cash.

Your support of our off-the-field activities doesn't just benefit the club. You too can reap the rewards. For example, Lifeline member Stan Peyton is now the proud owner of a brand new J Reg. Mini Metro as his was the lucky number pulled out of the hat. You could be one of our weekly winners collecting either a £1,000 or £100 prize. Or you could follow in the footsteps of Stan and win one of our special draws. The next one is over Christmas when we will be handing over a top prize of £10,000-plus. Two runners-up will get £3,000 and £2,000 respectively.

Give us a call on 061-620 4870 if you want to join Lifeline. It only costs £2 per week. And don't forget that you can still get tickets for Oldham R.L.F.C.'s annual sportsmen's dinner, which is sponsored by Fiat dealers Greenhalgh Brothers. This takes place on Wednesday, November 28, at the Avant Hotel, Manchester Road, Oldham, with the reception at 7.00 and dinner at 7.30.

Guest speaker is the incredibly funny Stan Taylor, an ex-submarine commander, comedian is Max Pressure and 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 special sponsorship packages for companies, clubs, pubs and groups also available. Give me a ring on 061-620 4870 for more details. All proceeds from the evening will go towards our ground fund, so come along for a great night which will also help the club.

Help us to help Oldham R.L.F.C. get back in the right direction.

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Q: Amanda Norris and Angela Knox — the connection?

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Second Division Round Up

by Geoff Cook

WITH a quarter of the season gone, it's time to see how the ultra-competitive Second Division is coming along. Hot favourites Sheffield Eagles are living up to their star billing. On the evidence so far, Eagles are the best organised team in the league and have international class players in Darryl Powell, Mark Aston and Hugh Waddell. Paul Broadbent is a forward to be feared and Mick Cook is a lively hooker. David Mycoe is young and sheer class, while threequarter line power comes from Iva Ropati and David Plange. With only one defeat at Carlisle to their name, I don't see anyone topping the Eagles.

Carlisle have surprised a few this season (not Sheffield) but probably lack strength in depth. Well coached by Cameron Bell, the Border Raiders pack power in the form of Okesene, Acherman and Williams. The inimitable Clayton Friend pulls the strings behind the pack and Kevin Pape remains one of the best centres not to have had a

First Division opportunity. Unlikely to stay the course, however.

Like their Cumbrian neighbours, Workington Town lack strength in depth, as witness the hammerings being sustained by their 'A' team. However, at full strength they can be a match for anyone. Ray Ashton and Colin Armstrong are class players, but Town also possess outstanding young talent with players like Kitchen and Lowden. However, defeats by London and Rochdale and only one victory on their travels have put Town in an unexpectedly lowly position. Watch out for a revival when their injuries begin to clear up.

London Crusaders continue to shame the Rugby League authorities by battling on in the capital with very little central aid. Sponsorship by Today newspaper must be a big help and Ross Standwick's devotion to the cause is much to be admired. Despite losing the classy Grey Peaver to Halifax, Crusaders still boast a workmanlike pack with the likes of Pitt, Olsen and Beekers. Lacklin Churchill calls the shots from scrum-half, and ex-Oldham favourites Hussein M'Barki and Mick Taylor continue to thrive. Star of the moment is ex-Halifax and Keighley winger Colin Atkinson. With good wins over Leigh, Rochdale and Workington, it is clear that the Londoners are no push-over.



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SPOTLIGHT ON AUSTIN DONEGAN



IT is a sign of the times at Watersheddings and Oldham's faith in its youth policy that Austin Donegan, at a youthful 23, is one of the club's senior players. However, powerful, strong-running forward Austin, who joined Oldham on a three-year contract from St. Helens for around £20,000 last season, still considers he has a lot to learn about the game.

"Rugby League is about experience and I am learning more about the game with every match. At the moment we have a lot of young lads in the side who are just starting their education and I'll be doing all I can to help them. Having good professionals like Joe Grima in the side will not only help the youngsters, but me as well!"

A bricklayer by trade, Austin, who is 6' 3" and weighs in at 17 stones 4 pounds, one of the game's biggest forwards, turned professional when he left school when Billy Benyon signed him for St. Helens. He spent four years with the Saints, the first two of which were marred by injury. However, despite a number of impressive first team performances, he was unable to establish himself in the first team and eagerly accepted the Tony Barrow's Oldham challenge.

He made a dramatic impact when he joined the club, helping them to a memorable Silk Cut Challenge Cup semi-final against Wigan. "It was bad news losing my first-ever semi-final appearance against Wigan, but I felt more for the players who have lost three or four semis. I'll hopefully get the opportunity again."

His start to this season was disrupted when he broke his right thumb but now he is back to full fitness and is looking forward to getting his place back in the first team.

Since coming to Watersheddings, Austin has really taken to the town. "I love it at Oldham. The people are very friendly and a lot more down to earth than they are in St. Helens."

Now Austin is looking to drive forward to a successful career in Rugby League. "I am still a young player and I want to enjoy top class rugby in the first division with Oldham — and get through to Wembley, of course!"

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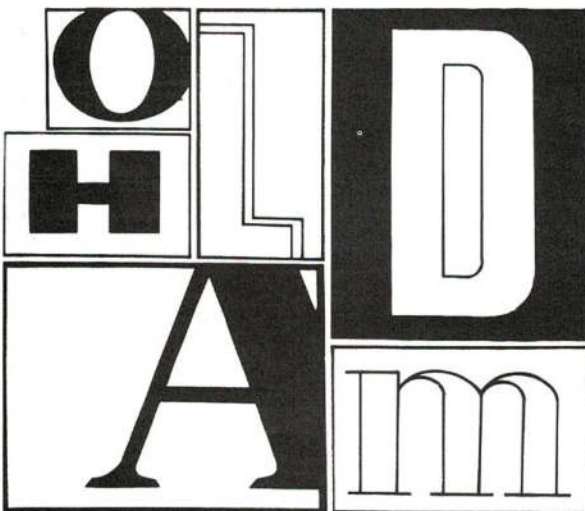
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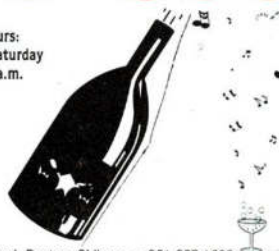
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CASTLEMAINE
XXXXX

TEAM CHECK

CASTLEMAINE
XXXXX

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10th 1991

OLDHAM

Team Changes

- 1 T. MARTYN
- 2 G. CHRISTIE
- 3 J. HENDERSON
- 4 G. BYRNE
- 5 R. IRVING
- 6 C. McALISTER
- 7 N. FLANAGAN
- 8 J. GRIMA
- 9 R. PACHNIUK
- 10 T. CONROY
- 11 C. JOYNT
- 12 S. TUPAEA
- 13 R. RUSSELL
- 14 S. WARBURTON
- 15 A. N. OTHER

WORKINGTON

Team Changes

- 1 I. McLEAN
- 2 M. MAWSON
- 3 B. LIA
- 4 N. ROONEY
- 5 D. LOWDEN
- 6 S. WEAR
- 7 R. ASHTON
- 8 J. LOMAX
- 9 M. ROSKELL
- 10 G. SCHUBERT
- 11 D. WILLIAMS
- 12 C. ARMSTRONG
- 13 M. OGLANBY
- 14 P. PENRICE
- 15 P. RILEY

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. J. Whitelamb
Touch Judges:
Mr. T. Randerson (Red Flag)
Mr. M. Sparrow (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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CASTLEMAINE

XXXXX



NEIL IS OCTOBER'S TOP PLAYER

SELECTING the XXXX Player of the Month can be a tough task and October's competition was extremely close. So close, in fact, that our judge, Oldham Evening Chronicle rugby correspondent Roger Halstead, admitted that he had to resort to the toss of a coin to determine the winner — scrum-half Neil Flanagan!

Said Roger: "Both Neil and forward Keith Newton had an excellent month and I simply couldn't decide between them. They were both particularly outstanding in two very difficult away matches, against London Crusaders and Carlisle."

Sadly, there can be only one winner each month, and our congratulations go to Neil, who receives his XXXX Player of the Month medal and, of course, a well-earned supply of Castlemaine XXXX.

Commiserations to Keith, but if his October form is anything to go by, it won't be too long before he'll be taking his turn at the title!

Special commendations are also due to Gary Christie, Tony Conroy and Richard Pachniuk and to Tommy Martyn and Chris Joynt, both of whom won Great Britain under-21 honours during October.

MORE XXXX PRIZES

TOWARDS the end of the season we'll be asking Oldham fans to name their choice of Player of the Year (hopefully without tossing any coins!). Because Oldham players wouldn't give a XXXX for any other lager there will also be a reward in store for the highest-scoring player of the season — a can of Castlemaine XXXX for every goal scored!

Watch this page for more details, and for news of a super XXXX prize for fans, too!

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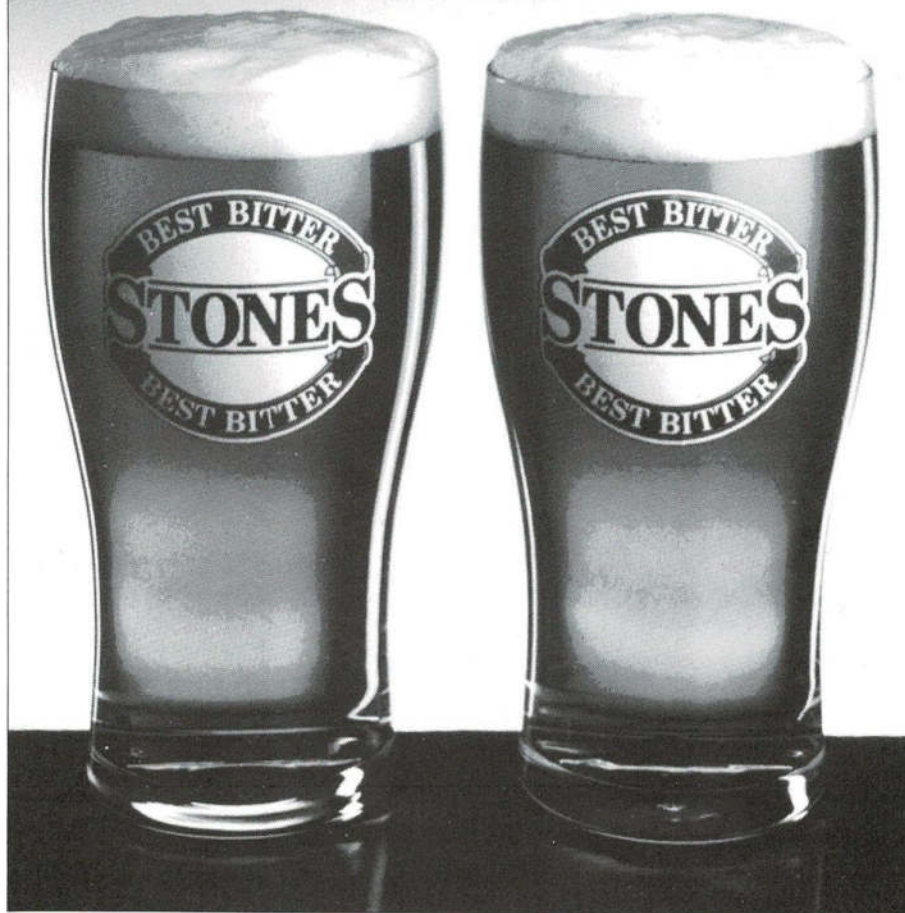
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Replica Shirts	Adults £34.99	Car Stickers	50p/75p
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Soft Collar Sweatshirts	£17.50	Record — Simply the Best	£1.00
Quartered Sweatshirts	£17.50	Videos — To Hire (per night)	£1.50
Crew Neck Sweatshirts	£16.50	To Buy	£10.00
Hooded Sweatshirts	£18.50	Car Roller Blinds	£6.00
Polo Shirts	£15.50	Rugby League Trios Card Game	£2.00
White Dress Shirts	£16.50	Autographed Rugby Balls	£10.75
Single Duvet Sets	£20.50	Mini Rugby Balls	£5.00
Bermuda Shorts	£6.99/5.99	Headbands/Wristbands	each 90p
Boxer Shorts	£5.99/4.99	Gloves — Small, Medium, Large	£1.75
Ties	£6.00	Pen/Keyring Set	£1.50
Sports Bags	£5.99	Pen/Notebook Set	£1.60
Bedroom Blinds	£5.00	Individual Players T-shirts	£4.99
Desk Tidies	£2.25	Babies Dungarees 6/12, 12/18, 18/24	£7.99
Toothbrush Holders	£1.00	Babies Sweatshirts 6/12, 12/18, 18/24	£5.50
Soap Tidies	£1.00	Dungaree/Sweatshirts Set	£12.50
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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	2	0	0	0	0
Ged Byrne	2	0	1	0	0	4
Gary Christie	4	1	4	0	0	18
Tony Conroy	3	0	0	0	0	0
Austin Donegan	6	0	1	0	0	4
Neil Flanagan	7	0	4	0	0	16
Joe Grima	2	0	0	0	0	0
John Henderson	4	0	2	0	0	8
Neil Holding	3	0	0	1	0	2
Richard Irving	10	0	3	0	0	12
Chris Joynt	4	1	2	0	0	8
Simon Longstaff	5	4	0	0	0	0
Paul Lord	5	0	3	0	0	12
Tommy Martyn	9	0	4	20	1	57
Charlie McAlister	10	0	3	5	0	32
Barrie McDermott	1	5	1	0	0	4
Mark Mulligan	2	0	0	0	0	0
Keith Newton	7	1	1	0	0	4
Vince Nicklin	9	0	3	0	0	12
Richard Pachniuk	8	0	5	4	0	28
Duncan Platt	1	0	0	0	0	0
Steve Robinson	1	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Round	6	0	2	0	0	8
Richard Russell	5	2	0	0	0	0
Tim Street	6	1	1	0	0	4
Shane Tupaea	1	1	0	0	0	0
Steve Warburton	6	1	2	0	0	8

Stones Bitter Second Division

	Home					Away					A	Pts
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sheffield	8	2	1	0	79	44	4	0	1	134	92	13
OLDHAM	8	2	0	2	128	101	2	2	0	75	52	10
Leigh	8	3	0	1	79	51	2	0	2	78	83	10
Rochdale	8	1	1	2	120	79	3	0	1	110	79	9
Carlisle	7	3	0	1	84	56	1	1	1	66	54	9
Crusaders	9	2	0	3	96	107	2	0	2	50	54	8
Workington	8	1	1	2	34	72	1	0	3	71	95	5
Ryedale	8	0	0	4	53	116	0	0	4	52	162	0

NEXT HOME GAME

v

London Crusaders

Sunday, November 17th (kick-off 3.00p.m.)

NEXT AWAY GAME

v

Rochdale Hornets

Sunday, December 1st (kick-off 3.00p.m.)

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	18:16	3:50	-	Nicklin	Irving t	Warburton t	McAlister g	Rubson	Martyn g	Holding g	Donegan t	Russell t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
Leigh	8.9.91	H	1:00	W	48:19	2:05	-	Nicklin	Irving t	Martyn t 3g	McAlister t 4g	McAlister t 2g	McAlister t 2g	Holding	Donegan t	Pachniuk t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
Swinton Lions Cup	22.9.91	A	3:00	W	22:21	3:25	-	Nicklin	Irving t	Martyn t 3g	McAlister t 1g	McAlister t 1g	McAlister t 1g	Warburton	Donegan t	Pachniuk t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
Workington T	22.9.91	A	2:30	D	6:6	3:20	3	Nicklin	Irving t	Martyn g	McAlister g	McAlister t	McAlister t	Warburton	Donegan t	Pachniuk t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
St Helens Lions Cup	26.9.91	A	7:30	L	26:39	7:05	-	Bates	Irving t	Martyn t 2g	McAlister t 2g	McAlister t	McAlister t	Warburton	Donegan t	Pachniuk t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
Rochdale H	28.9.91	H	3:00	L	18:26	4:10	5	Longstaff	Irving t	Nicklin	Longstaff	Longstaff	Longstaff	Warburton	Donegan t	Pachniuk t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
Crusaders	6.10.91	A	3:00	W	22:20	6:50	3	Patt	Chisnall	Martyn t 4g	Longstaff	Longstaff	Longstaff	Warburton	Donegan t	Pachniuk t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
Ryedale Tork	13.10.91	H	3:00	W	52:18	3:04	3	Nicklin	Chisnall	Martyn t 3g	Longstaff	Longstaff	Longstaff	Warburton	Donegan t	Pachniuk t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
Carlisle	20.10.91	A	2:00	W	36:10	1:00	1	Nicklin	Chisnall	Martyn t 3g	Longstaff	Longstaff	Longstaff	Warburton	Donegan t	Pachniuk t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
Sheffield E	27.10.91	H	3:00	L	12:35	3:04	2	Nicklin	Chisnall	Martyn t 3g	Longstaff	Longstaff	Longstaff	Warburton	Donegan t	Pachniuk t	Street	Round t	Alie	Longstaff	Newton
Leigh	3.11.91	A	3:30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Workington T	10.11.91	H	6:15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crusaders (Reg Trophy Rd 1)	17.11.91	H	3:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regal Trophy - Round 2	24.11.91	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rochdale H	1.12.91	A	3:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crusaders	8.12.91	H	3:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ryedale Tork	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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SFC - Round 1	26.1.92	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Workington T	2.2.92	A	3:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SFC - Round 2	9.2.92	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crusaders	16.2.92	A	3:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ryedale Tork	23.2.92	H	3:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SFC - 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	29.3.92	A	2:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Workington T	5.4.92	H	3:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ryedale Tork	12.4.92	A	3:15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rochdale H	17.4.92	A	3:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leigh	20.4.92	H	3:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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



Paddy's View

by

A-Team

Coach

Paddy Kirwan

THE loss of over a dozen players with proven 1st team experience has certainly taken its toll on the 'A' team performance. The replacements for these experienced professionals have been, in the main, youngsters and trialists, and with injuries and suspensions adding to the problems, 'A' team selection has not been about who to leave out but how to shuffle players into positions to resemble a team.

At Bradford two weeks ago, another young side impressed for the first 30 minutes without applying the killer punch to convert pressure into points. A poor spell just before half-time saw Bradford take an undeserved 14-0 half-time lead. Again, early in the second half several clear-cut chances provided by the forwards were missed by the backs. The missed chances deflated the young side and lifted Bradford Northern, who eventually ran out 30-10 winners, a scoreline that in no way reflected the effort put in, especially by players such as Shaun Allen, Ian Bates and the ever-improving Darrell Rogers.

The lack of a first team game last weekend was a very welcome chance to introduce some experience to the 'A' team. Based on the platform provided by the front row of Joe Grima, Richard Russell and Austin Donegan, the team played in a much more professional manner, with much of the credit going to Joe Grima, Shaun Allen and Richard Russell for the organisation and communication on the field. For the first time in several matches I felt comfortable on the bench with the team always looking in control and, but for a number of dubious second-half refereeing decisions, I'm sure the score would have been much higher than the 14-4 victory. I feel sorry for the spectators who pay to watch good rugby on Friday nights often to find a young referee out to impress the assessors, taking over as the star of the show.

With a bit of luck on the injury front, I will have a stronger squad to choose from over the next few weeks. This should enable a string of good results to be produced which will improve the confidence amongst the youngsters and help them achieve their full potential.

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	L	18-24	
19	St Helens (Shield Round 2)	A	L	10-49	
24	Bradford Northern	A	L	10-30	
Nov 1	Featherstone Rovers	H	W	14-4	
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
Wigan	9	8	0	1	357	97	16
Widnes	8	5	0	3	300	142	10
Leeds	9	5	0	4	282	192	10
Halifax	8	5	0	3	219	138	10
Warrington W	7	5	0	2	139	124	10
Hull KR	8	5	0	3	172	182	10
Featherstone R	8	3	1	4	136	155	7
Castleford	6	3	1	2	112	150	7
Oldham	8	3	0	5	188	160	6
Hull	7	3	0	4	141	121	6
Bradford N	6	3	0	3	134	130	6
St Helens	7	3	0	4	163	207	6
Wakefield T	8	1	0	7	121	281	2
Workington T	9	1	0	8	73	458	2

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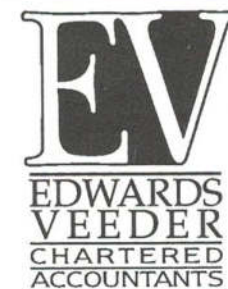
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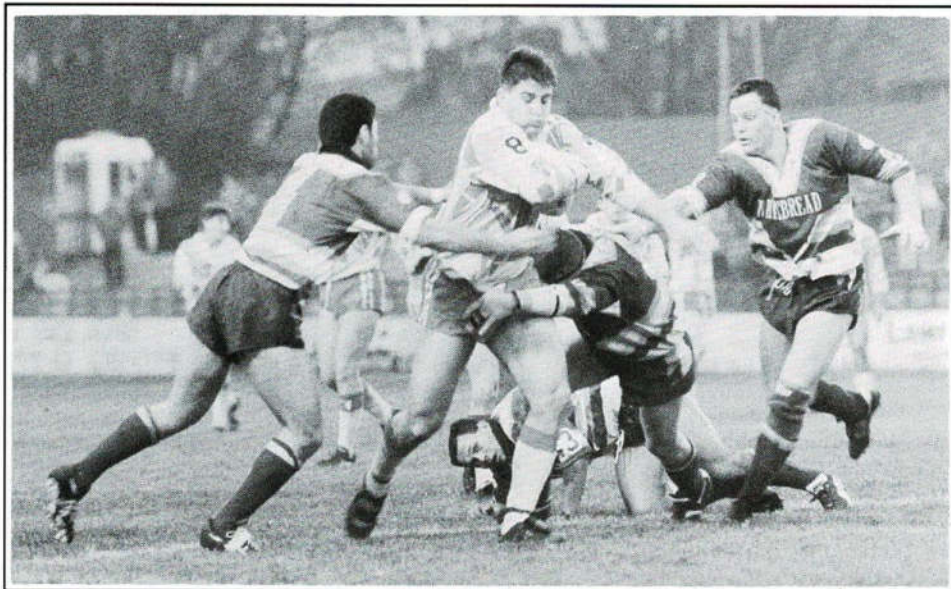
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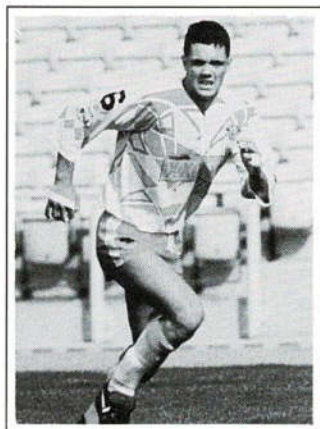
Back in action — powerful Oldham forward Austin Donegan played his first game for Oldham after a six-week absence through injury.

JUNIOR CHOICE

My Favourite Player is ... TOMMY MARTYN

"Tommy Martyn is my best player because he has so much skill. He scores tries out of thin air and kicks goals from all over the pitch. My sister and I think he will play for the Great Britain side soon." **Anne Davies** (aged 11), Elton Road, Sale.

Thanks for writing, Anne. You will be receiving a signed photograph from Tommy and you can collect TWO free tickets (one for an adult) for our next home game some time this week. Keep your nominations coming in. Write to Favourite Player, Ray Hill, Oldham RLFC, The Pavilion, Watersheddings, Couthill Road, Oldham. Don't forget to enclose a recent photograph.



JUNIOR ROUGHYEDS

Want to join Junior Roughyeds — Oldham's youngsters supporters' club? Your membership only costs £2 a year. In return, you'll get a FREE badge and membership card and great concessions. For instance, it will only cost you 50p for A Team home games. There's lots more on offer as well, including a great Christmas Party and Prize Draws at most home games. Sounds a lot of fun doesn't it! Why not tackle your parents today and ask if you can join Junior Roughyeds? Ask them to contact Joe Gallagher on 061-627 0235 or contact the club on 061-620 4870.

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