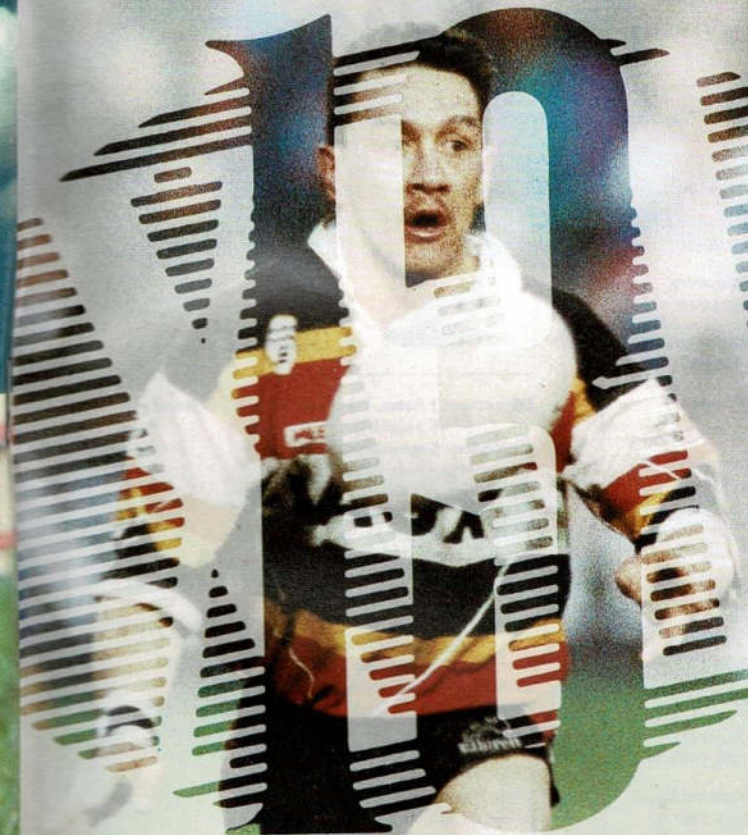




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Club Photographer: Colin Wilson

Programme Editor: John Hunt

Regular Contributors: Martin Bass, Paul English,
Ian Ridley, Brian Smith

Supporters Club Chairman: Ian Ridley

Most Tries in a career: 261 - J. McLean 1950/56
in a season: 63 - J. McLean 1951/52
in a match: 7 - J. Dechan v Bramley 1906

Most Goals in a career: 779 - K. Mumby 1973 -
in a season: 173 - E. Tees 1971/72
in a match: 14 - J. Phillips v Batley 1952

Most Points in a career: 1828 - K. Mumby 1973 -
in a season: 364 - E. Tees 1971/72
in a match: 36 - J. Woods v Swinton 1985

Most Appearances
586 - K. Mumby 1973 -

Most Consecutive Appearances
133 - J. McLean 1951/54

Debut Season
1895-96

Record Attendance
102,569 - Halifax v Warrington 1954
at Odsal

Record Attendance for a Bradford game
69,429 v Huddersfield 1953 at Odsal

Biggest Victory
72-12 v Hunslet 1984/85
76-0 v Leigh East 1991/92

CLUB RECORDS

2



From the Top

by
Chris Caisley
Chairman

13

Welcome today to Oldham RLFC and their supporters.

I am writing this column immediately before our re-arranged League fixture at Hull and shortly after our disappointing exit from the Regal Trophy Competition. The match against Castleford was hardly the best way to begin a New Year, but it was the manner of our defeat which disappointed me more than anything. Whilst one can with some justification point the finger at several important refereeing decisions that went against us, it would be folly to blame anybody but ourselves. Frankly, we simply did not perform to the best of our abilities. This is a malaise which has bedevilled us in other important matches in the past, and it is something we must overcome if we are to lose our tag of being 'also rans'.

I hope that by now we have put the Castleford match behind us and succeeded at Hull, a ground where we have a poor record in recent seasons. A win there and a victory today will put us back 'on the rails'.

Our meeting with Oldham earlier this season seems such a long time ago. We did not play well that evening, and were saved by a piece of inspirational play by Dave Watson. Oldham have been very unpredictable this season, but have secured some positive results against good opposition and can never be taken lightly, especially with a world-class player such as Bob Lindner in their ranks.

I thought our attendance for the Regal Trophy semi-final game was most encouraging. There were over 8,000 people who paid to watch



that was also televised and which took place on a Saturday immediately following the New Years Eve festivities. I am sorry for all of our supporters who came in anticipation of a victory to take us through to our second successive final, but I hope that everyone who has supported us thus far will be able to appreciate the forward-strides we have taken and continue to support us. After all, we have only lost three matches and if we perform as well for the remainder of the season there will surely be further opportunities to gain some honours.

On a wider front, I thought that the attendances throughout the First and Second Divisions over the holiday period were very good indeed, and I hope it is a sign that we are beginning to increase our spectator base.

This is a malaise which has bedevilled us in other important matches in the past, and it is something we must overcome if we are to lose our tag at being 'also rans'

Chris Caisley

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Get It On!!



At Our -

OLDHAM - Roughyeds

by Paul English

Oldham arrive here at Odsal for their first league visit since March 1991 looking for a league victory after dropping into the relegation zone. Since that visit their team has seen much change, coach Peter Tunks even changing the personnel who were successful in gaining promotion from the second division last term.

Full back WALLY GIBSON joined the club after a successful spell with the nearby Huddersfield club. The Australian is an exciting elusive attacking player but perhaps his defensive limitation have prevented him from reaching the very top, as can be seen by his use in a variety of different positions including scrum half in recent weeks. PAUL TOPPING has long been a very reliable full back both Swinton and Leigh but has gained much acclaim for his displays for Oldham this season. Another former Swinton player is wingman SCOTT RANSON, he scored 12 tries in 24 appearances for Oldham last season. Former Wakefield flyer DAVID JONES, signed in exchange for centre Gary Christie, and Ranson are keeping out former Northern player HUGH GUMBS who is only able to gain selection in the Alliance side.

Another player who made his name with a West Yorkshire club is centre SHAUN IRWIN. Signed from Castleford at the start of the season Irwin is a product of the Redhill club he gained four Under-21 caps whilst with Castleford. His regular partner is DARREN ABRAM who moved over from neighbours Rochdale Hornets just under 12 months ago.

Although he only scored seven tries last season, with only three of those being for Oldham, he scored 37 tries in the preceding two seasons with Rochdale and Trafford Borough. Signed the day before Abram was former Orrell rugby union club winger NIGEL HESLOP. He represented England between 1990 and 1992 making his debut against Argentina and his final international appearance being against Wales. In recent games he has switched between centre, full back and wing. Coach Peter Tunks has also been using various

permutation of players at half back. Former Wigan and Warrington player MARTIN CROMPTON looks set to take over as the regular scrum half with his likely partner being STEVE KERRY. Kerry was signed from the Salford club where he played alongside his current coach Peter Tunks. Topping, Gibson and Martin Strett are others who have played at half back in recent games with strett now out of the permutations following his recent move to Rochdale Hornets in exchange for winger ADRIAN BELL and forward DAVE CHRIMES. In recent weeks Oldham have been reported to be interested in Cardiff winger Nigel Walker and Australian back GLENN LIDDIARD. If signed Liddiard would be in his second spell at the Watersheddings after appearing in the 1985-86 season alongside his brother David who is now playing for Hull K.R.

After losing New Zealand international Se'e Solomona, initially with a broken arm and subsequently to Auckland Warriors Oldham have found themselves with little experience in the front row. BARRIE McDERMOTT has filled the vacancy recently, he was signed from local club Waterhead. Another product of the Waterhead club is IAN SHERRATT, a player who started his professional career under Peter Fox here at Odsal around a decade ago and who is now in his second spell with Oldham after also playing for Salford. He gained the respect of Tunks whilst at the Willow and is reported to be in good form this season. Hooker is JOHN CLARKE who was a member of the BARLA tourist squad to Australia during the summer, he was signed from the East Leeds club and has kept out the vastly experienced former St. Helens player PAUL GROVES.

The second row brings together a pair of former Leeds players, New Zealander MIKE KUITI played for the Headingley club between January 1990 and September 1991. He joined Leeds after making an impact on the 1989 tour but was one of the first departures after the arrival of coach Doug Laughton, leaving



Place Today

to join Rochdale Hornets. The other is ANDY GOODWAY, recently reported to be a contender for the vacant coaching position at Hunslet, who gained fame with the Wigan club in the late eighties and early nineties before joining Leeds last season. He returned to Oldham, his original club, during the summer. Two other New Zealanders who may also gain selection today are CHARLIE McALISTER and SHANE TUPAEA. The latter appeared for Swinton before joining Oldham whilst McAlister is another player in a second period of service with the Oldham club who he originally joined in 1988 from the Bradford and Bingley rugby union club.

Loose forward is the experienced Australian BOB LINDNER. His signing came as something of a surprise to most followers of the game, the former West player appeared in last seasons World Cup Final. Former Northern player CRAIG RICHARDS made a sensational start to his Oldham career scoring twice on his debut against his former teammates. Like Gumbs he has also found first team selection to be elusive in recent weeks with Tunks more likely to call on former St. Helens player IYAN GREEN or the former Leigh miners player DAVE BRADBURY. Forwards Mark Meadows and Ben Olsen have both left for Leigh in recent weeks restricting the choice for Tunks in the forward positions.

Oldham have joined the ranks of clubs with an Academy side this season and once again I shall try and use my crystal ball to predict a bright future for one of their rising stars. This weeks selection is ALF GOLBOURNE, the younger brother of Featherstone's Alex Golbourne. He was another BARLA tourist during the summer and has already progressed from the Academy ranks to the Alliance side.

SPOTLIGHT

Peter Tunks started his coaching career in earnest with the Watersheddings club in April 1991 leading them to the Second Division Championship last season. Whilst his first season in charge saw a disappointing final league position of third he led the team to a Divisional Premiership Final against Sheffield Eagles, losing out 34-20 with a certain K. Mumby scoring a Sheffield try.

From the fifteen on duty that day only Scott Ranson, Shane Tupaea and Ian Sherratt remain with the club, indicating the ability and willingness of Tunks to use the transfer market usually with exchange deals to try to enhance the club's playing strengths.

Tunks played for three English clubs, Sheffield, Salford and Leeds who he joined for one season in 1987 from the Canterbury club.





Back Row: ROGER SIMPSON, PAUL MEDLEY, ROY POWELL, KARL FAIRBANK, RICHARD DARKES, KEITH MUMBY
 Middle Row: NIGEL STEPHENSON, ADAM GREENWOOD, PAUL DIXON, JON HAMER, DARRALL SHELFORD, PAUL NEWLOVE, NEIL HOLDING,
 STEVE MCGOWAN, MARIE GRIFFITHS
 Front Row: JOHN SIMPSON, BRIAN NOBLE, NEIL SUMMERS, DAVE HOBBS, DERYCK FOX, TREVOR CLARK, TONY MARCHANT, FRED ROBINSON

Photo by COLIN WILSON

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Supporters Scene

by
Ian Ridley

NEWS & COMMENT

Fellow Supporters,

Welcome to today's game against Oldham from over t'hill. Let's hope that this fixture is as exciting as our second match of the season at the Watersheddings (as long as Northern win that is).

I am sure that you are all as sick as I am that our 'Regal' Bubble burst. I heard that Mr. Crooks was most grateful that Mr. Newlove did not 'milk' the situation. What a nice Chap! However, do not be too despondent as this is only our third defeat of the season!

Due to the inclement weather, the Board have purchased pitch protection covers to alleviate any fixture backlog which may arise. This is a forward thinking decision and I am pleased to announce that the Bradford Northern Supporters Club have donated £2000 towards the cost. A cheque for this amount will be presented to Chris Caisley, Club Chairman before the match today (conditions underfoot permitting). I would like to take this opportunity to thank all supporters who have supported the Supporters Club Committee in its Fund-raising activities.

Match Forecasts

Vs Halifax: -

5 Winners at £10 each were
M. Little, L. Gill, D. Poutney,
S. Richards & F. Kudarenko

Vs Castleford: -

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G. Baker

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Programme: £1.00

PARKING:

Only limited spaces are available.

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Coach Bookings on Match days will be taken inside the entrance to the old shop.
If booking by phone please ring before 9.30pm CHRISTINE STOCKS 816006.

Marie Curie Ardenlea Cancer Hospice collected £405 at the Boxing Day match and with it go their appreciation and thanks.



SMILE - YOU'RE AT ODSAL

with our Team



It's an Oval World

by Bruce
from Bendigo

Before you say anything, I know the New Year is supposed to be a time for looking forward. Well, I'm different. Not being the courageous type I've never cared for the uncertainty of the future and rather pandered to my retrospective nature by preferring the things I can trust, solid things, like memories for instance. Since my involvement with Northern is largely confined to memories these days, I make scant apology for possibly boring you with some of my notable ones. Look, can I help it if self-indulgence happens to be one of my favourite pastimes? Be positive, maybe it will jog a few memories of your own. Then again you can always turn the page.

I ought to say first that accuracy can't be guaranteed in these recollections. Events become muddled and congealed as time, like blood, runs at an altogether different pace through young bodies. But, after all these are my memories and a little licence here and there is all part of their appeal.

I don't actually recall my first Northern match. It was during the re-formation season of 1964 and a couple of things from those early days stick. Well do I remember everyone's surprise at a win over Wakefield, though whether that surprises stemmed from the fact it was a win or that it was a win by the unusual score of 3 points to nil, escapes me, along with the game itself.

Then there was the day my Dad and I arrived late for the Whitehaven game and became quite excited at the rare sight of our team - the ones in white with coloured bands around their chests - throwing the ball about and scoring with consummate ease. It certainly appeared as if this would be a performance to treasure until some long suffering soul could stand our misplaced elation no more and informed us that there was a clash of colours and Northern were in red today. Reality was never crueler.

Do you remember the 'long walk' up the Odsal slope from the pitch to the dressing rooms? I don't recall how long it is now since it disappeared, but I do know I miss it, allowing for the fact that things had to change. What a place for kid's initiation to rugby league. A veritable Mount Olympus, filled with heroes and villains, still muddled from the toils of battle and all within touching distance. Northern never seemed to lose in those days. Mind you, the fact that I only waited to see the players up the slope if we'd won might have something to do with that selective reminiscence.

The two memories of the avenue of honour or the gauntlet of shame, depending on circumstances, are both from my early days. Firstly there was Errol Stock's last match before returning to Australia. It was a sad occasion for me, since I didn't see why he had to leave at all, but it appeared to me that hundreds of people were prepared to swallow their disappointment to line the slope and wish Errol well. He was the last player up from the pitch that evening and he looked as if he was pleased with his send-off. If you were so pleased why didn't you ever return, Errol?

Anyhow, speaking of send-offs brings me to by other memory of the famous 'walk' It was the first time I remember seeing a player sent from the field. The

cont. page 14...



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...cont from page 11

match was the cup-tie with Wakefield and Gert Coetzer was the miscreant. In stark contrast with the Errol Stock occasion, this time the slope was singularly devoid of well-wishers. I would willingly have accompanied Gert on his lonely trek, kicking his shins all the way, but my Dad, wiser, and anyway not one keen on involvement with the authorities, forbade me leave his side. So Gert got off scot-free, in my eyes at least, with tripping Ian Brooke, who would otherwise have scored, won the tie and set Northern on the road to Wembley. Little wonder in our household, Gert Coetzer was about as popular as Salman Rushdie is nowadays, in Tahrán.

Still on the subject of the Cup, the next season saw the big mid-week tie with mighty Wigan. I was a bit taken with Billy Boston in those days and was thoroughly excited about the whole thing. Funnily enough, now I can't even recall if Boston played. What I do remember is a vast crowd and a spectacular overhead pass out of a tackle by Brian McTigue to keep a Wigan move alive. It summed up the evening. Northern trying hard, only to find Wigan able to call on something extra. Things don't change much do they?

On a happier Cup-tie note there was the semi-final at Headingley in 1973, against Dewsbury. I owe my memories of the afternoon to the thickness of my skull. As I said, things don't change much. Anyway, when David Treasure raced away for his second try and Wembley became a certainty, I leapt in the air, head first into the floodlight pylon. There were a damned sight more stars around than the thirteen on the field, I can tell you. Just think, if it happened today, I'd probably be able to sue Leeds into the bargain and make for a totally satisfactory afternoon.

Then there was the time Wally Lewis was supposed to be coming to Odsal. Remember that? Nobody really believed it of course, but we were all just a bit excited all the same. That Friday we went shopping in Morrisons on Mayo Avenue. There we met Brian, a chap who stood with my Dad and a few others at the Rooley Lane end, on his knees, arms outstretched, bowing and shouting, 'Wally Lewis' across the Queensland bananas. Okay, acceptable behaviour in downtown Brisbane, but guaranteed to attract attention in Bradford on a Friday night. Two years later Brian still did this whenever he saw us in Morris, but he was like that, oblivious to what others might think.

Where do I stop, the memories roll on. Hugging a similarly jubilant, total stranger as we danced with care-free abandon in the Wilderspool mud after that 1975 Players Final win; Hanley's try in the semi-final almost but not quite making up for the defeat; Berwyn Jones's try against Wakefield in the Cup match that had to be played at Headingley; Brian Hogan and Kel Earl showing the termerity to laugh behind the posts at Wheldon Road during one of the buckettings we seem to get there; Fordy's late, late winner against Castleford when he went up the new terracing side. Okay, okay, I know it's got to stop...

I feel like a drowning man. These aren't just memories of a rugby league side here, this is my life passing before my eyes. In a way I suppose I am drowning, in nostalgia, but enjoying it none the less. Drowning and waving in a sense, I think. O what the hell, thanks for the memories, Northern.



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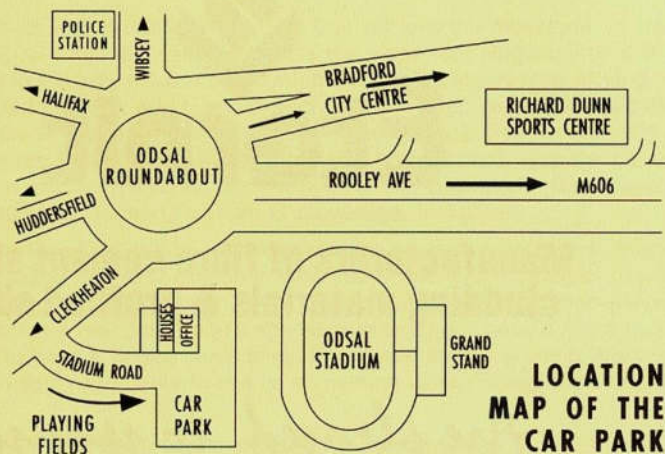
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Great efforts have been made to provide this facility and I hope that this new car park will make your visit to the Stadium that much easier by taking away the headache of car parking.

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T&A BLOID TALK

with Brian Smith

There's surely not a ground anywhere that has been the butt of so many jokes, or taken as much criticism as Odsal. And there can't be another club that has had its fate influenced so much by the sheer uniqueness of its playing venue.

Remember the bad winter of 1978-79, for example? and I remember it clearly because I was on strike for several weeks, freezing on a picket line in the provincial newspaper dispute.

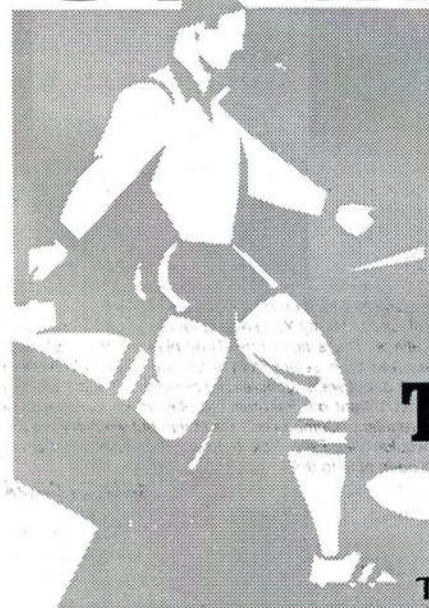
Because of snow and frost, Odsal couldn't stage a game from mid-December to early March. Consequently, Northern ended up playing their last 15 league games (eight of them at home) in a spell of 48 days! In between they also battled their way through to the Challenge Cup semi-final including a replay at Hull, and they then still reached the Premiership final against all the odds.

Odsal's never been the same to me since they knocked down the 'old stand' in the mid-eighties and there have been times when I've felt they should bomb the place. But the sight of the terracing being so well populated for recent games against Halifax and Castleford has been a wonderful reminder of the great days of big crowds, when all that mattered was how many could get in.

Whatever the criticisms of Odsal, that magnificent sweep of terracing, so reminiscent of Fartown in its heyday, offers some of the best viewing anywhere. And the fact that recent games have been staged in defiance of the weather, with the help of pitch covers and tremendous work from the groundstaff, has been a big bonus for the club.

So let's hear it for Odsal for a change. Just wait while they're pulling the sliding roof on!!

On the BALL!



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The Peter Fox Diary



Written in 1987 by Simon Howard
of Kirkby Lonsdale, then aged 13

Just to change to format slightly...

Over the next few programmes we are featuring an interview that appeared in "Open Rugby" magazine in December 1992. The interview was conducted by Neil Hanson. Reproduced by kind permission by Open Rugby.

STRONG-willed, full of self-belief, PETER FOX is one of Rugby League's most charismatic characters. He's also a very successful coach - the oldest in the RFL, with a wealth of experience. He's coached Great Britain and Yorkshire, and is now back at Odsal leading Bradford Northern.

O.R. The Leeds and Great Britain jobs are probably the two occasions when you could say you were kicked in the teeth. Are you still angry?

FOX: No. I'm not angry. The year before I took the Leeds job, they had thirteen foreign players. The year I took over they left me with two and all the kids that they'd kicked out, the Rayne twins, Kevin Dick, Heron, Neil Hague and Dickinson came back. We got to three semi-finals and should have got to Wembley. We were robbed, as everybody knows, by a try that wasn't a try and a referee that cowed out on the day. We were in the top eight the day I was sacked, exactly the same position we'd been in the year before.

And Leeds wouldn't buy me the players I wanted. We had Jonathan Davies up at Headingley - he could have played for Leeds, but they wouldn't put the money down - the £100,000 it was going to cost them. I was told by Joe Warham that it would break the bank. I suggested three Rugby Union players if they wanted to put Leeds on the map - Jonathan Davies, Kirwan, The New Zealand winger, who's still being mentioned in circles even today, and Gavin Hastings, the Scottish full-back. That was in 1986. I did ask them to sign one player for me then as well - Deryck Fox. They've been for him twice since but they wouldn't sign him for me! Can you imagine what a revelation we'd have been if we'd signed those four players in 1986? It's in the past, but if I am angry about anything it's that they sacked me without bringing the players in that I know could have done the job for Leeds.

The Great Britain job - I didn't pick any player in the side, the eight selectors picked the team and I had to put them on the field. But I was promised the job of coaching Great Britain on tour in 1979. They told me the criteria was not to win the series necessarily, as long as we performed well and don't forget we hadn't won a series since 1970. We lost the 2-1 and I have a letter to this day from David Oxley to say that both managers wanted me unreservedly to be the coach. But the people in power didn't want me, so fine. I've never had another chance. But all I can say is when I've had the opportunity to select my own team - for Yorkshire - I'm unbeaten in seven games.

They've also refused to let my Yorkshire team or the Lancashire side play the Australians. That's ridiculous. They play the three State of Origin matches and then select from them the men to represent Australia. We talk about wanting increased competition at the top, but they say they don't want our international players exposed against this opposition regularly. Cumbria can play them but we can't. Maybe Great Britain wouldn't like Peter Fox to do with Yorkshire what Great Britain haven't been able to do?

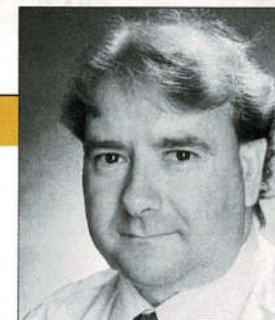
.... to be continued

The Peter Fox Diary will be serialised
throughout the entire season.

Photo by Steve Wood

Northern Action

by Club Photographer - Colin Wilson



From the Castleford Regal Semi



Celebration
after his first
try

The pass
that opened
up the
defence that
lead to
Kebbie's
second try



Evening Post

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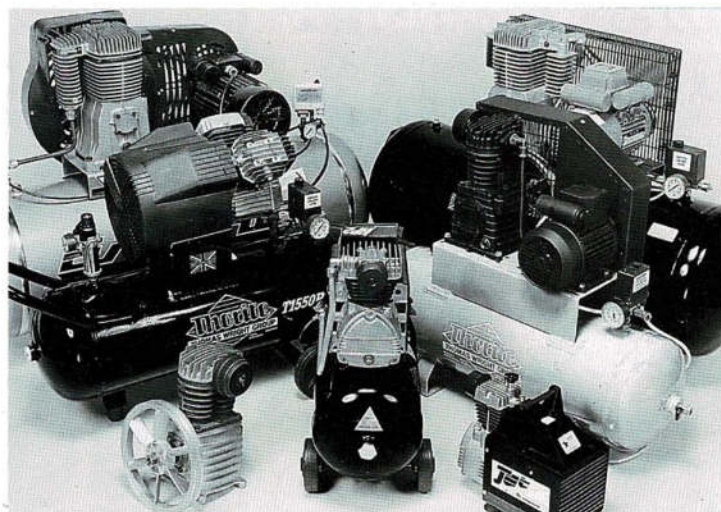
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			1			
			2			
			3			
			4			
			5			
			6			
			7			
			8			
			9			
			10			
			11			
			12			
			13			
			14			
			15			

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2. SCOTT RANSON

5. DAVID JONES

3. SHAUN IRWIN

4. DARREN ABRAM

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8. IAN
SHERRATT

9. JOHN
CLARKE

10. BARRIE
McDERMOTT

11. ANDY GOODWAY

12. MIKE KUIITE

13. BOB LINDNER

SUBSTITUTES:

14. WALLY GIBSON 15. IYAN GREEN

MANAGER: PETER FOX

COACH: PETER TUNKS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

SCRUMS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

PENALTIES

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

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NORTHERN

OPPONENTS

VAUX MERIT TABLE AWARDS:

CASTLEFORD
Semi-final

Paul Dixon 6
Brimah Kebbie 5
Roy Powell 4
Deryck Fox 3
Paul Newlove 2
Jon Hamer 1

TO DATE

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Deryck Fox 56
Dave Watson 46
Jon Hamer 39
Paul Newlove 33

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Joke .. Joke .. Joke ..

This Teacher found a boy doing a headstand in the middle of the class. When the Teacher asked 'what are you doing that for?' the boy replied 'I'm turning things over in my head' ha ha ha



Thank you Robert
enjoy your afternoon

Today's Mascot

Give a big Odsal welcome to today's mascot, 7 year old Robert Clayton. Robert attends Grove House First School and plays his Rugby for Clayton under 8's. He also attends Cubs and has his bronze awards. He loves coming to Northern and his hero is Dave Watson. In his other spare time he loves to play on his Sega Megadrive.



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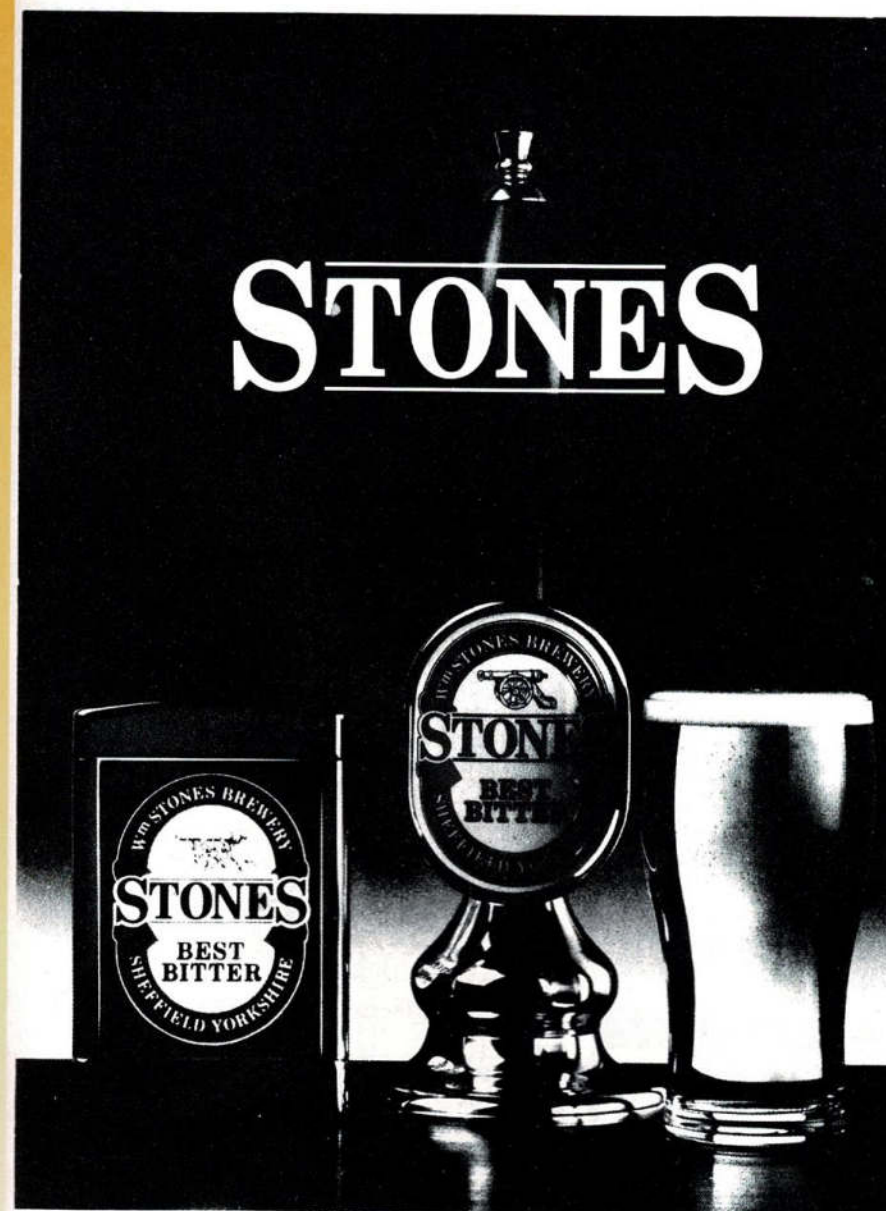
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STONES



Result Chart and...



1993/94 1st Division RESULTS HOME	AWAY	Bradford N	Castleford	Featherstone	Halifax	Hull	Hull KR	Leeds	Leigh	Oldham	St. Helens	Salford	Sheffield	Wakefield	Warrington	Widnes	Wigan
Bradford N				31-16	26-18			36-28				44-24	36-26		47-16	32-18	
Castleford	6-13					12-4	54-18	12-21			18-35			34-10			46-0
Featherstone		18-28				21-10	30-20	22-20	36-0	30-24	16-37						35-22
Halifax		10-35	32-8					12-18	27-26	26-12		20-12				20-12	22-31
Hull				18-18						8-33	18-14	28-12		16-8	6-19	20-14	
Hull KR	16-12			18-28	14-6					14-28	16-10	6-10				10-32	
Leeds						22-22	42-6		27-18		18-21			20-16	21-19		
Leigh	16-42	15-15	12-26			7-22	17-22						14-24	4-10			
Oldham				11-28				21-6	42-6	2-12	8-20	15-22			12-18		
St. Helens	54-3			16-16		23-22		34-16			22-14	12-19	36-10			24-16	
Salford		0-34	22-36					23-18	23-10				20-32	22-8	6-20	33-19	2-24
Sheffield		11-20	18-18	14-40	18-15	30-17	8-31					28-22		20-30	22-36		
Wakefield	8-13		10-24	2-12		24-34				22-21					12-10	0-10	16-40
Warrington		20-10	30-14	15-7		24-10		24-6		17-10			32-14				6-8
Widnes		12-37	24-12					8-6	34-10	14-12			32-28		10-18		
Wigan					16-8	54-16	32-18	38-12	38-12	40-8		40-10			32-2		

RESULTS

...League Table

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP

NEXT
v
WAKEFIELD T.
Stones Bitter Championship
Fri 21st Jan
7.30pm
HOME GAME

NEXT
v
WIDNES
Stones Bitter Championship
Wed 12th Jan 7.30pm
v
SHEFFIELD E.
Stones Bitter Championship
Sun 16th Jan 3.15pm
AWAY GAME

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
WIGAN	14	12	0	2	415	213	202	24
WARRINGTON	16	12	0	4	324	215	109	24
BRADFORD N	13	11	0	2	359	266	93	22
ST HELENS	16	10	1	5	368	261	107	21
HALIFAX	16	9	2	5	336	274	62	20
CASTLEFORD	14	9	1	4	361	187	174	19
FEATHERSTONE	16	8	1	7	350	352	-2	17
LEEDS	15	7	1	7	316	276	40	15
SHEFFIELD	16	7	1	8	330	398	-68	15
WIDNES	15	7	0	8	257	294	-37	14
SALFORD	16	7	0	9	277	345	-68	14
HULL	14	5	2	7	201	228	-27	12
HULL KR	16	5	0	11	259	424	-165	10
OLDHAM	15	4	0	11	273	288	-15	8
WAKEFIELD	16	4	0	12	200	348	-148	8
LEIGH	16	0	1	15	189	446	-257	1

Results & Leagues includes matches played on Sunday 2nd January

FIRST DIVISION

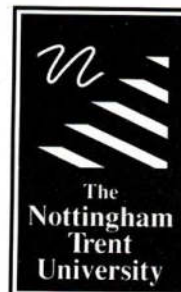
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From Where I Sit

by
Martin Bass

In 1982 The Australian tourists came to our shores, and handed out hidings to all and sundry. Their play was fast, hard and skilful. They cruised through this country amassing 423 points (A try then only counted as three points). Large crowds turned out at every game to witness their awesome performances. The press not surprisingly labelled this all conquering team the invincibles.

On the test front the British management just didn't know what to do. In the three match ashes series 30 players were used. This Australian team which included such legends as Stirling, Meninga, Price and Kenny had dramatically demonstrated to all concerned about the game in this country just how far we had fallen behind. The writing was on the wall a few years earlier in 1979 when the British Lions captained by Doug Laughton had been walloped three - nil while on tour. In 1979 the Brits refused to take note of what was happening in Australia. Using such illusions as 'the Aussies may be fitter but we are more skilful' and 'how will the Aussies cope on the cold, muddy pitches of the North of England'. Well the Kangaroos coped admirably and in doing so finally killed off this ostrich type head-in-the-sand outlook then so prevalent within our domestic game.

Gradually the message got through that drastic changes had to be made on the playing front to save the game in Britain. Fitness and strength levels rose, careful dieting was introduced. The standard of coaching and player conditioning rose beyond recognition. Now over a decade later we can compete and even beat the mighty Australians. Although we shall have to wait until next seasons Kangaroos tour if we can wrestle the ashes from the green and golds.

Now in 1994 rugby league finds itself struggling again! This time the problem is not a matter for coaches and players to straighten out but for the games administrators, who must act now or this sport will never progress beyond its Northern Homeland. Which would result in consequences for darker than the humiliation by the Aussies a decade ago.

Earlier this season our sport was the victim of some outrageous attacks from the media. These insults which have been completely unprovoked have come from the Rugby Union scribes at various national newspapers. These insults range from the appalling comments by Michael Heard of the Evening Standard who claims rugby league is 'Played by ape-like creatures watched by gloomy

men in cloth caps' to the more subtle veiled insults of various rugby union hacks at the so called quality papers, who somehow manage to fit in the comments like 'RL is not played in as many countries' or 'RL is just a Northern game' into any reference made to our great sport. The ultimate snub or insulting gesture by the media was the BBC and ITV at the traditionally end of year sporting awards. On the one hand we had the BBC giving RL less than a minute of air time, while RU had a full ten minutes of the show plus the accolade of the English RU team being awarded the previously coveted title of 'Team of the Year' (They had managed to win four out of six matches in the year and conceded as many tries as they had scored!). Wigan and Great Britain RL achievements together with the success of Britains athletes and Englands Ladies cricket team were unrewarded. The ITV fared no better by awarding their team prize to Manchester United who admittedly had won a championship - but nothing else. ITV forgot about our sport but did manage to nominate the English RU seven-a-side team for winning the RU7's World Cup. Which isn't even a proper sport, a mere form of tig-and-pass.

Rugby League deserves better. Fortunately there is a RL parliamentary group headed by Wakefield MP Mr. D. Hinchcliffe who defends our cause laudably in the House of Commons. What's also needed is action from us supporters. If all 'Leagueies' wrote to the television companies demanding a better deal for RL, they would have to take note. Also a letter to the various editors, who unfortunately hide away in London should do the trick.

As we did on the playing front in 1982 we must address this problem. The inadequacy of the national sporting media must be tackled head-on. The days of 'running scared' of the Rugby Union should be over, like our forefathers nearly one hundred years ago at the George Hotel we must stand-up and be counted.

~ First Step ~
Acknowledge the problem

~ Second Step ~
Address it



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behind
the
team



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ACADEMY update

by Ian Sutcliffe

BRADFORD NORTHERN v HULL

Second Phase - Division One
Monday 4th January 1994

Despite some excellent recent work by the groundstaff to allow the first team fixtures over the holiday period to be fulfilled, the torrential rain eventually beat everybody and this fixture was postponed.

The individual statistics up to and including v SALFORD are as follows:

MERIT TABLE:

55 Russel	11 Smith
48 Reville	10 Cooper
44 Moore	8 Varley
36 Roper	8 Robinson
26 Austerfield	7 Woolford
26 Cowling	4 Sebina
19 Brannan	3 Hillam
18 England	1 Downey
12 Potts	

POINTS:

56 Moore	14 Woolford
47 Smith	12 Hillam
44 Russel	12 Brannan
37 England	12 Robinson
36 Austerfield	4 Roper
24 Reville	4 Carrington
24 Cowling	4 Potts
20 Robertson	4 Osborne
16 Cooper	

TRIES:

14 Moore	3 Brannan
11 Russel	3 Hillam
9 Austerfield	3 Robinson
9 England	1 Potts
6 Reville	1 Carrington
6 Cowling	1 Roper
4 Smith	1 Osborne

GOALS:

15 Smith	8 Cooper
10 Robertson	7 Woolford

GOALS:

1 England	1 Smith
-----------	---------



NUMBER OF APPEARANCES (Excluding Friendlies)

	FULL	SUB	TOTAL
Moore **	16	0	16
Reville	15	0	15
Cowling **	15	0	15
England	14	0	14
Robinson (M)	13	2	15
Roper **	13	0	13
Brannan	13	0	13
Cooper	11	2	13
Austerfield **	11	2	13
Hillam	11	1	12
Smith **	11	0	11
Russel **	10	0	10
Carrington	6	6	12
Varley	6	0	6
Woolford	5	0	5
Robertson	5	0	5
Dossett	4	7	11
Laws	4	2	6
Sebina	4	1	5
Taylor	4	0	4
Bailey	3	4	7
Potts	3	4	7
Lord	3	0	3
Osborne	2	5	7
Inman	1	4	5
Downey	1	2	3
Hall	1	1	2
Robinson (B)	1	0	1
Urley	1	0	1
Simpson	1	0	1
Hutchinson	1	0	1
Sultana	0	7	7
Greenwood	0	4	4
Stewart	0	3	3
Jesson	0	1	1
Robinson	0	1	1

** = Professional

LEAGUE TABLES

J.J.B. SPORTS ACADEMY FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
WARRINGTON	10	9	0	1	256	181	18
ST. HELENS	8	8	0	0	316	109	16
HULL	8	5	1	2	157	80	11
WIGAN	6	4	0	2	180	102	8
CASTLEFORD	7	4	0	3	152	141	8
LEEDS	9	4	0	5	194	198	8
WAKEFIELD T	7	3	0	4	192	148	6
HULL K.R.	9	3	0	6	179	216	6
HALIFAX	7	2	1	4	139	177	5
LEIGH	7	2	0	5	109	233	4
BRADFORD N	8	1	0	7	127	274	2
SALFORD	6	0	0	6	62	204	0

This table includes matches played up to 4th Jan 1994



APPEARANCES

KEITH MUMBY	11
RICHARD DARKES	13
MICK TAYLOR	12
DAIO POWELL	11
GERRY CORDLE	4
TONY MARCHANT	10
NEIL HOLDING	10 (sub 1)
PAUL GRAYSHON	6
BRIAN NOBLE	5
BOB HOLROYD	7 (sub 3)
BRIAN McDERMOTT	9
ADAM GREENWOOD	11
ALAN BOOTHROYD	11
CARL WINTERBURN	9 (sub 1)
SEAN AUSTERFIELD	7 (sub 2)
TREVOR CLARK	1
BRIMAH KEBBIE	1
PHIL RUSSELL	6 (sub 2)
GED SMITH	6 (sub 1)
DAVE HOBBS	2
PAUL MEDLEY	1
WARREN MARKS	6 (sub 1)
PHIL HEPWORTH	Sub 4
MARC JOHNSON	1 (sub 2)
DAVE TURPIN	5
DAVE HERON	2
LEE ROPER	1
CRAIG MOORE	1

YOUNGERS ALLIANCE

FIRST DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE 1993/94

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ST HELENS	14	12	0	2	464	289	24
WARRINGTON	14	10	0	4	410	225	20
CASTLEFORD	14	10	0	4	360	199	20
WIGAN	13	10	0	3	359	234	20
SALFORD	11	8	0	3	392	166	16
BRADFORD	12	7	0	5	290	272	14
HULL	12	7	0	5	204	278	14
WAKEFIELD T	14	6	0	8	303	336	12
RYEDALE YORK	11	5	0	6	297	250	10
HALIFAX	12	5	0	7	270	360	10
LEEDS	13	3	0	10	244	360	6
FEATHERSTONE R	13	3	0	10	193	385	6
WIDNES	13	2	0	11	220	432	4
BATLEY	14	2	0	12	202	422	4

This table includes matches played up to 4th Jan 1994

ALLIANCE team report

by Nigel Stephenson
Assistant to Peter Fox & Alliance
Team Coach

MID TERM REPORT

A season that promised so much has now tendered to drift a little, bearing in mind we started with 5 league wins on the trot. These wins can be analysed further by adding we were fielding very experienced A teamers, albeit our opposition were not always the strongest. When the strongest came along in the form of Salford, St. Helens, Warrington and Castleford, we failed to measure up. The term 'very experienced' can be analysed even further by describing our Team composition as older players and the better opposition had a far more balanced blend of youth and experience. A 'blend' allows youth to express their enthusiasm and their hunger for success comes to the fore. This has necessitated the management to re-assess our own policy and have concluded that our A team will contain a greater proportion of younger players and so reducing the average age to say, 21/23 rather than 26/30 as at present.

During the last term we shall be playing our 'signed on' academy players far more frequently thus exposing them to the benefits from playing alongside the likes of Holding, Mumby and Grayshon. The benefit will not only be to themselves as players but to the club as a whole. I have been particularly pleased with the development and attitude of Sean Austerfield and Carl Winterburn by their introduction to A team football. In addition Phil Hepworth has now recovered from injury and is just now beginning to settle in. With the implementation of the policy we shall have set backs but we shall overcome.

FRED SLOANE Memorial Merit Table

v Phil Hepworth 3
ST. HELENS Carl Winterburn 2
Mick Taylor 1

Accumulative to Date

Keith Mumby 11
Neil Holding 9
Sean Austerfield 9
Carl Winterburn 8

"A" TEAM

HOME

to

BATLEY

Friday 14th Jan

7.30pm

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Saturday 2pm - 6pm West Yorkshire Sport **Saturday 6pm - 6.30pm** Sports Round Up

Sunday 2pm - 6pm Rugby League Northern

Tuesday 7pm - 10pm Tuesday Night Sport (Soccer and Rugby League action plus Sportstalk)

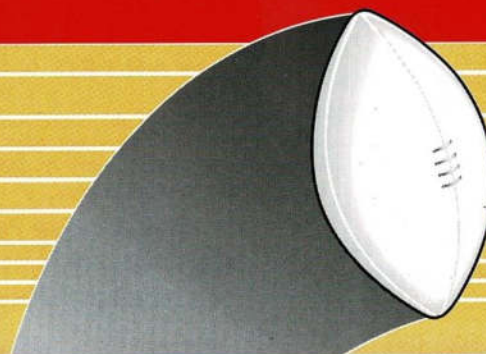
Wednesday 7pm - 10pm Wednesday Night Sport (Soccer and Rugby League action plus Sportstalk)

Friday 7pm - 10pm Friday Night Sport (Weekend previews and Rugby League Action)

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Odsal TOPPER

WEEK NO. 9

4/1/94

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4870 Mr Murgatroyd, c/o Caster Truck & Ladder

£50 SECOND PRIZE

1599 Mr Lawson, Aberdeen Terr, Clayton

£25 THIRD PRIZE

2401 J.R. & C.A. Hunt, Wesley Ave, Low Moor

£15 FOURTH PRIZE

7128 D. Kennedy, c/o Allied Colliods, Low Moor

£10 FIFTH PRIZE

3398 Margert Sutcliffe, Lingwood Rd, Bfd 8

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0522 L. Webster, Holmewood

1821 M. Freeman, Yeadon

1700 N. Brame, Low Moor

5807 S. Howard, Wibsey

9190 R. Barnsley, Bradford 4

1898 A. Brown, Wibsey

0841 P. Higgins, Shipley

5716 B. Peacock, Lidget Green

1255 K. Mirfield, Cleckheaton

2029 M. Curran, Leeds Rd

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WEEK NO. 45

4/1/94

MONDAY £100

E8486 Day, Bradford Rd, Clayton

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C1447 Sherriff, Burnham Ave, Bierley

WEDNESDAY £100

T8288 Miss Boardman, 8th Ave, Windybank

THURSDAY £100

Y8782 Mr R. Gibas, Westroyd Close, Shipley

FRIDAY £100

J3692 Mr M. Robinson, Old Popwell Lane, Scholes

CONSOLATION - 20 x 50p

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0861 3123 4721 2434 8236

6433 9851 3648 9319 1827

8482 5408 7820 6841 5939

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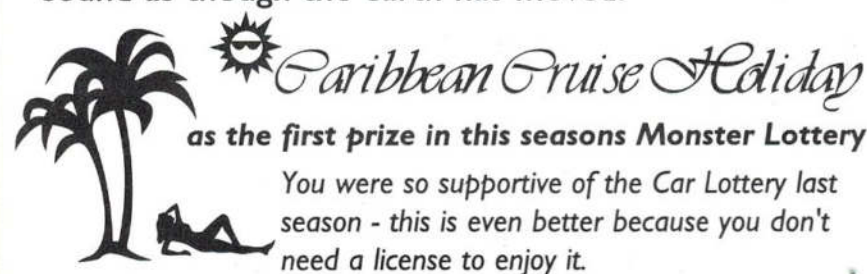
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To join the Topper or Northern Numbers, or become an Agent call at the Development Office or phone Bfd. 731263 or 735317

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I'm talking Money Money"

(did the earth move for you Nancy)

With apologies to Mick Hucknall - It will if you win this one - ask anyone who has ever taken a cruise and they'll fill your ears with experiences that will sound as though the earth has moved.



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Our Season...



...So Far

DATE	TEAM	F - A	VEN	ATT
Aug 29th	Widnes	32-18	H	7034
Sept 3rd	Oldham	24-20	A	4054
Sept 12	Sheffield	36-26	H	5102
Sept 19	Wakefield T	13-8	A	5386
Sept 26	Featherstone	31-16	H	7043
Oct 3rd	Hull KR	12-16	A	4336
Oct 6th	New Zealand	17-10	H	5015
Oct 10th	Warrington	47-16	H	6656
Oct 24th	Leigh	42-16	A	4206
Oct 31st	Salford	44-24	H	5528
Nov 7th	St. Helens	3-54	A	8479
Nov 14th	R.T.2 Barrow	28-8	A	2796
Nov 19th	Wigan (Abandoned after 13 mins)	4-2	H	7050
Nov 28th	Leeds	36-28	H	7538
Dec 5th	Castleford	13-6	A	6919
Dec 16th	R.T.3 Halifax	16-8	A	5060
Dec 19th	R.T.QF London	22-10	A	1878
Dec 26th	Halifax	26-18	H	11095
Jan 1st	R.T.SF Castlef'd	10-23	H	8318
Jan 5th	Hull		A	
Jan 9th	Oldham		H	
Jan 12th	Widnes		A	
Jan 16th	Sheffield		A	
Jan 21st	Wakefield T		H	
Jan 30th	Silk Cut 2			
Feb 6th	Featherstone		A	
Feb 13th	Silk Cut 3			
Feb 20th	Hull KR		H	
Feb 27th	Silk Cut QF			
Mar 6th	Warrington		A	
Mar 12th	Silk Cut SF			
Mar 13th	Leigh		H	
Mar 20th	Salford		A	
Mar 26th	Silk Cut SF			
Mar 27th	St. Helens		H	
Apr 1st	Halifax		A	
Apr 4th	Hull		H	
Apr 10th	Castleford		H	
Apr 17th	Wigan		A	
Apr 24th	Leeds		A	
Apr 30th	Silk Cut F			



WATSON	SIMPSON	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	McGOWAN	NEWLOVE	SIMPSON	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	SIMPSON	McGOWAN	SHELFORD	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	McGOWAN	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	McGOWAN	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	MARCHANT	McGOWAN	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	McGOWAN	SHELFORD	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	SHELFORD	McGOWAN	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	SHELFORD	MARCHANT	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
SIMPSON	DARKES	SHELFORD	McGOWAN	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	WATSON
DARKES	CORDLE	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	WATSON
WATSON	CORDLE	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	McGOWAN	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX
AUSTERFIELD	CORDLE	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	WATSON	FOX
WATSON	MEDLEY	SHELFORD	NEWLOVE	McGOWAN	SUMMERS	FOX
WATSON	CORDLE	McGOWAN	NEWLOVE	KEBBIE	SUMMERS	FOX

Elsewhere today

Stones Bitter Championship

First Division

Castleford v Sheffield E.

Halifax v Hull

Hull K.R. v Featherstone R.
Warrington v Leeds

Second Division

Barrow v Swinton

Bramley v Doncaster

Dewsbury v Highfield

Hunslet v Carlisle

London C. v Keighley C.

Rochdale H. v Huddersfield

Ryedale York v Whitehaven

Workington T. v Batley



HOBBS	CLARK	POWELL	MEDLEY	DIXON	HERON	McGOWAN	HAMER
HOBBS	NOBLE	HAMER	MEDLEY	DIXON	HERON	MARCHANT	POWELL
POWELL	CLARK	HAMER	DIXON	MEDLEY	HERON	NEWLOVE	BOOTHROYD
POWELL	CLARK	HAMER	DIXON	FAIRBANK	HERON	SIMPSON	WINTERBURN
POWELL	CLARK	HAMER	DIXON	FAIRBANK	HERON	POWELL	BOOTHROYD
POWELL	NOBLE	HAMER	DIXON	FAIRBANK	SHELFORD	CLARK	GRAYSHON
GRAYSHON	CLARK	HAMER	POWELL	MEDLEY	FAIRBANK	MUMBY	POWELL
GRAYSHON	CLARK	HAMER	POWELL	FAIRBANK	MUMBY	McGOWAN	GREENWOOD
GRAYSHON	CLARK	HAMER	POWELL	DIXON	FAIRBANK	McGOWAN	McDERMOTT
GREENWOOD	CLARK	HAMER	POWELL	DIXON	FAIRBANK	NEWLOVE	WINTERBURN
GREENWOOD	CLARK	HAMER	POWELL	DIXON	FAIRBANK	MEDLEY	WINTERBURN
HOBBS	CLARK	POWELL	DIXON	FAIRBANK	MEDLEY	HAMER	GREENWOOD
HOBBS	CLARK	HAMER	DIXON	POWELL	FAIRBANK	McGOWAN	MEDLEY
HOBBS	CLARK	HAMER	POWELL	DIXON	FAIRBANK	McGOWAN	MEDLEY
HOBBS	MEDLEY	HAMER	POWELL	DIXON	FAIRBANK	CLARK	HERON
HOBBS	MEDLEY	HAMER	POWELL	DIXON	FAIRBANK	GRAYSHON	CLARK
AFOA	CLARK	HAMER	POWELL	DIXON	FAIRBANK	HERON	GRAYSHON
HOBBS	CLARK	HAMER	POWELL	DIXON	FAIRBANK	HERON	GRAYSHON
HOBBS	CLARK	HAMER	POWELL	DIXON	HERON	MEDLEY	GRAYSHON

Current Affairs

FIRST DIVISION TOP TRY SCORERS

1. St. John Ellis (Castleford) 22
2. Martin Offiah (Wigan) 14
3. Paul Newlove (Bradford N) 13
- John Bentley (Halifax) 13

FIRST DIVISION TOP GOAL SCORERS (Including drop goals)

1. Frano Botica (Wigan) 82
2. Jonathan Davies (Warrington) 81
3. Deryck Fox (Bradford N) 68
4. Lee Crooks (Castleford) 57

LEADING POINT SCORER

Jonathan Davies of Warrington is the leading point scorer with 204 from 81 goals including six drop goals and 12 tries.

DROP GOALS

Gus O'Donnell of St Helens is this seasons leading scorer of drop goals with 10. But he is a long way off the record of 29 one-pointers by Cardiff City's Lyn Hallett in 1983-84.

TRY SCORING SEQUENCE

John Bentley of Halifax has scored at least one try in five successive matches as follows:

2 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1

APPEARANCES

DAVE WATSON	19
ROGER SIMPSON	4,1 Sub
DARRALL SHELFORD	15
PAUL NEWLOVE	14,2 Sub
BRIMAH KEBBIE	17
NEIL SUMMERS	17
DERYCK FOX	17
TREVOR CLARK	15,3 Sub
ROY POWELL	17,1 Sub
PAUL MEDLEY	8,4 Sub
PAUL DIXON	17
DAVE HERON	7,3 Sub
STEVE McGOWAN	12,4 Sub
JON HAMER	17,2 Sub
TONY MARCHANT	2,1 Sub
DAVE HOBBS	9
GERRY CORDLE	12
BRIAN NOBLE	2
KARL FAIRBANK	14
ALAN BOOTHROYD	1 Sub
CARL WINTERBURN	4 Sub
DAJO POWELL	2 Sub
PAUL GRAYSHON	4,4 Sub
KEITH MUMBY	1,1 Sub
ADAM GREENWOOD	3 Sub
BRIAN McDERMOTT	1 Sub
RICHARD DARKES	2
SHAUN AUSTERFIELD	1
FAALUSU AFOA	1

POINT MAKERS

	TOTAL
NEIL SUMMERS	10T, 4G 48
DERYCK FOX	1T, 62G, 6DG 134
BRIMAH KEBBIE	11T 44
PAUL NEWLOVE	11T 44
PAUL MEDLEY	2T 8
DAVE WATSON	8T 32
STEVE McGOWAN	5T 20
DAVE HOBBS	1G 2
ROY POWELL	2T 8
TREVOR CLARK	4T 16
PAUL DIXON	5T 20
KARL FAIRBANK	3T 12
GERRY CORDLE	8T 32
ADAM GREENWOOD	1T 4
DARRALL SHELFORD	5T 20
CARL WINTERBURN	1T 4
RICHARD DARKES	1T 4