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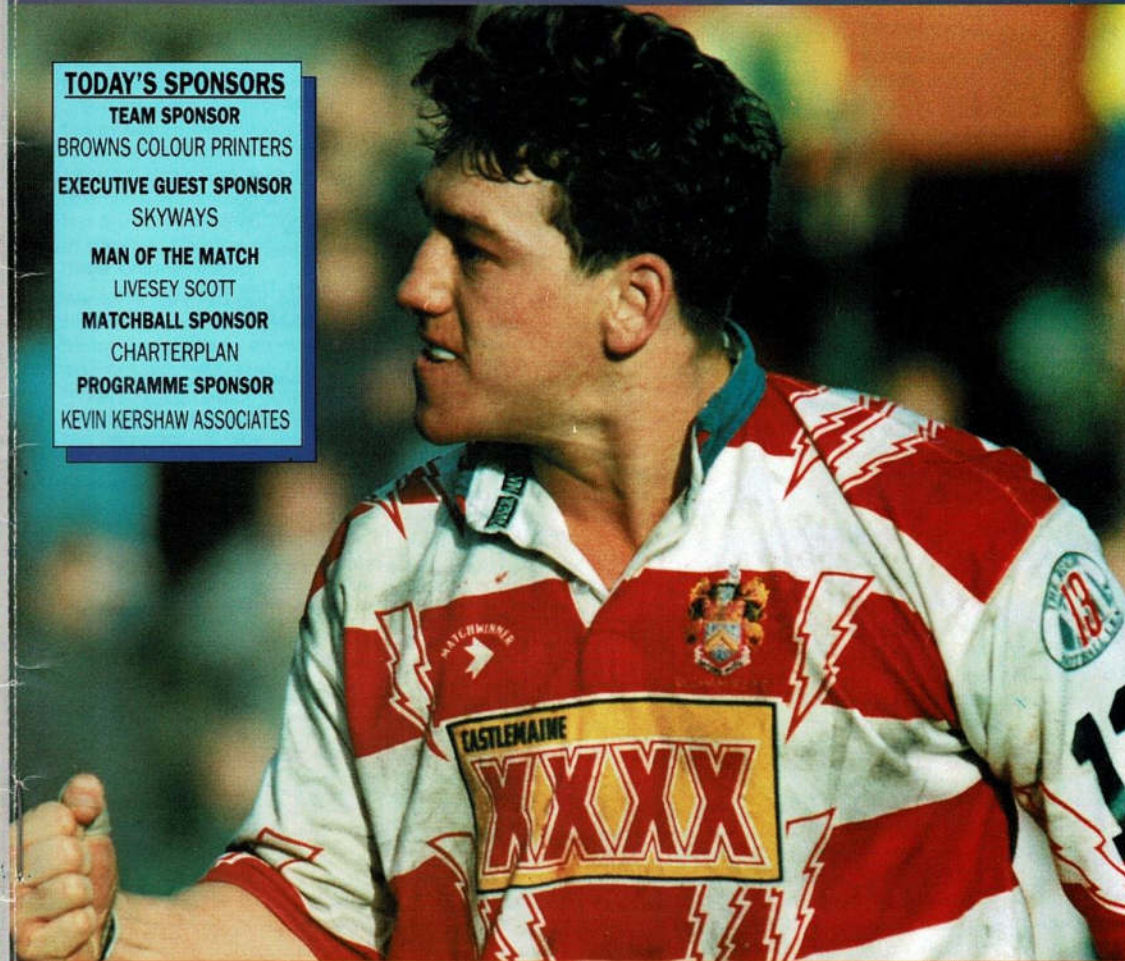
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OLDHAM v WIGAN. Sunday, April 24th, 1994. Kick Off 7.00 p.m.

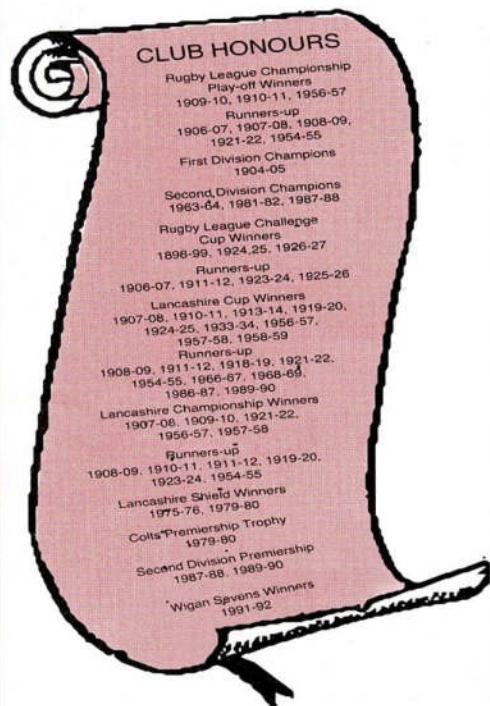
OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

The Pavilion, Watersheddings, Oldham
Telephone: 061-652 5244 and 061-624 4865

ROLL OF HONOUR

CHAIRMAN: Jim Quinn

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Hon. Freeman: Mr. F. Howarth, B.A.

Club Secretary: Karen Scott

Marketing Executive: Ian McMahon

'A' Team Coach: Shane Tupaea

Academy Manager: Jack Buckley

Hon. Consultant

Orthopaedic Surgeons: Mr. H. Thompson,

Mr. D. Walker

Hon. Safety Officer: Roger Norris

Official Timekeeper: Mr. J. Roscoe

Club Records:

Record Victory: 67-6 v Liverpool City, April, 1959

Record Defeat: 11-67 by Hull K.R., September, 1978

Record Attendance: 28,000 v Huddersfield,

24th February, 1912

Record Receipts: £37,505.50 v Wigan,

5th October, 1989

Record Transfer Fee Paid: £70,000 to Halifax

for Tony Anderson, March 1990

Record Try Scorer: Ref Farrar, 49 tries,

1921-22 season

Record Goal Scorer: Bernard Ganley,

224 goals, 1957-58 season

Record Point Scorer: Bernard Ganley,

28 points v Liverpool City, April 1959

First Game: 21st October, 1876 v Stalybridge

Highest Number of Points Scored: Bernard Ganley,

2,881

Most Appearances: Joe Ferguson, 685

Most Tries: Pre 1900, Jach Hirst, 233

O.R.L.F.C. VICE-PRESIDENTS SEASON 1993/94

Ronnie Hardaker, Terry Doyle, Alan Butterworth, Mavis Butterworth, Tommy O'Brien, Major B. Howell, Harry Randall, K. Folks, C. Folks, Ken Waddington, J. L. Perrins, A. Perrins, Irene Turner, Adamsons Crash Repair Centre (2), Nigel Tench, Kevin Geany, R. Langton, Rick Coombs (2).

FROM the BOARDROOM

by **CHAIRMAN JAMES QUINN**



On the occasion of our final game of the season, congratulations go from the boardroom to the dressing room. Each of our three teams has enjoyed success of one form or another in an eventual 1993-94 campaign, not least the first team which won at St. Helens last Sunday to clinch our survival in the First Division of the Stones Bitter Championship.

We have survived our baptism of fire in the First Division, after being relegated at the first attempt in 1989 and 1991, and hopefully we can now establish the club in the top flight and win the support of the people of Oldham and the town's business, professional and commercial enterprises.

Regrettably, results did not go our way for much of the season and there came a parting of the ways between the club and our previous coach Peter tunks, in February.

Peter did a fine job in assembling our squad, but in the game of Rugby League chairmen and coaches know that decisions are made on the evidence of results on the field of play.

We have done remarkably well since Bob Lindner and Andy Goodway took over two months ago, culminating in our 30 - 26 win at Knowsley Road which clinched our First Division survival.

Hopefully, we will all be together again next season, striving to benefit from the experiences of

this year and doing enough to arouse the interest and the passions of local people.

So congratulations to Bob and Andy for keeping us in the First Division and also to Shane Tupaea, who has enjoyed stunning success with the Alliance side. At the time of writing, Shane's 'A' team lads had won the Lancashire Shield, the Youngers Alliance Second Division Cup and the Youngers Alliance Challenge Cup, beating Salford 14-8 in a memorable final, watched by nearly 2,000 fans.

If they managed to beat Bramley in midweek to extend their season's record to 31 wins and one draw from 32 games this season in all competitions, they will have won their fourth trophy, the Youngers Alliance Second Division Championship.

The Academy Team has also done well in its first season in the JJB Sports Academy. The boys have a good chance of winning promotion and going up to the First Division with Featherstone Rovers, who have been their chief rivals at the top of the Second Division for most of the season.

Congratulations are due, too, to the men behind the rise and rise of the Academy team at Watersheddings, namely Alan Robinson, Jack Buckley, Geoff Munro, John Prince and Harry Aspinall.

All of this, of course, has been achieved despite the club's critical

financial position and despite the on-going negotiations with Oldham Council to find a successful formula for a rescue package, which might involve our departure from Watersheddings in three years time into a new purpose-built stadium elsewhere in town.

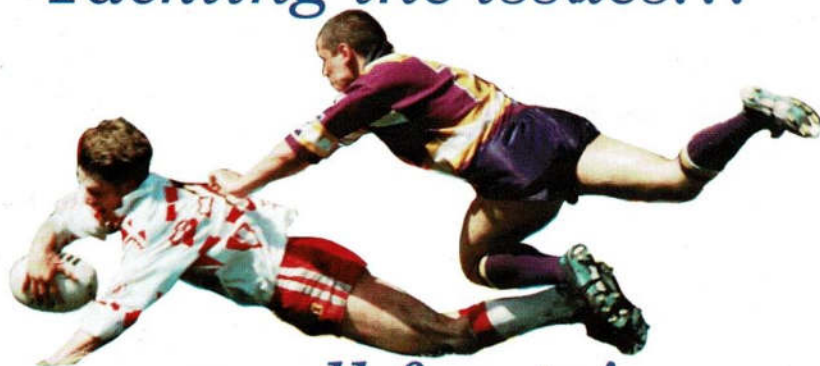
We have managed to keep that side of the operation well away from the dressing room so that it could not hinder the players' feelings of security, their commitment or their ambition. Recent results - 13 points out of 18 under Bob Lindner tend to indicate that we have succeeded in divorcing football matters from financial affairs.

Thanks go from the boardroom to all the people who have supported us during the past season and to all those people who gave up their private and leisure time to do a thousand and one jobs for us for no reward other than the pleasure gained from helping the club. The directors have a great respect for that.

Finally, welcome to Wigan. It is perhaps fitting that our season should end in front of a full house crowd and the BSkyB TV cameras in a match against a team as fashionable and exciting as the men from Central Park.

They may need to win here to retain the title. If so, what a cracking match it should be!

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A Watersheddings Welcome to ... Wigan

Danny Ellison. Position winger. This youngster signed from Golborne ARLFC in 1991 and has made several first team appearances during the past two seasons. A promising young player who has gained honours with the G.B. Under 19's.

Michael Cassidy. Position - back row forward. This youngster signed from St. Judes ARLFC in May 1990. Has made several first team appearances and has gained international honours playing for G.B. under 21's. A hard grafting forward with great future prospects.

Barrie Jon Mather. Position second row. This strong youngster has supported the first team for the most of this season to date. A brilliant worker, signed from Arnold School RUFC. A player with great prospects in the game. Has gained GB Academy and Under 21's honours.

Franco Botica. Position wing/stand off. An ex All Black rugby union star signed in a blaze of publicity. A very quick worker who has earned the position of goal kicker with his immaculate kicking record, thus having solved a long standing problem for Wigan. Made an eight point Wigan debut at Swansea in the Charity Shield competition. Franco created history last March, recording the fastest 1000 points aggregate in British Rugby League's history in 93 matches. Has been described by one of his team mates as the 'closest thing to a goal kicking machine'. Played for New Zealand in the 1993 Test Series.

Dean Bell. Position centre. A former N.Z. captain. Known as 'Mean Dean', Dean became the first New Zealander to receive the coveted Stones Bitter Man of Steel Award. One of the team stars' who has appeared in the club's sixth consecutive Cup Finals. Had a spell with Eastern Suburbs before joining Wigan in 1986. As club captain, a great team member and a highly respected player. Was presented with the 'This is Your Life Award' in September 1993.

Joe Lydon. Position centre or wing. Graphic Designer. Another great of the modern game. A versatile player who has filled every backline position for Great Britain and is capable of turning a game with a try or, on one occasion, a sixty yard drop goal. Signed from Widnes in 1986. Joe is only the fourth in history to have won both the Harry Sunderland and Lance Todd Trophy. Joe has gained 30 caps for Great Britain.

Shaun Edwards. Position stand off/scrum half. Shaun has blistering pace off the mark, great vision and constant alertness for the half

chance. A player who demands perfection from himself and expects it from his colleagues. Voted Young Player of the Year on a record three occasions and 1990 Man of Steel. The games leading try scorer in the past two seasons. Showed great courage when he stayed on field despite a fractured eye socket and cheekbone during a Wembley Cup Final. Son of Jackie who played for Warrington. Shaun joined Wigan in a blaze of publicity in 1983.

Denis Betts. Position second row forward. Burst into the Rugby League scene as an 18 year old player and is now a Great Britain Star. A powerful forward who played in every one of Wigan's games during their Championship year. Has twice been nominated Young Player of the Year. Signed from Leigh Rangers ARLFC in 1986. Was once on the books of Manchester United F.C. A dedicated young player who gives his all.

Andy Platt. Position utility forward. Joined Wigan from St. Helens in September 1988 for a then club record fee of £140,000. Became only the 6th forward in history to gain 25 Test caps when skipping Great Britain against France at Headingley early in 1993. Harry Sunderland Award winner for his try-scoring display in the 1992 Premiership Final against former club St. Helens. A Great Britain Star and a relentless tackler. A good clubman and the ideal Coach's player.

Kelvin Skerrett. Position prop forward. Great Britain prop signed for Wigan in 1990. Previously had spells with Hunslet and Bradford Northern. Nephew of ex-Great Britain star, Trevor Skerrett. A product of Oulton ARL. A workhouse who was impressive on the 1990 Lions tour.

Phil Clarke. Position loose forward. A player who is undoubtedly destined for the game's highest honours. A skilled footballer and a powerful runner who gets through a lot of work in defence. Took the man of the match award for the 1993 Test Series. Former GB under 21's skipper, son of former Wigan hooker and Coach, Colin. Excelled in all three tests on the 1992 Lions Tour and was a member of the England side which defeated Wales at Swansea in November 1992.

Martin McDermott. Position hooker. A dangerous dummy half runner with quick hands. A Great Britain international who fought to make the number nine shirt his own. Joined Wigan from Wigan St. Patricks ARL Juniors in 1984, making his debut in 1985 at Wakefield. Skipped GB at Colts level in 1988 and 1989.

Martin Hall. Position hooker. Aged 23, signed from Rochdale Hornets. Has made several first team appearances but yet to gain international honours. Another hard worker and a great prospect.

Ian Gildart. Position second row forward. A young but yet strong tackling machine. Signed from Leigh Rangers ARLFC. Has gained international honours at GB Colts and GB under 21's level. Has supported the first team, often but yet to gain his own regular place.

Martin Offiah. Position winger. Signed from Widnes RLFC in January 1992 for a record fee of £440,000 and repaid some of that fee with 30 tries in just 16 appearances, including a club record 10 in the Stones Bitter Premiership defeat of Leeds. Former Lance Todd Trophy holder. Topped the League try charts in each of his first four seasons gaining immediate selection for Great Britain. After a long period due to injury, has made his way back into the number five shirt. A speedy player known throughout the game for his pace.

Jason Robinson. Position winger. Voted Young Player of the Year for 1992. This Leeds born teenager made his first team debut against Sheffield. Represented Great Britain in the 1993 Test Series but was injured in a club match which meant that he was unable to appear in the second and third test. A great player who has so far excelled himself and will no doubt be in contention for many of the games highest honours.

Sam Panapa. Position centre/utility player. Joined Wigan from Sheffield in August 1991 and scored Wigan's opening try in the Foster's World Cup Challenge Match in October 1991. An invaluable member of the team who has helped Wigan to Championship and Premiership glory.

Neil Cowie. Position prop forward. A product of Todmorden ARL. Gained all five domestic winners medals inside his first 18 months at Central Park. A great tackling machine and a hard worker who gives his all in defence.

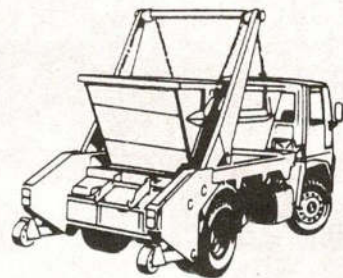
Billy McGinty. Position second row. Joined Wigan from Warrington in 1991, forcing his way into the 1992 Lions party. A product of Widnes Tigers ARLFC. Another player who has gained all five domestic medals inside his first 18 months at Central Park. A player who has been out of action due to a serious injury but is working his way back after making an excellent recovery.

Gary Connolly. Position centre. Signed from St. Helens in September, 1993. Had a successful off season in summer 1993 with Canterbury Bankstown returning to play for Wigan after they were eliminated from the Winfield Cup. A current Great Britain international who played in all three of the 1993 tests versus New Zealand. A strong, fast player who is exceptional in defence.

Nigel Wright. Position stand off. Signed from Wakefield Trinity in August 1993. A great player who will, along with the other Wigan youngsters, no doubt gain some if not all of the games highest honours.

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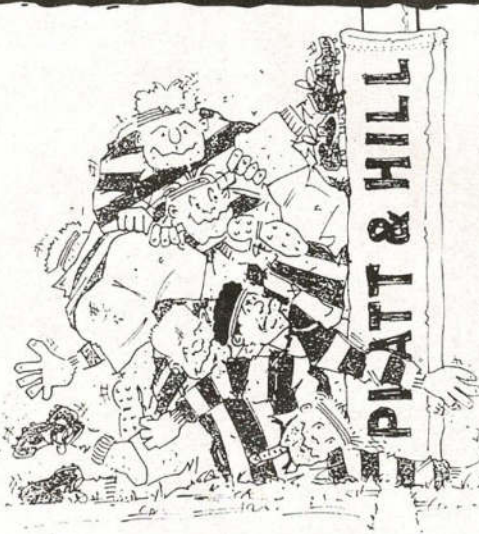
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Roughy 'eds Recalled

No. 28 TREVOR SIMMS



returned for the 1965-66 campaign, the devastating speed was never quite the same. However he could still cause problems for the opposition and I will remember a length of

the field match winner against Leeds in November 1966.

Trevor's full record for Oldham saw him make 109 senior appearances scoring 49 tries.

No. 29 LEN McINTYRE



Speedy winger Trevor Simms joined Oldham from Rochdale Hornets in June 1962 and made a two try debut against his former club in the Law Cup match on August 11th. He had previously played for St. Helens and also been the Lancashire sprint champion.

On the field Trevor was capped by Lancashire but his career suffered a severe set-back when he broke his leg when diving over for a try at Leigh, on October 3rd 1964, this injury kept him out of action for the rest of that season and although he

Signed on March 2nd 1959 from Barrow, Len was previously with St. Helens and was in the Saints team at Wembley for the 1956 Cup Final against Halifax.

Len's position was hooker and he became Oldham's regular striker for over six season until he was transferred to Liverpool City in December 1965.

He made 212 appearances for the

"Roughy'eds", scoring 28 tries and kicking one goal. This being the dramatic late equaliser against Hull K.R. in the 1964 Challenge Cup semi-final at Headingley.

Len also gained one Great Britain cap against Australia at Swinton in 1963.

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EVENING CHRONICLE

Oldham born and read

ACTION GALLERY

ACTION GALLERY No. 15 - Bernard Ganley Oldham's all-time record points scorer the "Maestro" W. B. Ganley lines up a kick in the match at Rochdale on October 12th, 1957. This being the season when he kicked 200 goals in senior matches for Oldham. Only two other players (Kel Coslett and David Watkins) have ever reached the double century mark. (Action Gallery 16 is elsewhere in the programme).



Action Gallery

To coincide with their return to the First Division of the Rugby League, Oldham R.L.F.C. are introducing this special new feature into the matchday programme for the 1993-94 season.

The ACTION GALLERY is a set of excellent water colour paintings, that depict some of the star players and dramatic moments in the club's history on the field of play.

With the centenary of the Rugby League now just two years away the ACTION GALLERY will cover the full time-span of almost 100 years of professional Rugby League in Oldham, from the early days of the "Northern Union" right up to the intense, high pressure atmosphere of the game in the 1990's.

The team that dominated the R.L. Championship in the 1906-1911 era; the cup specialists of the mid 1920's; the "great" entertaining team of the late 50's, all of these are sure to feature in this unique series which is a must for collectors of Oldham and Rugby League memorabilia in general.

FULL COLOUR copies (size 11 1/2" x 8") are to be made available and will come complete with a detailed narrative giving particulars of the player or incident depicted in the painting. The copies will cost £3.20 each (add 80p if requiring the copies to be sent by post) and can be obtained from **Mr M. Turner, 158 Balfour Street, Oldham, OL4 1NS.**

Please note that the ACTION GALLERY series are not fabricated images and have all been painted from actual photographs.

A limited number will be available in the club shop for 30 minutes after the match.

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A-TEAM NEWS

After our great Youngers Alliance Challenge Cup final victory over a strong Salford side and all the euphoria had died down, the reality of creating Rugby League history at this level, winning four trophies in a season suddenly dawned on us. As these will be our last notes of a remarkable season on behalf of all the lads and staff I would like to thank the loyal fans who have shared our season with us travelling all over the country giving us their tremendous support and hopefully their numbers will be increased, as we embark on what has been our main objective all season. Youngers Alliance Division ONE Rugby League see you in August.

Markers work,

Shane

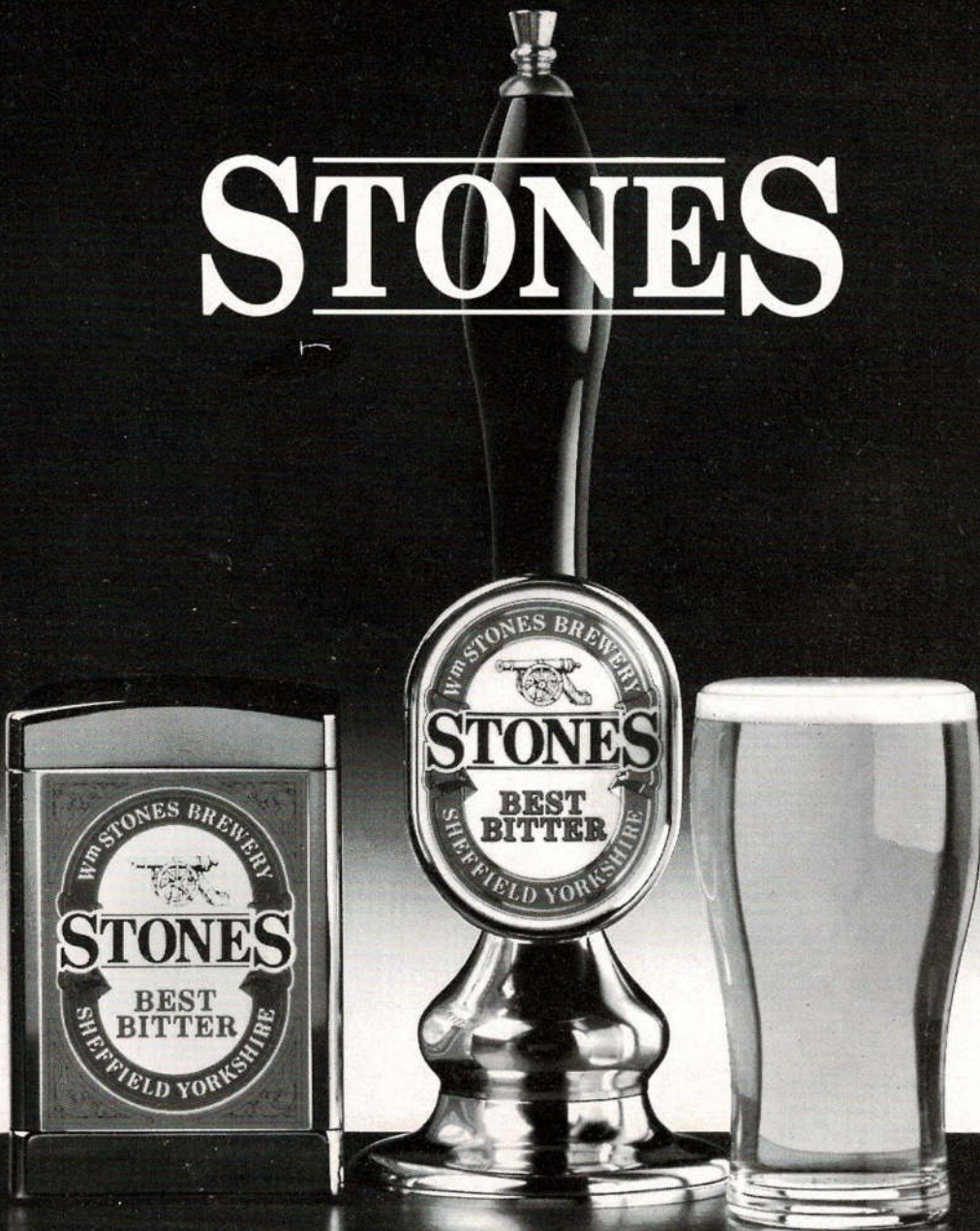
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YOUNGERS ALLIANCE SECOND DIVISION FIXTURES SEASON 1993/94

AUGUST					
Saturday	28th	Workington	H (W)		44-16
SEPTEMBER					
Saturday	4th	Rochdale	A (W)		30-18
Thursday	9th	Hull K.R.	H (W)		32-12
Thursday	16th	Hunslet	A (W)		29-18
Saturday	25th	Doncaster	A (W)		36-16
OCTOBER					
Saturday	2nd	LCCS - Round 1 Workington	H (W)		38-10
Thursday	7th	Leigh	H (W)		26-24
Saturday	23rd	LCCS - Round 2 Wigan	A (W)		26-22
Saturday	30th	Swinton	A (W)		28-2
NOVEMBER					
Wednesday	3rd	LCCS-Semi Warrington	H (W)		12-6
Saturday	6th	London	H (W)		64-30
Saturday	13th	Youngers ASDC Round 1 - London	A (W)		16-6
Thursday	18th	LCCS Final Rochdale	A (W)		32-20
Saturday	27th	Youngers ASDC Round 2 - Hunslet	(W)		36-10
DECEMBER					
Wednesday	1st	Huddersfield	H (W)		48-2
Saturday	4th	Leigh	A (W)		39-16
Monday	20th	ASDC semi Dewsbury	A (W)		32-10
Wednesday	22nd	Carlisle	H		
JANUARY					
Friday	7th	Youngers ACC - Round 1			
Friday	14th	Huddersfield	A		
Saturday	22nd	Barrow	A (W)		48-14
Friday	28th	Youngers ACC - Round 2 Bradford N.	A (W)		27-25(AET)
FEBRUARY					
Saturday	5th	ASDC final Doncaster	A (W)		20-14
Thursday	10th	Keighley	H (W)		26-12
Friday	18th	Featherstone Y ACC - Rd 3(W)			46-4
Monday	21st	Sheffield	A (W)		14-6
Saturday	26th	Carlisle	A (W)		44-16
MARCH					
Saturday	5th	London	A (W)		94-6
Friday	11th	Youngers ACC - Semi Hull K.R.	(W)		44-6
Thursday	17th	Swinton	H		
APRIL					
Saturday	2nd	Barrow	H		14-14
Tuesday	5th	Dewsbury	H (D)		30-6
Friday	8th	Carlisle	H (W)		14-8
Thursday	14th	Salford YACC - Final (H, W)	(W)		46-11
Monday	18th	Bramley	A		
Wednesday	20th	Swinton	H		
Monday	25th	Barrow	H		

STONES



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ACTION EXTRA . . .



ACTION GALLERY No 16 LOCAL HEROES

To conclude the series of Stephen Bennett's water colour paintings we have an image of five local players who between them have represented the club in every decade since the formation of the "Northern union". ARTHUR LEES (1895-1907), HERMAN HILTON (1913 - 1925), BILLY MITCHELL (1937-1954), KEVIN TAYLOR (1963-1977), PADDY KIRWAN (1979-1990)

The full set of 16 **ACTION GALLERY**

PRINTS is now available from Mr. M. Turner, 158, Balfour St, Oldham, OL4 1NS. The price is £48 (including ring folder). If required by post please add £2. Please note this is a limited edition of 50 sets only

HALF-TIME TEASERS

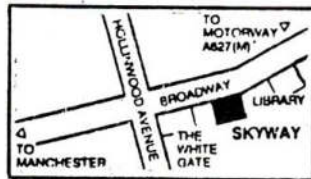
1. Who captained the 1970 G. B. tour to Australia and New Zealand?
2. Which teams were the losing semi-finalists in this seasons Regal Trophy?
3. Who won the Lance Todd Trophy in 1966?
4. When was the first live T.V. broadcast of the Challenge Cup Final?
5. What player holds the most appearance record for Leeds?
6. Which Australian club are nicknamed "The Magpies"?
7. Who holds the goals in a season record for Halifax?
8. Which two teams have twice beaten Wigan at Wembley?
9. Which club used to play at St. Annes Road?
10. Who was the first Wigan player to win the Harry Sunderland Trophy?

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END OF SEASON BARBECUE (PLAYERS PRESENTATION EVENING)

Friday May 6th - We are holding an end of season barbecue, the event is being held in a marquee on the pitch and it promises to be an event to remember.

The event will also host the Player of the Year Awards.

All players will be in attendance and there are only a limited number going on sale.

There are 50 places available and the cost of the tickets are £10.00.

If you require a ticket please contact Ian McMahon or alternatively.

SPONSORS - THANK YOU

Firstly, I would like to say thank you to Castlemaine XXXX for their sponsorship over the last three years. Without doubt it has had a great bearing on the survival of our club.

Secondly, I would like to thank every sponsor for their efforts during the season, we are very lucky in Oldham with the people and companies who help us and let us hope that we can now go from strength to strength.

On behalf of the chairman and directors of the club I would like to thank you for your sponsorship during the 1993-1994 season.

YOUR COMMENTS - If you have any comments to make or ideas for the marketing of the club within the area please feel free to "express your opinion". Write to: Ian McMahon, Oldham R.L.F.C., The Pavilion, Watersheddings, Oldham. OL4 2PB.

THE IDENTITY OF THE CLUB

As you have read here in the last few weeks and also in the Oldham Chronicle we are looking to give our club a new image.

We are not trying to take anything away from the club or its history, I for one am very proud to come from Oldham, but times change and we have to move on.

If we are to compete in the 1990's and build on what we have, we need to market the game to the youngsters in the town and the surrounding areas.

After all, Washington have the 'Redskins' and Brisbane have the 'Broncos'. That is why we have decided to create a 'modern' image for the club.

Over the coming weeks you will see the launch of the new 'logo' and various schemes for the months ahead. We have such things planned as:

The 'Penny Rush'. The setting up of a classroom at the club, this will enable children of all ages to spend a day having their lessons up here at the club. They will work on their national curriculum as normal but try to, where possible, use the ground etc. to help, i.e. measuring yardages, areas of the pitch, players statistics, etc.

We have many more schemes, please read your local paper for details.

NEW CLUB SPONSOR

We are at this moment in time finalising a three year deal for our new club sponsor, there are one or two minor details to sort out and then an announcement will be made.

BIG LEAGUE CASH BONANZA

During the summer months the work on the Big League Cash Bonanza will carry on, and it is imperative that we continue the good work already laid down during these last few months.

We are constantly looking for new agents and collectors, but also during the summer months we are looking for more canvassers. So, if you are after some part-time work (8-10 hours per week) why not give me a call.

BIG LEAGUE CASH BONANZA

WEEK No. 15

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Oldham's magnificent win at St. Helen's last Sunday ensured the clubs survival in the First Division of the Stones Bitter Championship and underlined the tremendous achievement of coaching staff and players in transforming performance and fortunes over the last two months.

Congratulations are in order for Bob Lindner, his assistant Andy Goodway and all of the senior squad for achieving six victories and one draw - 13 points from a possible 18 - in the nine games since Bob took over as player/coach in February.

Congratulations are also due to Shane Tupaea and his 'A' Team boys for completing a





CASTLEMAINE XXXXX



TEAM CHECK

SUNDAY, 24th APRIL, 1994

OLDHAM Team Changes

1. Wally Gibson
2. Scott Ranson
3. Shaun Irwin
4. Darren Abram
5. Nigel Heslop
6. Glen Liddiard
7. Martin Crompton
8. Barrie McDermott
9. John Clark
10. Ian Sherratt
11. Andy Goodway
12. Bob Lindner
13. Mike Kuiti
14. Shane Tupaea
15. Charlie McAlister

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SPECSAVERS

WIGAN Team Changes

1. Frano Botica
2. Va'aiga Tuigamala
3. Dean Bell
4. Gary Connolly
5. Martin Offiah
6. Jason Robinson
7. Shaun Edwards
8. Kelvin Skerrett
9. Martin Hall
10. Andy Platt
11. Denis Betts
12. Neil Cowie
13. Phil Clarke
14. Mick Cassidy
15. Andy Farrell

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6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

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

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

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

Referee: D. Atkin

Touch Judges: A. Randerson (Red Flag)
M. Sparrow (Yellow Flag)

grand slam in the Youngers Alliance and winning all four trophies available to them - namely the Lancashire Shield and three Younger's Alliance prizes; the Challenge Cup, Second Division Cup and Championship Cup.

As far as records show this has never been achieved previously, hardly surprising because playing rugby at any level it is a major achievement to go more than 30 matches unbeaten.

All in all, the club's fortunes have taken a major upturn in the past few weeks and, despite financial difficulties, the club can look forward with optimism to next season - still in the 'Big League'.



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TODAY'S MAN IN THE MIDDLE



DAVID ATKIN
(HULL)

Date of Birth

19.12.64

Grade One:

1992-93

IN TOUCH with H.O.

Nick Pinkney. Nick Pinkney of Keighley Cougars needs three tries to equal the club record of 30 in a season by Joe Sherburn in 1934-35. Pinkney is approaching the record in his first season after being signed from Ryedale York.

Kevin Pape. Kevin Pape of Carlisle is one try short of equalling the club record of 25 in a season. The record is shared by prop Mick Morgan in the club's first season of 1981-82 and centre Gary Peacham in 1984-85.

St. John Ellis. St. John Ellis of Castleford needs one try to equal the club record of 36 in a season by Keith Howe in 1963-64.

John Bentley. John Bentley of Halifax needs two tries for a career centruy of touchdowns since the former England Rugby Union winger switched codes in 1988.

His total of 98 tries, which have been scored in 162 matches, including nine as substitute, is made up of 44 for Halifax, 53 for Leeds and one for Great Britain. This seasons total of 24 is a personla best, beating his 20 in each of the previous two seasons. He has scored three hat-tricks for Halifax and two for Leeds.

Bentley was signed by Leeds from Sale Rugby Union and made his debut on the wing in a 24-6 Division One win at Salford on 27th November 1989. He was transferred to Halifax for about £50,000 and made his debut at centre against Leeds, scoring a try in a 26-8 Division One home victory on 6th September 1992. He has kicked 28 goals for a career points total of 448.

Born on 5th September 1966. His season try totals are as follows.

Leeds	App	Tries
1988-98	21	15
1989-90	20+3	10
1990-91	21+3	9
1991-92	30+3	19+GB, 1t

Halifax	App	Tries
1990-93	29	20
1993-94	30	24
TOTALS		
Leeds	92+9	53
Halifax	59	44
Great Britain	2	1
GRAND TOTALS	153+9	98

Batley Record.

Batley have equalled the club record of 11 straight wins with their 20-7 victory at Barrow on Sunday, 17th April. The record was first set in 1898-99 a sequence which ended with a 2-2 draw against Huddersfield.

Milestones.

Les Quirk of St. Helens needs two tries for a career century of touchdowns for the club.

Deryck Fox of Braford Northern needs two tries for a career century of touchdowns in Club and Representative matches.

Dean Bell of Wigan needs four tries for a career century of touchdowns for the club.

TOP TEN TRY SCORERS

1.	St. John Ellis (Castleford)	35
2.	Mark Johnson (London C)	34
3.	Stuart Cocker (Workington T)	30
4.	Paul Newlove (Bradford N)	29
5.	Mark Riley (London C)	28
6.	Nick Pinkney (Keighley C)	27
	Martin Offiah (Wigan)	27
8.	Carl Hall (Bradford N)	25
	Darren Moxen (Batley)	25
10.	Kevin Pape (Carlisle)	24
	Jason Critchley (Salford)	24
	John Bentley (Halifax)	24
	Ellery Hanley (Leeds)	24

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Last Time Out . . .

with ROGER HALSTEAD

An extract from Roger Halstead's match report in the Oldham Evening Chronicle of December 13th, 1993.



Nobody could have asked more of Oldham, but Wigan's superior pace, strength and class edged them through in a fiercely-fought Regal Trophy third-round tie at Watersheddings yesterday.

Strength told when Kiwi stand-off Sam Panapa blasted a hole in Oldham's midfield defence to score the first try, straight from the scrum, with only three minutes on the clock.

There was more than a touch of class in dreadful conditions when Joe Lydon and Barrie-Jon Mather combined beautifully to send Jason Robinson sliding at the pavilion corner in Scott Ranson's tackle.

And teenage forward discovery Andy Farrell produced plenty of pace out wide to race 40 yards on a treacherous surface before turning Gary Connolly inside to the posts for Wigan's third try after half an hour.

Wigan won the toss, took first use of the wind and driving sleet and turned round with a 16-2 lead which was always going to be enough.

Nevertheless, absent Oldham boss Peter Tunks would have been proud of the way his team battled bravely in the second half to salvage pride and win admirers.

Before leaving for Australia to attend to personal matters, Tunks promised that Wigan would know they had been in a cup-tie. They did, too.

With the wind behind them, Oldham took the game to Wigan, won the second half 6-0 and camped out in the visitors quarter thanks to a strategic kicking game and exceptional tackling.

The forwards hunted as a pack, tackled in twos and threes and rarely missed a challenge as their fans got behind them to offer vocal support.

What a different story it might have been had Wigan been restricted to two tries in the first half or had

Oldham been able to score earlier once they had Wigan on the ropes after half-time.

The new half was only ten minutes old when Ranson looked like going clear only to be edged off balance by a desperate ankle tap.

For all their constant pressure after that, Oldham couldn't bust Wigan's resistance until eight minutes from time when Barrie McDermott crashed over and Paul Topping goaled.

The statistics sum up the game as well as anything. Neither side scored a try when playing into the wind.

With the wind behind them, Wigan scored three tries and Oldham one, the home side producing an excellent performance on defence, but surrendering too much possession on attack to make the most of their second half territorial stranglehold.

That's where Wigan's class told and that's why Wigan were again in the hat when the quarter-final draw was made this morning.

A first half talking point was Oldham skipper Bob Lindner's decision to press for a try and ignore an easy penalty chance with Wigan 10-2 ahead.

There is no right or wrong in these decisions. It is down to opinion, judgement and an appraisal of how the game is going at any given time.

Count me among those who believe you take what you can when you can in a tight game . . . but Lindner went for broke and he would have been everybody's hero had his gamble come off.

As it happened, it didn't get the chance to because Paul Topping's kick to touch failed to make it and Wigan took off the pressure.

Moments earlier, Oldham looked to be wrongly pulled up for a knock-on and it was from the first set of six from this scrum that Robinson scored in the

corner. Oldham rarely got into good position for long enough to pressurise Wigan in the first half, but they had a chance shortly before half-time when Martin Crompton dummied though the defensive line.

He chipped forward as the defence closed in, but the ball just ran dead as Darren Abram swept in for the touch-down.

In the second-half it was all Oldham as Wigan were forced onto the back foot and had to be content themselves with defending their lead.

Topping's early kicks often turned Lydon, the chase was good and the challenge was always determined and beefy.

Unfortunately, some Oldham players found it hard to adapt their handling skills to wild, windy and wet weather.

This was no day for slipping the ball in the tackle, trying an ambitious pass or taking a chance.

Oldham won many friends for effort and Ian Sherratt walked away with two individual awards for his tireless work up front in matching the big men in Wigan's pack, Neil Cowie and Andy Platt.

It was a hard slog for both teams from start to finish, but Wigan had the edge in polish and professionalism and it carried them through.

"Monty's"



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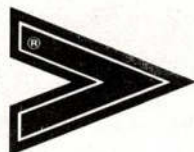
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APPEARANCES & SCORERS

	APP	SUB	TRIES	GOALS	DROP GOALS	POINTS
WALLY GIBSON	26	1	8	—	1	33
NIGEL HESLOP	20	2	7	—	—	28
MARTIN HOLDEN	1	1	—	—	—	—
PAUL TOPPING	17	9	2	55	—	118
SCOTT RANSON	29	—	12	—	—	48
DARREN ABRAM	29	—	19	10	—	96
STEVE KERRY	14	5	2	12	3	35
"TINY" SOLOMONA	10	3	1	—	—	4
PAUL GROVES	6	—	2	—	—	8
IAN SHERRATT	28	—	—	—	—	—
IVAN GREEN	4	9	2	—	—	8
DAVID BRADBURY	5	7	—	—	—	—
MIKE KUITI	31	1	5	—	—	20
DAVID JONES	24	2	5	—	—	20
ANDY GOODWAY	26	3	1	—	—	4
CHARLIE McALISTER	8	6	2	—	—	8
MARTIN STRETT	5	1	1	8	—	20
SHANE TUPAEA	15	5	—	—	—	—
CRAIG RICHARDS	3	5	2	—	—	8
SHAUN IRWIN	25	—	8	—	—	32
MARTIN CROMPTON	19	1	8	—	3	35
BOB LINDNER	27	2	10	—	—	40
JOHN CLARKE	21	—	3	—	—	12
DAVID STEPHENSON	5	—	—	—	—	—
MARK MEADOWS	2	—	—	—	—	—
BARRIE McDERMOTT	9	1	1	—	—	4
ALF GOULDBOURNE	1	—	—	—	—	—
BEN OLSEN	1	—	—	—	—	—
CHRIS PARR	4	1	—	—	—	—
ADRIAN BELLE	1	—	—	—	—	—
PADDY MITCHELL	4	—	1	—	—	4
GLEN LIDDIARD	9	1	4	4	1	25

LEAGUE TABLE 1993/94

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Warrington	29	22	0	7	592	412	44
Wigan	28	21	0	7	709	385	42
Bradford	28	21	0	7	714	529	42
Castleford	28	18	1	9	737	421	37
Halifax	29	16	2	11	645	551	34
Sheffield	29	16	2	11	686	635	34
St. Helens	28	15	1	12	658	482	31
Leeds	28	14	2	12	605	612	30
Hull	29	13	2	14	466	514	28
Widnes	28	14	0	14	497	571	28
Featherstone	29	12	1	16	605	657	25
Salford	29	11	0	18	530	604	22
Oldham	29	10	1	18	546	601	21
Wakefield	29	9	1	19	434	670	19
Hull K.R.	29	8	0	21	480	772	16
Leigh	29	2	1	26	354	842	5

THE ACADEMY

with Manager
JACK BUCKLEY

It has been a frustrating time for the Academy since our last game against Barrow at Watersheddings on April 2nd. Our home match against Workington was postponed due to the pitch being unfit, we had to cancel the Widnes match away due to illness in the squad and then Featherstone cried off because of 'A' Team duties.

This leaves us with five games outstanding all of which have to be played

before 11th May. Meanwhile, Featherstone have continued to play and win, so we are left to play "catch up" at no fault of our own.

However, we can look back on a fairly successful inaugural season, with several players featuring in our superb Alliance team without looking out of place. Mike Prescott, Jody Moran, Damian Munro, Martin Halkyard, Richard Badby, Neil Breslin, and all have all done the business. Alfie Golbourne has played an enthusiastic role in the Academy this season as well as producing outstanding performances in the Alliance team. If all goes to plan, Alfie will be touring Australia with the Great Britain Academy team this summer and we all wish him well.

During the break we will all be working hard to ensure that we strengthen our squad for next season and hope that we can continue to produce the brand of football you have been used to this term.

On behalf of the Academy we would like to thank our fabulous supporters, the directors, the supporters club and the backroom and office staff for steering us through this first season of Academy football at Oldham with as much help as they could muster. A special vote of thanks goes to John Watkins who showed us the ropes and looked after the team on and off the field.

We hope you enjoy the next few Academy games and we look forward to seeing you all again next season.

DEVELOPING SCENE

with
Development
Officer
NIEL WOOD

Welcome to Watersheddings for the final game of the season. Tonight will see two curtain raiser events with Oldham Ladies playing at 5.00 p.m. and watch out for their leaflets with information about Women's

Rugby League. This will be followed by the Schools Curtain Raiser between Lyndhurst, Heywith Zion, Knowsley and Delph Junior Schools.

Next week you will have the chance to watch the Quantum Sports School Cup Finals here at Watersheddings.

The finals take place on Tuesday and Thursday and the programme is: Tuesday 4.00 p.m. - Under 11's, 4.45 p.m. - Under 12's, 5.45 p.m. - Under 14's, 6.45 p.m. - Under

19's. Thursday 4.00 p.m. - Under 13's, 5.00 p.m. - Under 15's, 6.15 p.m. - Under 16's.

I hope we get a large support for this event which is the culmination of a competition for almost 80 teams with 73 of the scheduled games being played, many to a very high standard.

Watch out over the summer months for coaching courses, referees courses, touch rugby, mini league etc. etc. Closed season, what closed season?

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**A. TEAM SQUAD PROUDLY CELEBRATE YET
ANOTHER CUP VICTORY**

BACK PAGES

by Michael Turner

For our last game of the 1993-94 season, we welcome our friends, rivals and fellow Lancastrians; Wigan.

At the time of writing these notes the Championship title had not been settled, with Warrington, Bradford and Wigan still battling it out for the "Big Prize". Still the men from Central Park continue to dominate the Challenge Cup competition and they are to be congratulated on reaching their 7th successive final, when they carry the Lancashire hopes in the "Roses clash against Leeds at Wembley next Saturday.

As this featured covered the most important games between the two clubs in the programme for the Regal Trophy tie last December, this time I will just give a brief mention to some other interesting encounters between Oldham and Wigan.

The first meeting in the 'Northern Union' took place at Watersheddings on December 21st, 1895 with Oldham winning by 20-0. However Wigan won the return the following April by 18-5.

The teams have met five times in the Lancashire Cup Final with three wins for Wigan in 1908, 1966 and 1986 with success for the "Roughy'eds" in 1913 and 1957.

In October 1944, due to the fact a number of teams dropped out of the League in wartime, Oldham and Wigan were invited to play in the Yorkshire Cup and actually played each other, Wigan winning the first round tie over two legs.

I'm sure that supporters of both clubs need no reminding that Oldham were the last team to defeat Wigan in the Challenge Cup and it is now seven years since that cold February

night when Paddy Kirwan and Mick Burke contrived to knock the Riversiders out of the competition with their last minute efforts in front of a capacity all ticket Watersheddings crowd. I firmly believe that the shock nature of that defeat made the already resolute Wigan team even more determined when it comes to the Challenge Cup and the rest of the League has suffered the consequences ever since.

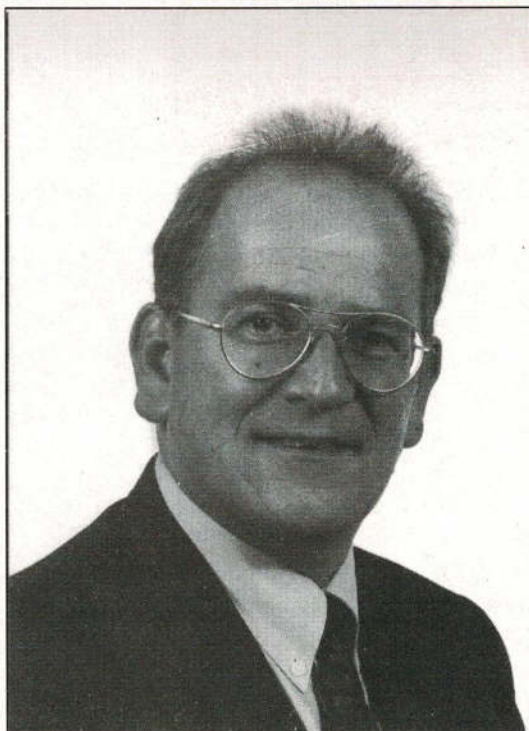
On behalf of Oldham R.L.F.C. I would like to thank the following people who have helped by providing material and assistance in the preparation of the Roughy'ed Recall, Action Gallery and Back Pages features used in the programme throughout the 1993-94 season.

Stephen Bennett, Jean Brooks, Mark Burns, Robert Gate, Mick Harrop, Donna Hartley, Bruce Langridge, Wendy McGiffen, Alan Read, Alan Stacy, Mary Turner, Peter Young and The Oldham Evening Chronicle.



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SKIPPER'S SPOT

With Oldham Captain
BOBBY LINDNER



Well the hard work and mutual support within the club and with you, the supporters, has paid off and we've secured our Stones Bitter Big League status. Tonight we go into the Championship decider for Wigan full of confidence and optimism, and why shouldn't we. Our run in since that magnificent victory over Featherstone has been convincing.

Leigh away was a great performance with Wally Giibson's hat trick of tries a great achievement.

Then on to St. Helens who beat Leeds 68-0 in the midweek. Our performance in the first hour was exemplary. Saints then came back like the class outfit they undoubtedly are, and our players had to dig deep and produce a great effort to win the game.

Now on to Wigan. There should be a full house plus Sky TV to witness a titanic struggle. We are prepared to go all the way to show our potential for next season. The atmosphere will be electric and a sign of things to come next season.

Thanks for your support throughout the season and enjoy the evening.

This page is sponsored by IRENE and HELEN CALOW

SUPPORTERS CLUB

● The Supporters Club would like to congratulate Bob Lindner and the team on their magnificent game at St. Helens that gave us First Division Rugby at Watersheddings next season. As for our game tonight we welcome Wigan to Watersheddings for our final First Division game. With all the pressure of the team for survival the supporters will be wishing we can put one over on our more fashionable clubs and make a great end to the season watched by an all ticket crowd and many more Sky Television viewers.

● We would like to say a very warm welcome to all Directors, players and supporters from Wigan to

Watersheddings to a very entertaining game of rugby this evening. We would like to say once again all the very best to Bob and the team for a great recovery.

● The supporters club members will be receiving their Player of the Year forms within the next week to vote for their Player of the Year.

● Videos can still be bought from our club shop of all first team matches or hired at £2 per night. If you wish to purchase one they are £10, if posted add £2.

● The club shop opening hours are as follows: Mon - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wed - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fri - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Opposition	Date	Res.	F.A.	Att.
WALSLEY	20.10.93	L	13-26	7,465
WALSLEY	27.10.93	A	20-24	4,054
WALSLEY	3.11.93	A	28-14	3,948
WALSLEY	10.11.93	H	15-22	5,755
WALSLEY	17.11.93	H	12-14	3,476
WALSLEY	24.11.93	H	12-14	4,750
WALSLEY	1.12.93	H	21-6	5,079
WALSLEY	8.12.93	H	33-8	4,587
WALSLEY	15.12.93	A	21-22	3,829
WALSLEY	22.12.93	A	24-20	3,719
WALSLEY	29.12.93	A	25-8	853
WALSLEY	5.1.94	A	12-38	5,021
WALSLEY	12.1.94	A	8-16	8,192
WALSLEY	19.1.94	H	11-28	4,001
WALSLEY	26.1.94	H	8-20	4,576
WALSLEY	2.2.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	9.2.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	16.2.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	23.2.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	30.2.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	6.3.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	13.3.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	20.3.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	27.3.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	3.4.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	10.4.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	17.4.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	24.4.94	A	11-24	3,719
WALSLEY	1.5.94	A	11-24	3,719

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

1. Frank Myler. 2. Bradford N. & Salford. 3. Len Kileen (St. Helens). 4. 1952 Workington v Featherstone. 5. John Holmes. 6. Western Suburbs. 7. T. Griffiths, 147, 1955-56. 8. Wakefield T. & St. Helens. 9. Blackpool Borough. 10. Bill Ashurst, 1971.