

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP



OLDHAM v HUDDERSFIELD

6th Round, Sunday 12th March 1995. Price £1.20

ROLL OF HONOUR

OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

CLUB HONOURS

Rugby League Championship Play-off Winners
1909-10, 1910-11, 1956-57
Runners Up
1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22, 1954-55
First Division Champions
1904-05
Second Division Champions
1963-64, 1981-82, 1987-88
Rugby League Challenge Cup Winners
1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27
Runners Up
1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24, 1925-26
Lancashire Cup Winners
1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59
Runners Up
1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67, 1968-69, 1986-87, 1989-90
Lancashire Championship Winners
1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57, 1957-58
Runners Up
1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-34, 1954-55
Lancashire Shield Winners
1975-76, 1979-80
Colts Premiership Trophy
1979-80, 1989-90
Second Division Premiership
1987-88
Wigan Sevens Winners
1991-92

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: Ref Farrar, 49 Tries, 1921-22 season
Record Goal: Bernard Ganley, 224 goals, 1957-58 season
Record Point: Bernard Ganley, 28 points v Liverpool City, April 1959
Scorer:
Record Point: Bernard Ganley, 28 points v Liverpool City, April 1959
Scorer:
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 Jack Hirst 233 Since 1900 Alan Davies 182



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Club Secretary: Karen Scott

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Assistant Physiotherapist: Mr. J. Watkins

Coach: Andy Goodway

'Football Manager: Alan McCurrie

Alliance Coach: Dennis McHugh

Academy Manager: Brian Gartland

Hon. Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeons:

Mr. H. Thompson, Mr. D. Walker

Official Timekeeper: Mr. J. Roscoe

Hon. Safety Officer: Roger Norris



1994-95 SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP

1994-95 Silk Cut Prizes

This is the fourth season of Silk Cut's £2.3 million five year sponsorship of Rugby League's most famous knockout competition, played under the Silk Cut banner since 1985. The 1995 Wembley victors will receive a record prize cheque for £39,000. Of the 1994-95 sponsorship investment of £400,000 a total of £254,000 will be awarded in prize money with the remaining £146,000 being deposited in the League's Capital Development Fund. The complete 1994-95 Silk Cut Challenge Cup prize picture is:

Third Round	£2,700 to each Second Division club
Fourth Round	£2,700 to losers
Fifth Round	£4,300 to losers
Quarter Finals	£6,900 to losers
Semi-Finals	£11,000 to losers
Runners-up	£20,500
Winners	£39,000
Total Prize money	£229,900
Capital Development Fund	£170,100 (including development grants of £1,000 to each amateur club in the Third Round)
GRAND TOTAL	£400,000

1994 Silk Cut Awards

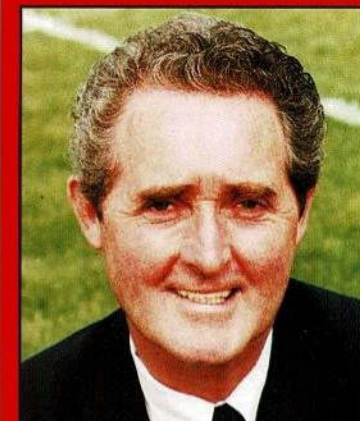
Silk Cut Awards will again be presented to the adjudged Man of the Match in each tie from the first round onwards. In each case the winner will receive a commemorative medallion, plus a cheque for £150 (from the third round through to the quarter finals). The Man of the Match at both semi-finals receives a cheque for £300 plus an engraved silver plated replica rugby ball.

FROM THE BOARDROOM

BY CHAIRMAN JIM QUINN

Our appearance today in the quarter final of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup will inevitably revive memories of the frustrations suffered by the Oldham club on its abortive Wembley campaigns of the last 35 years or so. I remember going along to Swinton in 1960 only to see the great Bernard Ganley, of all people, sent off as a great Oldham team of that era crashed to Hull in the semi-final. Four years later, in 1964, one of Huddersfield's greatest rugby league sons, the late Frank 'Spanky' Dyson put enough grit and determination into a second division Oldham side that, under his leadership as player-coach, we reached the semi-final again, this time to meet Hull KR. You will have heard what happened many, many times over, I'm sure Len McIntyre's long range drop goal in the first match at Headingley forced a draw. A Dyson penalty from half way in the last minute of normal time denied Hul KR a second time in the replay at Station Road. Denied twice, Rovers were emotionally and

physically drained and it was no surprise when Geoff Robinson crashed over for a try in the first period of extra time to put Oldham in front. What happened next? The referee, the late Dennis Davies, abandoned the tie because of bad light (these were the days before floodlights) and it was Oldham's turn to be psychologically shattered. In the third clash at Fartown, Oldham were never really in contention and were well beaten after an early injury blow to full back Dyson, the team's inspiration. It was 22 years before Oldham were to appear in the semi-final again, and yet, again there was another controversial incident which went against us as Castleford booked their place at Wembley. This time Bob Beardmore scored a crucial try that swung the game only to be shown on television afterwards as having his feet over the dead ball line at the time he touched down. So to 1990 and our semi-final clash with Warrington. Martin Crompton played for the



Wires that day and scored a try which everyone in the Oldham camp was convinced followed a forward pass.

But worse was to come in the dying minutes when Paul Lord followed Mike Ford's kick to the corner. He touched down for a try which would have levelled the scores, but referee John Holdsworth ruled Lord fractionally offside.

A year later we were in the semi-finals again. This time we were well beaten by Wigan at Burnden Park, Bolton as Oldham fans had their great Wembley dream shattered again. We often seem to be the bridesmaid, never the bride, or groom for that matter. But it might happen one day. Until it does, we won't talk about it. We will just wait and see what happens.

It is good to see such a famous club as Huddersfield getting a share of the limelight in the game's centenary year. The great days at Fartown are legion, but Huddersfield have now shown conclusively that our great game is on the move and up for change with the opening of the Alfred McAlpine Stadium.

It is a magnificent stadium and one which will clearly become widely used in the future for big Rugby League occasions.

We give a big Watersheddings welcome to Huddersfield today, to chairman Bob Scott, the board, coach George Fairbairn, players and fans. A special welcome, too, on their return to Watersheddings for our former players Steve Kerry and Mick Taylor. I am sure they will get a warm reception.

Whatever the result, we look forward to a first class cup tie in the great traditions of Oldham versus Huddersfield games. May the better team win.

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CLOSE UP ON HUDDERSFIELD

Our visitors in detail

GEORGE FAIRBAIRN - Coach

A player with Wigan, Hull Kingston Rovers and Great Britain and regarded as one of the games top full backs. He was Rugby League's record transfer when he moved from Wigan to Hull KR. Went on to coach the Robins before joining Huddersfield this season.

PHIL HELLEWELL

Goal kicking centre in third season with the Club. Previously with Bradford Northern.

IAN THOMAS

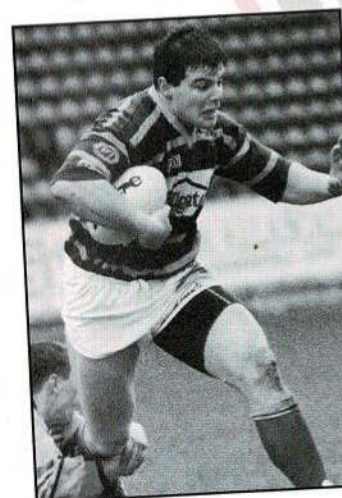
Speedy wingman. Regularly top scorer for the Club. Just completed testimonial season.

GREG AUSTIN

Australian close season signing. Prolific try scorer with previous clubs - Hull KR, Halifax, Keighley and Salford.

DARRELL SHELFORD

Kiwi signing from Bradford Northern, Experienced centre, strong on defence.



"Big Dave King" showing great power has a knack of unloading in the tackle

BRIMAH KEBBIE

Another close season signing from Bradford Northern. Winger with electric pace.

LEE SLATER

Last season's Academy captain. Great prospect at stand off or scrum half.

NEIL FLANAGAN

Scrum half. Team captain. Signed from Oldham in 1992.

DAVE KING

Big Australian prop. Just returned from another successful season down under.

STEVE BARNETT

Another former Bradford Northern player, hooker or loose forward. Good ball distributor.

LEE ST. HILAIRE

Hooker. Former winger or centre. Had short spell with Keighley before returning to home town club in 1991.

ANDY PUCILL

Prop. Warrington based signing from Swinton 1992. Very consistent.

GARRY COULTER

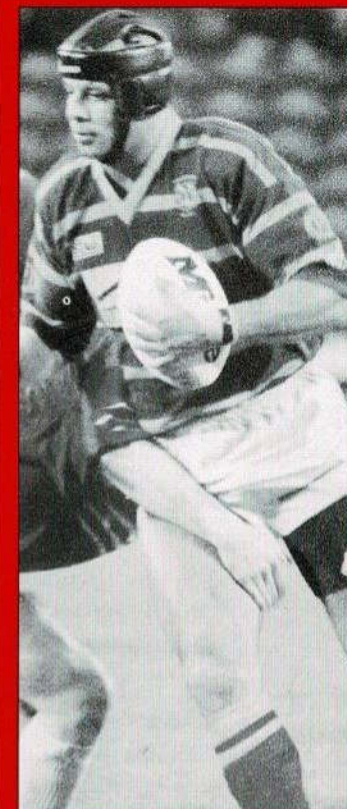
Back row forward. Club record signing from Doncaster in January 1992.

BASIL RICHARDS

Second row signed from Warrington in August 1993.

GREG PEARCE

Non-quota Australian. Goal kicking loose forward formerly with London Crusaders, Halifax and Dewsbury.



Former Oldham winger Mick Taylor now playing in the pack at Huddersfield

MARTIN MADERS

Twenty-one year old prop or second row. Signed from Saddleworth Juniors January 1992.

GARY SENIOR

Long serving utility forward. Local lad, nephew of former Fartown great Ken Senior.

STEVE KERRY

Signed from Oldham, former Salford scrum half, originally with Preston Grasshoppers Rugby Union.

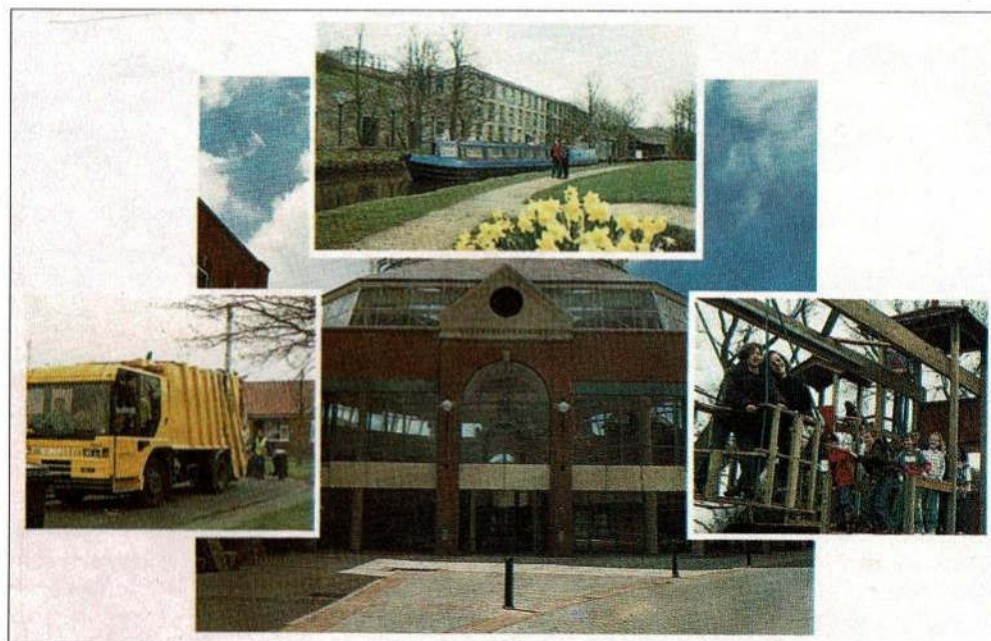
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Tackling the issues...



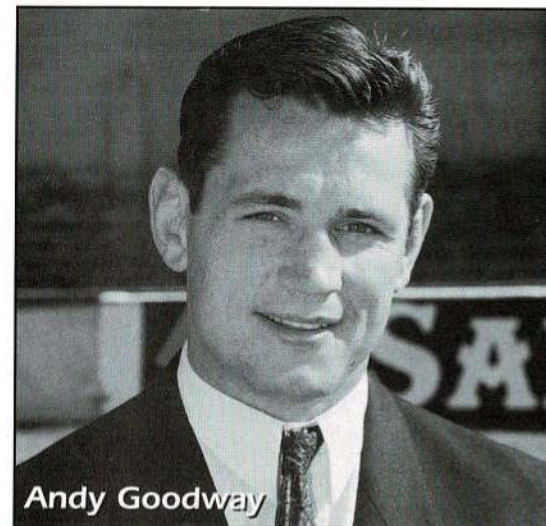
on all fronts!

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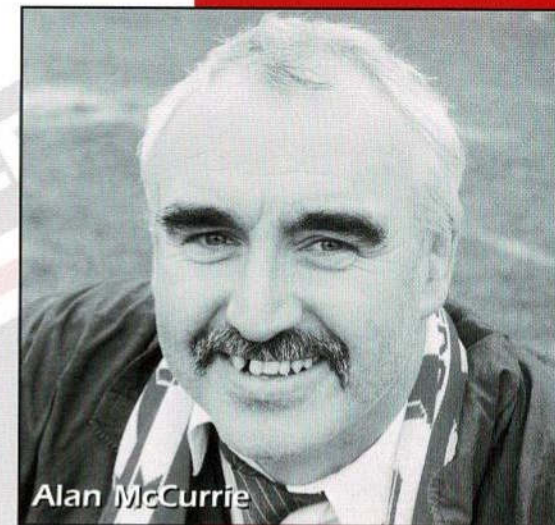


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Telephone: 061-911-4708

GOODWAY & McCURRIE



Andy Goodway



Alan McCurrie

Welcome to George Fairburn's team and all the people from Huddersfield for what should be a very exciting cup tie. Huddersfield must have played superbly to overcome Halifax and Keighley, so we are expecting a very tough encounter. They have a really exciting back line and our boys will have to be at their best to keep them quiet.

We have to be happy with the draw, a home game is all you can ask for in the quarter final. So let's hope it's a big crowd and you get behind the players.

All the players and staff are disappointed with the defeat against Wakefield, we prepared well and trained hard, there was certainly no shortage of effort. We just played some unimaginative football in the wrong areas and two pieces of individual brilliance from Nigel

Wright won Wakefield the game.

Today gives everybody a big lift and with the adrenaline flowing I'm sure that we can secure a semi-final place and redeem ourselves for last weeks slip up.

So keep encouraging the players it does make a difference and we hope to see you at the semi-finals.



Captains and mascots line up against Warrington in the last round.

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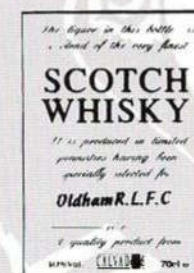
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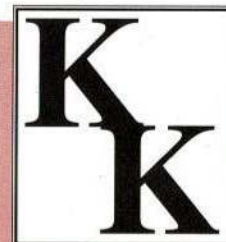
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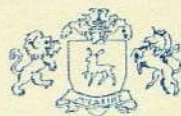
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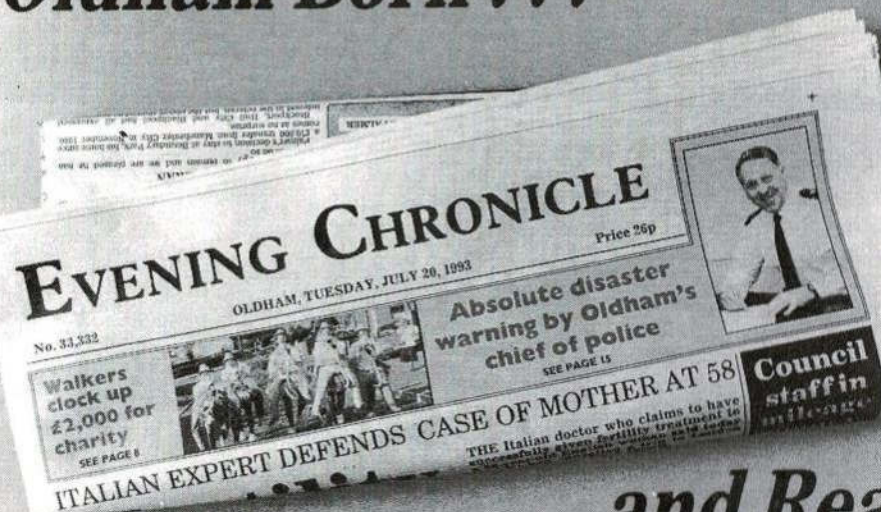


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- Joseph Crossman

GRASS ROOTS

A LOOK AT THE LOCAL AMATEUR RUGBY SCENE

The standard of amateur rugby during the past twenty years or so has improved beyond recognition. So too have the social and changing facilities whilst the rewards for the top players are now extremely attractive.

No longer the endless round of local derby matches broke up by the odd Cup trip over to Humberside or up to Cumbria. Nowadays the Conference teams travel to every corner of the Rugby League regions whilst BARLA squads have visited South Africa, Morocco, France and the South Pacific during the past twelve months alone.

Local enthusiasts will be able to judge for themselves just how much improvement has been achieved in recent seasons if they attend any of the big matches which are scheduled to be staged in the town during the next couple of weeks.

Top match next week is the delayed BNFL National Cup-tie between St Annes and Walney Central. Because Walney Central have three players involved in the highly successful BARLA tour of South Africa, this tie is now to be played next Saturday. This match is one not to be missed. Saints go into the match as slight favourites having defeated Walney both home and away this season. In September they scraped home 18-17 before pulling off a magnificent 12-4 victory

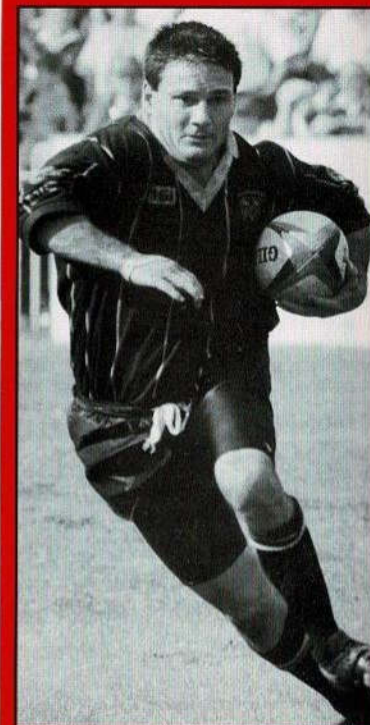
at Central Park in early January. But Walney have an outstanding cup pedigree and are current holders of the Cumbria Cup. They beat the powerful Hensingham outfit 18-16 in the final of that competition but a more impressive result was their 11-6 win over Millom in the quarter-finals. Local followers who intend watching this match should look out for the three tourists, centre Ronnie Kettlewell, back-row forward Ian Devlin and utility back Darren Wilson.

Of course, Saints have a few stars of their own, so it certainly should be a great game. Seven days later, on Saturday 25th March, Saints are at home again when the visitors are Leigh East in a National Conference First Division fixture.

Another big match in the town next week is Saddleworth Ranger's game against Mayfield. Rangers are still battling against relegation and go into the match anxious for victory. They should achieve that objective although when Mayfield last visited Shaw Hall Bank Road for a Lancashire Cup-tie in October 1992, a late try from winger Jason Diamond enabled Mayfield to win 12-11. Another close match is in prospect. Seven days later Rangers visit Leigh Miners Welfare for yet another crucial Premier League fixture.

DON YATES

ONE TO WATCH



Dean Hanger now settled in at No.6, and after an indifferent start to the season is now playing some great rugby

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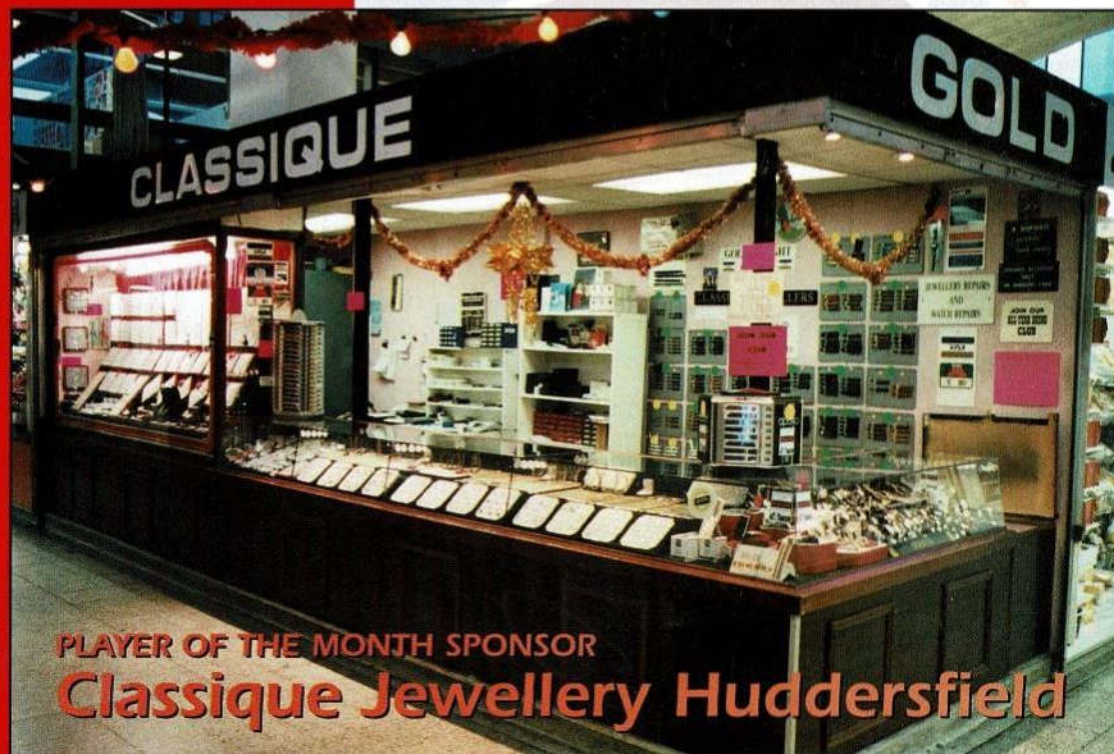
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THE FACE BEHIND THE VOICE OF BBC GMR'S RUGBY LEAGUE



Man Management The Hardest Task of all!

Apparently Leigh Rugby League players have been labelled "the dregs" by their Chairman, who in a very outspoken way has voiced his disapproval of the fact that some of his players went drinking after their recent record defeat at the hands of Workington.

Some spectators had complained at their lack of commitment and professionalism.

Well lets try and put the record straight!

Perhaps some of the players were a little indiscreet, but these are the same players that Mr. Higgins was praising the previous week when they defeated Swinton in the Challenge Cup, these are the same players who actually took Leigh further in this competition than clubs

like Bradford Northern and Castleford and these are the same

players who have allegedly been training almost every night of the week for weeks now under their new coach Ian Lucas.

If they lose, Leigh players take home some £28.00 and there are no expenses payments to top it up - it's feasible that some of them may even finish out of pocket.

These men are committed, they are dedicated and however indiscreet and OK, un-professional, some may have appeared, taking their club blazers away (with the badges that the players paid for) and publicly humiliating them will not do them or Leigh any good at all.

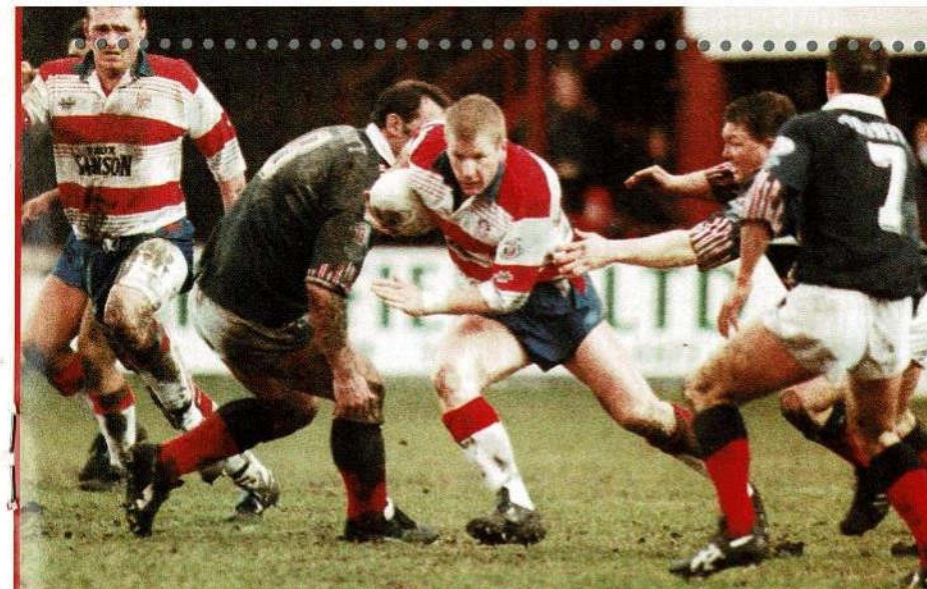
The players have two rights - a right to consistency and a right to expect good leadership.

I don't think they're getting either at the moment and until they do Leigh will go nowhere.

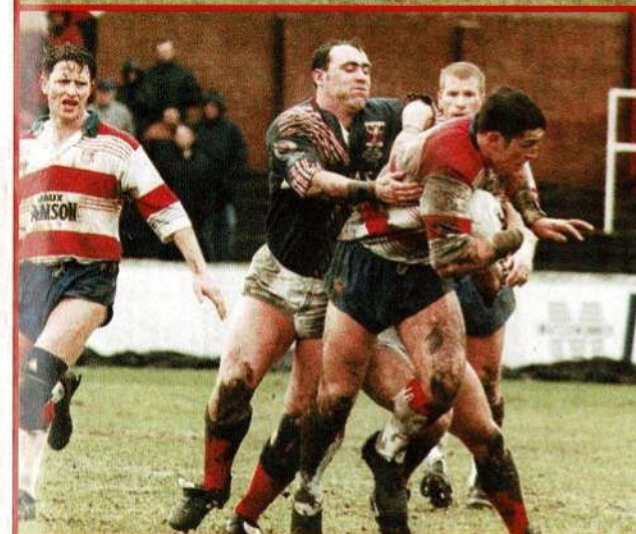
There's enough sleaze around at the moment, enough muck being flung in all sports and washing dirty linen of any kind in public is always an unsavoury tactic.

For the sake of Leigh Rugby League Club - start talking to each other, it's the only way.

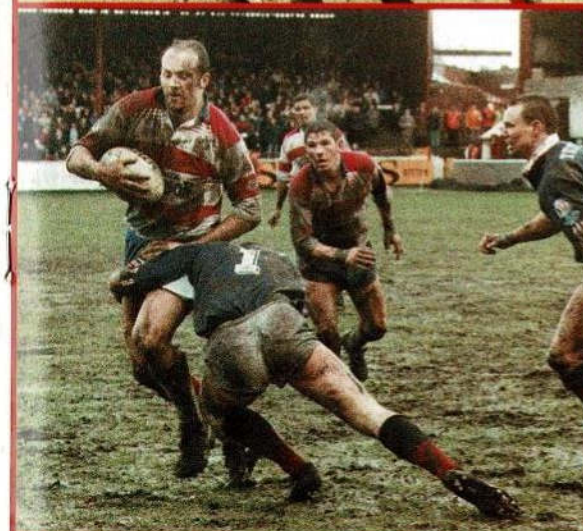
Malcolm Lord
BBC GMR



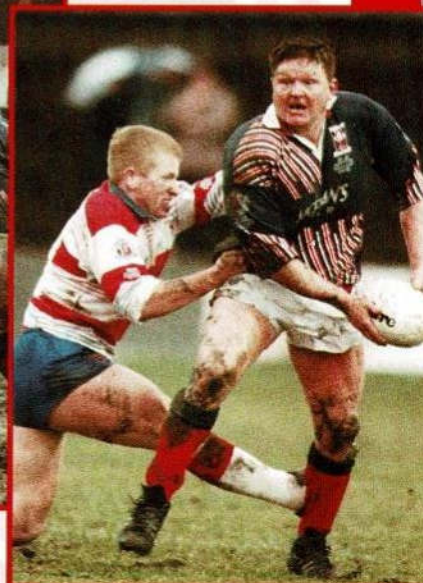
Top: Martin Crompton going through the gap.



Middle: Gary Lord trying to burst through the Wakefield defence



Bottom left: Big Paul Davidson (Les) making another charge upfield



Bottom right: Martin Crompton trying to stop Wakefield veteran prop John Thompson passing the ball

Photographs courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle.

ACTION REPLAY

Stones Bitter Championship
v Wakefield Trinity

TODAYS LINE UP

ROUGHYEDS

HUDDERSFIELD

- 1 Wally Gibson
- 2 Adrian Belle
- 3 Paul Topping
- 4 Darren Abrams
- 5 Scott Ranson
- 6 Wilson Marsh
- 7 Martin Crompton
- 8 Ian Sherratt
- 9 David Stephenson
- 10 Jason Temu
- 11 Joe Faimalo
- 12 Gary Lord
- 13 Mike Kuiti

- 14 T.B.A.
- 15 T.B.A.

Colours: Red & White

Referee:

Touch Judges:

- 1 Phil Hellewell
- 2 Ian Thomas
- 3 Darrall Shelford
- 4 Greg Austin
- 5 Simon Reynolds
- 6 Dean Hangar
- 7 Steve Kerry
- 8 Dave King
- 9 Lee St'Hilaire
- 10 Andy Pucill
- 11 Basil Richards
- 12 Mick Taylor
- 13 Richard Pearson

- 14 Gary Senior
- 15 Johnny Bruce

Colours: Claret & Gold

A.Bates (Workington)

J.N.Fallon (Widnes) Red Flag

A.J.Brown (St.Helens) Yellow Flag

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This Years Events Include:-

GOLF TOURNAMENT

A day out for guests or colleagues at a local golfing venue. Enjoy the chance of winning a new car for a hole-in-one at a designated hole. This together with a meal after your round and a prize giving ceremony with a comedian or speaker makes the whole day one to remember.

SPORTSMANS EVENINGS

After the success of our last two dinners tickets are in great demand. Again supported by local media and businesses gives you and your company the opportunity of entertaining guests for a full evening of quality. Quality food, quality wine, quality speakers.

LUNCHEON CLUB

This year for those who feel unable to attend the Sportsman's Dinners in the evenings, they will have the opportunity to 'socialise' with clients or colleagues over a lunch which also has a celebrity speaker. The ideal way to mix business and pleasure, combining the highest quality cuisine, celebrity speaker and an afternoons entertainment.

PROMOTE YOUR COMPANY

This is a unique concept to Rugby League and one we feel will be very successful. The idea comes from America and it is quite simple.

At each home game a company 'Gives' away merchandise (agreed between ourselves) this could be:

Umbrellas • Baseball Caps • Pens • Radios
(Quantities to be agreed)

The list is endless

Each gift will have the name of your company on and also something connecting it with Oldham R.L.F.C.

These items and games are advertised in advance and this will encourage children, adults and families to attend in the hope of getting a 'gift'.

The choice of gifts are endless these can range from pin badges or T-shirts to shaving kits or umbrellas.

TICKETS

During the season we accept that every game is not going to be a 'sell out'. So we have decided to sell these tickets to companies at greatly reduced prices. The tickets are only for standing areas and cannot be exchanged for seats.

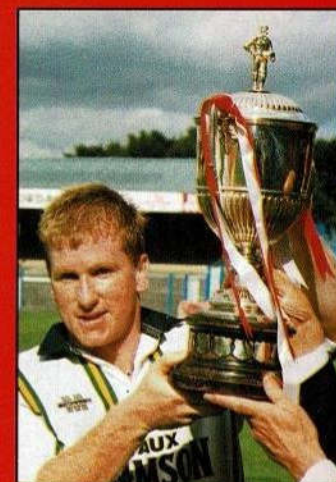
The regular ticket prices are - Adult £6.00
- Child/OAP £3.00

These tickets can be used as prizes, or simply public relation exercises.

The tickets will be available for the following games:

Doncaster • Workington T. • Wakefield T. • Sheffield E. • Hull

The tickets are available in 100's



**Martin Crompton
Receives the Law Cup**

1994/95 HOSPITALITY PRICE LIST

Type of Package	Match	Executive	Man of the Match	Match ball	
Number of Guests		20*1	10*2	4*3	4*3
Date	Versus	K.Off			
21/8	Halifax	3.00pm	£1,400	£750	£275
4/9	Wigan	3.00pm	£2,000	£1,000	£350
18/9	Doncaster	3.00pm	£1,100	£650	£275
2/10	St. Helens	3.00pm	£1,500	£800	£300
14/10	Widnes	7.30pm	£1,400	£750	£275
30/10	Featherstone	3.00pm	£1,250	£700	£275
22/11	Bradford	7.30pm	£1,500	£800	£300
11/12	Warrington	3.00pm	£1,400	£750	£300
1995					
1/1	Workington	3.00pm	£1,100	£650	£275
8/1	Leeds	3.00pm	£1,400	£750	£275
22/1	Sheffield E	3.00pm	£1,250	£700	£275
5/2	Hull	3.00pm	£1,250	£700	£275
5/3	Wakefield T	3.00pm	£1,250	£700	£275
26/3	Castleford	3.00pm	£1,500	£800	£300
14/4	Salford	7.30pm	£1,250	£700	£275

Prices Exclude VAT

Cost per head for extra guests - *1 £60 - *2 £60 - *3 £50

"THE WILL TO WIN IS NOT NEARLY AS IMPORTANT AS THE WILL TO PREPARE TO WIN"
- Bobby Knight

THE GROWING GAME

Development News Supported by P.Casey and Co and Sportsmatch

RUGBY RECALL QUIZ

1. Which former Oldham player scored ten tries for Huddersfield in season 1987/88?
2. Who was the only Oldham player to make 33 (1 as sub) first team appearances out of a possible 34 last season?
3. What is the name of Huddersfield's new stadium?
4. In which year did Huddersfield last play in a Challenge Cup Final and who did they play?
5. Which Oldham player scored twenty points in just 6 games (1 as sub) in the first half of last season?
6. Who was Huddersfield's top try scorer last season?
7. Which player scored seven tries in Oldham's last ten games last season?
8. Which brother of a former Oldham player scored seven tries in 34 games for Huddersfield last season?
9. Who was the last player to win a Great Britain cap while still playing for Oldham? Excluding this season.
10. Which two players scored a brace of tries for Huddersfield in their 36-30 Fourth Round defeat of Halifax?

Answers on Page 28
THE WELSH CONNECTION (TM)
Copyright. Kelvin Jones 1995

Cup fever comes to Oldham twice today as Watersheddings stages not one but two important Cup clashes. Of course you are all here to watch the titanic struggle between Oldham and Huddersfield in the Challenge Cup quarter final but before that clash we are hosting the second round of the Oldham Schools Cup sponsored by Quantum Sports + Leisure. The game in the spotlight is the local derby between Mayfield Junior School and Littlemoor Junior School. Both Schools have successfully negotiated the first hurdle, Mayfield by beating Delph Junior School. The two now meet in what promises to be a closely contested game.

The two coaches of the schools will be known to many Oldham fans. Littlemoor are coached by Waterhead's Mick Haigh whilst Mayfield are coached by Wilson Marsh.

Two other famous school coaches met last Thursday when Barrie McDermotts St. Annes, Greenacres met Ian Skerratt's Lyndhurst. At the time of writing the result is not known, I am however certain that the game will have been full of

fireworks.

Elsewhere in the Quantum Schools Cup the senior schools are progressing with highlights of the early rounds being Crompton Houses victory over Hathershaw in the Year 7 Cup.

Amongst the new schools playing this season are Bluecoat who have entered the Year 7 and Year 8 competitions and Hulme Grammar School in the Under 19's. The finals take place on May 2nd and 4th here at Watersheddings.

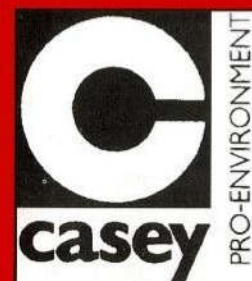


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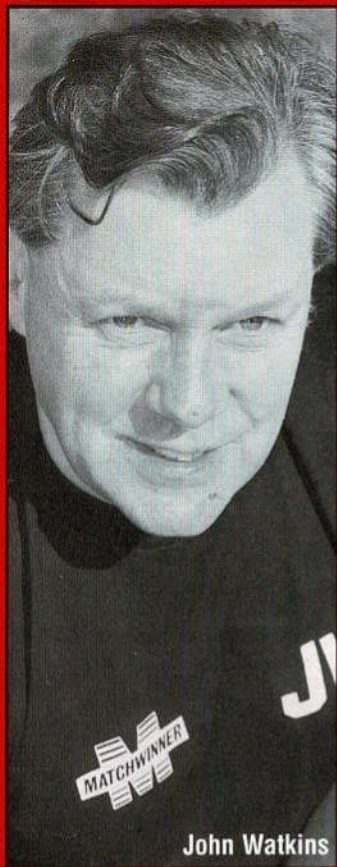


NO GUTS NO GLORY

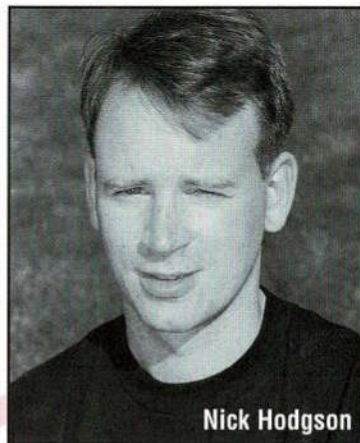
"IT IS ONLY EIGHTEEN INCHES BETWEEN A PAT ON THE BACK AND A KICK IN THE PANTS." - Joseph Crossman

INJURY UPDATE

FROM THE TREATMENT ROOM



John Watkins



Nick Hodgson

At the time of writing Darren Abram is still having treatment for his dead leg or 'intra muscular haematoma' he is responding well and working hard and should be fit to play today. Damien Ainge has a fractured collar bone, Alfie Gouldbourne has a groin strain and Nigel Heslop is recovering from a pulled

ham string. Shaun Irwin has seen a specialist who has confirmed the diagnosis of a torn anterior cruciate ligament. This will require surgical repair and a lot of hard work on Shauns part to prevent muscle wasting if he is to be fit for next season. And, finally could we have some fox's mints for the bench with some valium in Allan McCurries

Nick Hodgson

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TRAVELLING AWAY WITH THE ROUGHYEDS

WIDNES AWAY 19th MARCH 1995

K.O. 3.00pm

Follow the M62 to junction 7. Take the new A557 to Widnes
The Old A569 is now closed.

At the end of the A557 it is sign posted Widnes RLFC
just a quarter of a mile down Lower House Lane.

NEW CLUBCALL NUMBER: 0891 122 722

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FROM SMALL 'A' CORNS GROW

A look at our Alliance team

What a frustrating fortnight! After our win against Hull on Friday 24th Feb, we had to postpone the St.Helens fixture scheduled for Mon 27th Feb because of the waterlogged pitch. We were all set to travel to Dewsbury for the re-arranged league match on Mon 6th March, when word came through that the Dewsbury ground was unplayable. Why it took until 4.45pm to discover that was absolutely beyond our comprehension, but the result is that the lads have had no match for a fortnight. And we still have people who argue against summer rugby. Having said that, this must be the wettest autumn/winter on record and Watersheddings is aptly named. Most of the players are developing webbed feet through training constantly in soaking conditions. We play Leeds at home on Friday 10th March and, with a bit of luck, will have avenged our defeat at their hands in Leeds in November by the time you read these notes. At the moment we are still in pole position, 7pts clear at the top of the League with seven matches to play. We need to win four of our remaining games to ensure top place. Our remaining fixtures are as follows:

Leeds (home) 10th March
York (home) Thurs. 15th March
Castleford (away) Thurs. 23rd March
St.Helens (home) Fri. 31st March
Warrington (away) Fri. 7th April
Bradford (away) Mon. 10th April
Dewsbury (away) T.B.A.
We have a number of injuries to contend with at the present time, having been very fortunate in avoiding anything serious for the majority of the season. Damian Ainge has a hairline fracture of the collar-bone, David Bradbury has two broken toes (rumour has it that he kicked a wall in frustration over something, but no one will give me details!!!), Alfie Gouldbourne has a groin injury (no details coming over that one either!), Nigel Heslop has hamstring problems. We wish them all the best and an early recovery. Finally, congratulations to Howard Hill who made his first team debut in the home match against Wakefield. Howard had a fine game, doing everything asked of him and showed that he is certainly a star of the future.

Dennis McHugh
(Alliance Coach)

		FIRST DIVISION						
	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Diff	Pts
Oldham	19	16	0	3	586	354	232	32
St. Helens	19	12	1	6	603	407	196	25
Warrington	20	12	0	8	603	397	206	24
Wigan	18	11	0	7	613	378	235	22
Leeds	18	11	0	7	397	326	71	22
Bradford	18	10	0	8	457	388	69	20
Salford	22	9	0	13	527	447	80	18
Castleford	17	9	0	8	374	359	15	18
Dewsbury	17	9	0	8	377	401	-24	18
Hull	21	9	0	12	435	554	-119	18
Halifax	17	7	0	10	299	439	-140	14
Featherstone	20	7	0	13	402	659	-257	14
Wakefield	21	6	1	14	425	546	-121	13
Ryedale-York	19	4	0	15	313	756	-443	8

ALLIANCE FIRST DIVISION

DATE	OPPONENT	VENUE	K.O.	RES
August				
19th	Halifax	A	7.30	W36-12
26th	Bradford N	H	7.30	W32-26
September				
1st	Blank weekend			
2nd	Wigan	A	7.30	W26-21
10th	Warrington	H	7.30	L10-32
16th	Dewsbury	H	7.30	W20-12
24th	St. Helens LCC Shield RD1		7.30	W46-22
30th	St.Helens	A	7.30	W42-38
October				
8th	Thatto Heath LCC Shield RD2			W61-12
14th	Ryedale Y	A	7.30	W46-29
27th	Widnes LCC Shield Semi			W30-10
28th	Featherstone R	A	7.30	L22-37
29th	YSC Cup & LCC Shield - Semi Finals			
November				
4th	Halifax	H	7.30	W25-10
10th	Dewsbury	A	7.30	
12th	Wigan LCC Shield Final			L10-24
18th	Wakefield T	H	7.30	W28-8
25th	Wigan	H	7.30	W36-6
30th	Leeds	A	7.30	L18-31
December				
9th	Warrington	A	7.30	
16th	Salford	H	7.30	W44-14
24th	Blank weekend			
30th	Hull	A	8.00	W33-16
January				
9th	Wigan (All. C.C. R1)	A	7.30	W31-8
13th	Castleford (T.B.A)			W50-4
20th	Featherstone R	H	7.30	W42-12
February				
1st	Bradford N	A	7.30	
6th	Halifax (All. C.C. R2)	A		W28-22
10th	Salford	A	8.00	
17th	St.Helens	H	7.30	
18th	Warrington (All. Ch. Cup - R3)			L25-38
24th	Hull	H	8.00	W30-14
March				
2nd	Wakefield T	A	7.30	W36-14
10th	Leeds	H	7.30	
11th	Alliance Challenge Cup - Semi Finals			
17th	Ryedale Y	H	7.30	
23rd	Castleford	A	7.30	

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RUFF E. HEAD THE MAN IN THE KNOW

“What a good cup draw, again. Neutrals are probably pleased that the big two were kept apart, whilst those keen to see Wigan lose still have at least some hope, with Widnes showing some kind of return to form in recent weeks. Geographically the games are well spread, and both second division survivors have a realistic chance of a semi-final place. No-one particularly envies Featherstone their trip to Whitehaven, where Kurt Sorenson is receiving the same sort of plaudits as Andy Goodway as a potential future top manager. And Workington won't let Leeds have it all their own way either, I am sure. What of today's game at Watersheddings? The history of matches between the two clubs is a long one, of course. Although we have had the best of them in recent years, including hard-earned cup wins in both 1990 and 1993, no-one will need to tell the players that those are completely irrelevant come 3.00pm today. George Fairburn has put together a very useful-looking side, with real pace in the backs, Steve Kerry getting good reviews as a link-man, and a pack with both size and mobility. We shall soon see! Last Sunday was, of course, very disappointing. We had a few chances and failed to take them, certainly. But I must say that I was impressed by Wakefield. They made remarkably few errors in the second half in particular, and put in the sort of effort which

says a lot about the Harkin/Kelly duo's motivational powers. And why on earth are Wigan looking beyond Nigel Wright as their stand-off? If he hadn't made it back from France, I don't think anyone would dispute the likelihood of our having taken the points with some ease. He works hard on defence, kicks the ball beautifully, and has that something extra with the ball in his hands. Sheer class, in my opinion.

After a season which has been relatively free of injuries, I am sure everyone feels gutted for Shaun Irwin. He has been a real trier ever since he joined us, and has often been a contender for man of the match on days when we have lost heavily. Let us hope that he eventually makes a full recovery. As these notes are written, it looks as though Doncaster may not survive, after all. The main winners, strangely, would be Widnes who have conceded three of Doncaster's eleven points in the league so far. Oldham are one of four sides who stand to lose four points of the Dons go, the others being Leeds, Salford and Warrington. However, it looks increasingly that Doncaster would be playing in the Second Division next season, where of course they have always been prior to this season. It is generally fairly common knowledge that only five teams - Castleford, Leeds, St. Helens, Warrington and Widnes - have been permanent members of the First Division since the current

structure began in 1973, but is perhaps less well-known that only two current Division Two clubs have ever risen above that status - Batley and Highfield. It now seems strange to think that it is only 1990 since Barrow were last a top division side, and that Leigh, Hull and Hull K.R. shared the Division One championship during the years 1981-85. Will the onset of the "Premier League" result in a reduction in the chances of such a major swings of fortune for clubs, I wonder? Perhaps Mr. Lindsay and his men should bear in mind that it was only in 1980 that Wigan shared relegation with Blackpool Borough, when they are deciding league structures!

I included Hull in the above because their home defeat by Sheffield last week makes it considerably more likely that they will be relegated come April, for the first time since 1978. No doubt there would ensure more talk of mergers as a result, on Humberside as well as in Calderdale, given the Halifax situation, and perhaps also in South Yorkshire. With such possibilities, not to mention moves to new grounds, talk of summer rugby, and world leagues, it is very clear that old certainties are dead. The long era of one division and unlimited tackles seems like ancient history!

”

Ian Wilson.

REFLECTIONS

I make no excuse for continuing the story of the 1946 tour to Australia, as this was one of the most outstanding tours in the history of our game. After leaving here on the aircraft carrier, H.M.S. Indomitable on April 4th, it was May 22nd before they were able to play their first tour match against Southern Division, which they won, at a price, for loose forward Harry Murphy (Wakefield T) dislocated his shoulder after 39 minutes and took no further part in the tour. Remember, there were no substitutes in those days and no replacements could be sent for because of the long time it took to get there. They then followed with an even bigger win against Canberra, 45-12, they were running into form. However, they were brought down to earth 3 days later when they met New South Wales in Sydney, before 51,364 howling Aussies, they were held to 14-10. Such was the bad planning by the Australians of the hastily arranged tour that the G.B. team had to play again the following day against a Southern Division team and the leg weary team lost 15-12. Only 5 days later they had to meet the best of Australia in the first Test match. There were 64,527 spectators at Sydney cricket ground and they saw a titanic struggle. It ended in an 8-8 draw, but G.B. were unlucky, they had Jack Kitchen (Bradford N.) sent off in the first half and the usually reliable captain, Gus Risman, missed 8 out of 9 goal kicks. Outstanding for Australia was Lionel Cooper who scored a spectacular try, he

later signed for Huddersfield. I remember him well, he was outstanding for the Fartowners and was an idol of the crowds everywhere he played. After this game the tourists were badly hit by injuries, they had a very tight and unreasonable match schedule. They had to make a number of changes for the 2nd Test in Brisbane, this again attracted a full house, thousands were locked out. The G.B. team played brilliantly, the hero was Arthur Bassett, the big Halifax winger, who scored a hat-trick of tries. Cooper was the only Australian try scorer. The "Pommes" won by 14-5. The team went from strength to strength, setting up new records, running in big scores against most teams, their highest being 94-0 against Mackay in Queensland. In 1979 I was privileged to travel with the G.B. team and officials on the 1979 tour and I recall the first match was at Mackay and it took them all their time to win. The last match of the 1946 tour was the final Test in Sydney, the Ashes were at stake, G.B. had a poor first half and were losing 7-2 but they put their house in order at half time and shocked the Aussie team and spectators by a brilliant 2nd half performance, scoring 4 tries and Risman kicked 3 goals, thus winning the Ashes. Australian clubs approached several of the British players with long term contracts, none accepted. However, the following season it was our clubs who were offering contracts to the Australians, and some of them who accepted the bait and made a big

impact on our game were Johnny Hunter and Pat Devery (Huddersfield), Arthur Clues and Bert Cook (Leeds) and many others. When the tour ended they continued on to New Zealand, but by this time the players were just exhausted and leg weary. They only played 7 matches, including just one Test, but they never showed the sparkle they had in Australia, they still won 5 out of 7 matches but they lost the important test match, 8-13. They left Wellington to sail home on the S.S. Rangitiki on August 14th. After a most gruelling tour the players could sit back and enjoy the sail, via the Pacific Ocean, Panama Canal, and for some reason the ship was diverted to New York, causing a further delay and they did not arrive at Tilbury until Sept 23rd. They had been away over 6 months, no wonder they named them "The Indomitables", could you imagine the modern day players putting up with such a tour? Despite their success, there was no official reception for them when they arrived back in Leeds. Whilst on board ship the players had a meeting and agreed to send a letter to the R.L. Council about the poor conditions they had to endure - poor hotels, loss of luggage and clothing which had been stolen, some players said they were out of pocket. They agreed to ask for some compensation, they gave the letter to Mr W Gabbatt, tour manager, but the R.L. Council turned down their request, thanks for nothing. However, the Council awarded each player £123, their share of tour profits, as agreed in their contracts. After such a tremendous tour, that seemed very little reward, don't you think.

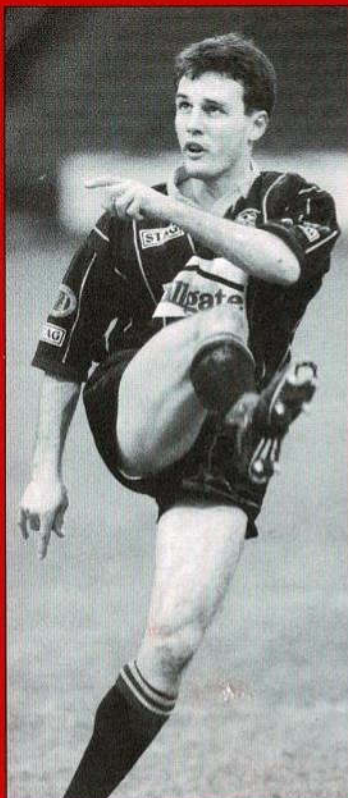
George Lunn



TRY AGAIN!

VAUX SAMSON - ITS STRENGTH IS ITS TASTE

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING 1994-95



NEWS ON FORMER PLAYERS

Steve Kerry former Oldham scrum half, now playing great rugby for Huddersfield, signed for Oldham from Salford RLC by Peter Tunks. Steve who works for our main sponsors Vaux played rugby union for Preston Grasshoppers before he signed for Salford

Answers

1. Geoff Munro
2. Mike Kuiti
3. Kirklees Stadium
4. 1962, Wakefield Trinity (Lost 12-6)
5. Martin Strett (1 try, 8 goals)
6. Ian Thomas (21 tries)
7. Darren Abram
8. Joe Nadiolo
9. Hugh Waddell
10. Austin and Hanger

DATE	OPPONENT	K.O.	Res	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AUGUST																		
21st	Halifax	3.00	L 20-40	Gibson	Jones	Irwin	Abram T	Ranson	Gartland G6	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Parr	Lord	Davidson	Kuiti	Richards T	Heslop
28th	Bradford Northern	3.00	L 14-36	Gibson T	Jones	Irwin	Abram	Ranson	Gartland G1	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Parr	Lord	Davidson	Kuiti	Richards T2	Heslop
SEPTEMBER																		
4th	Wigan	3.00	L 58-10	Gibson T	Jones	Irwin T	Abram	Ranson T	Gartland G1	Crompton T	Sherratt	Clarke	Richards	Lord	Davidson	Kuiti	Parr	Topping
11th	Warrington	3.00	L 55-6	Heslop	Jones	Irwin	Abram	Ranson	Gartland G1	Crompton T	Sherratt	Clarke	Parr	Lord	Davidson	Kuiti	Richards	Faimalo
18th	Doncaster	3.00	W 44-8	Heslop T	Jones	Irwin T	Abram T	Ranson	Topping T 6g	Crompton ZT	Sherratt	Clarke	Parr	Lord T	Faimalo T	Kuiti	Richards	Gartland
25th	Hull	3.15	W 21-17	Heslop	Jones T	Irwin	Abram ZT	Ranson	Topping 4g	Crompton 1dg	Sherratt	Clarke	Faimalo	Lord	Green	Kuiti	Gartland	Davidson
OCTOBER																		
2nd	St. Helens	3.00	D 18-18	Heslop	Jones T	Irwin	Abram	Ranson	Topping 5g	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Parr	Lord T	Faimalo	Kuiti	Gibson	Temu
9th	Wakefield Trinity	3.30	L 16-21	Heslop	Jones	Irwin	Abram	Ranson	Topping 3g	Crompton T	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti ZT	Davidson	Gibson
14th	Widnes (BSKYB)	7.30	W 29-0	Gibson	Jones	Irwin T	Abram T	Ranson T	Topping 4g	Crompton TDg	Sherratt	Clarke	Parr	Lord T	Faimalo	Kuiti	Heslop	Temu
30th	Featherstone Rovers	3.00	L 10-20	Gibson	Jones	Irwin	Abrams T	Ranson	Topping 3g	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Faimalo	Lord	Kuiti	Heslop	Parr
NOVEMBER																		
6th	Halifax	3.00	L 34-8	Gibson	Heslop	Irwin	Abram T	Ranson	Topping	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu T	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti	Jones	Norman
22nd	Bradford Northern	7.30	W 32-12	Gibson ZT	Jones	Irwin	Abram ZT	Ranson	Topping 3g	Crompton 2dg	Sherratt	Clarke T	Temu	Lord T	Faimalo	Kuiti	Green	Bradbury
27th	Wigan	3.00	L 46-0	Gibson	Jones	Irwin	Abram	Ranson	Topping	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti	Green	Bradbury
DECEMBER																		
4th	Hull K.R. (RT Rd2)	3.00	W 28-0	Gibson	Jones T	Irwin T	Abram CT	Ranson CT	Topping 4g	Crompton	Sherratt	Stephenson	Temu	Lord	Faimalo T	Kuiti	Green	Bradbury
11th	Warrington	3.00	W 52-22	Gibson	Jones	Irwin	Abram T	Ranson T	Topping ZT 8g	Crompton T	Sherratt	Stephenson	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti T	Marsh T	Green ZT
18th	Widnes (RT Rd3)	3.00	L 6-20	Gibson	Jones	Irwin T	Abram	Ranson	Topping g	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Faimalo	Lord	Kuiti	Marsh	Green
26th	Salford	3.00	W 16-12	Gibson	Belle T	Irwin	Abram	Ranson	Topping 4g	Crompton T	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti	Marsh	Davidson
JANUARY																		
1st	Workington Town	3.00	W 20-10	Gibson	Belle	Irwin	Abram	Ranson 3T	Topping 2g	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti TT	Gartland	Davidson
8th	Leeds	3.00	L 14-21	Gibson	Belle	Irwin TT	Abram	Ranson	Topping TT 3g	Crompton	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti	Marsh	Parr
22nd	Sheffield Eagles	3.00	L 12-14	Gibson	Belle	Irwin	Abram	Ranson TT	Topping 2g	Crompton T	Sherratt	Clarke	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti	Bradbury	Green
FEBRUARY																		
5th	Hull	3.00	W 19-14	Gibson	Belle	Topping G	Abram T	Ranson	Marsh 4g 1dg	Crompton T	Sherratt	Stephenson	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti	Irwin	Green
11th	Bramley (S.C.C.C. Rd 4)	3.00	W 19-10	Gibson ZT	Belle T	Topping T	Abram ZT	Ranson ZT	Marsh TT 1g	Gartland ZT	Norman	Stephenson	Temu	Green	Faimalo	Kuiti	Irwin	Davidson TT
15th	Doncaster	7.30	W 22-14	Gibson T	Jones	Kuiti T	Abram	Belle	Marsh 7g	Gartland	Sherratt	Stephenson	Temu	Faimalo	Davidson	Green	Lord	Norman
19th	St. Helens	3.00	L 22-32	Gibson	Belle	Topping	Abram	Ranson ZT	Marsh 3g	Gartland T	Norman	Stephenson	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti	Crompton	Davidson
25th	Warrington (S.C.C.C. Rd 5)	3.00	W 17-6	Gibson	Belle	Topping	Gartland DG	Ranson T	Marsh 4g	Crompton	Norman	Stephenson	Temu	Lord	Faimalo T	Kuiti	Green	Davidson
MARCH																		
5th	Wakefield Trinity	3.00	L 10-12	Gibson	Belle	Topping	Gartland	Ranson T	Marsh 3g	Crompton	Norman	Stephenson	Temu	Lord	Faimalo	Kuiti	Hill	Davidson
11th	Silk Cut Challenge Cup (Rd 6)																	
19th	Widnes	3.00																
26th	Castleford	3.00																
APRIL																		
2nd	Leeds	3.30																
9th	Sheffield Eagles	3.15																
14th	Salford	3.00																
17th	Workington Town	3.00																
23rd	Featherstone Rovers	3.30																

HOME FIXTURES ARE DENOTED IN BOLD CAPITAL LETTERS

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP DIV. 1										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	DF	Pts		
Wigan	21	20	0	1	744	270	474	40		
Leeds	22	19	1	2	644	367	277	39		
Bradford Northern	23	14	1	8	594	430	164	29		
St. Helens	22	14	1	7	597	445	152	29		
Halifax	21	13	2	6	553	360	193	28		
Warrington	21	12	2	7	510	374	136	26		
Castleford	21	12	2	7	554	424	130	26		
OLDHAM	22	9	1	12	415	516	-101	19		
Sheffield Eagles	22	9	0	13	428	552	-124	18		
Salford	21	8	1	12	424	488	-64	17		
Workington	23	8	1	14	356	572	-216	17		
Wakefield Trinity	23	8	0	15	345	568	-223	16		
Featherstone	22	6	1	15	420	492	-72	13		
Widnes	20	6	1	13	261	470	-209	13		
Doncaster	22	5	1	16	360	644	-284	11		
Hull	22	3	1	18	404	637	-233	7		



PHIL BLYTH FROM CLASSIQUE SHAKING HANDS WITH FEBRUARY'S PLAYER OF THE MONTH JOE FAIMALO

CLASSIQUE JEWELLERS PLAYER OF THE MONTH MERIT AWARD

OLDHAM V WAKEFIELD

GIBSON	5
FAIMALO	3
TEMU	1

JUNIOR ROUGHY'EDS

Welcome to today's game and I hope you are all in fine voice ready to cheer the team onwards to the Semi-Final of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup. Good luck to Andy, Alan and the lads from ALL the Junior Roughy'eds.

Watch this space for details of a sponsored walk, this is your chance to help raise funds for the club.

Best regards,
Sue.

SUPPORTERS CLUB

The Supporters Club would like to extend a warm welcome today to everyone from Huddersfield for the Quarter Final of the Challenge Cup. It is an important boost for both Clubs & Towns to be involved in the latter stages of such a prestigious competition, and may the best team win. The Supporters Club will be holding an end of season draw, and we are looking to ALL supporters for their help in both buying and selling tickets, to raise as much money as possible for club funds. Further details will follow at a later date.

Best regards,
Alice Collinge (Chairperson).

CLASSIQUE JEWELLERS PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Present Positions

KUITI	46
CROMPTON	28
CLARKE	26

ACADEMY UPDATE

"WELL DONE LADS, A GREAT EFFORT"



David Stephenson had a great game against Warrington



Due to work commitments and a breakdown on the motorway our Academy side fielded a very weakened side away to Hunslet last Saturday, but out of adversity something good always comes out of it and for me, one of the pleasing aspects was a top performance by a relative newcomer to the side John Power. He played out of position, gave a top class display of running, tackling and most of all, very few errors. Well done John, keep it up. Getting back to the match, we came away with a 28 points to 8 win in so doing getting the four points of Hunslet having already beaten them at home. We scored three great tries in the first half by Ian Hannan, Billy Tindall and Richard Mort -

another newcomer to the side, scoring his first try for the club. Two goals by Richard Badby sent us in to the break at 16 points to 2, Hunslet having kicked a penalty goal. On the resumption another well worked try by Jimmy Cowans who is having a great season put us in a commanding lead. From that position we played with confidence and the ball went between several pairs of hands before sending Billy Tindall in for his second try. Richard Badby converting and kicking a penalty goal to finish our scoring. Hunslet adding a try and a goal right on the hooter to finish their scoring and we were disappointed to let that try in but well done lads a great effort.

Brian Gartland

NEW CLUBCALL NUMBER 0891 - 122 772

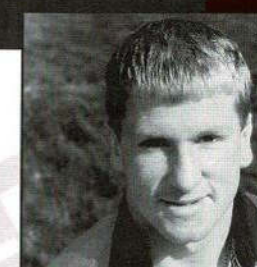
PLAYER SPONSORSHIP



IAN SHERRATT
Bill & Brenda Rogers



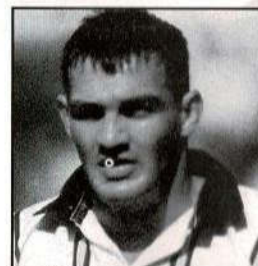
JOHN CLARKE
Arc Electrical



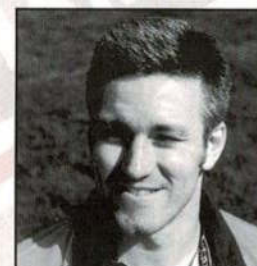
MARTIN CROMPTON
Charleswood Bedrooms



WALLY GIBSON
Specsavers



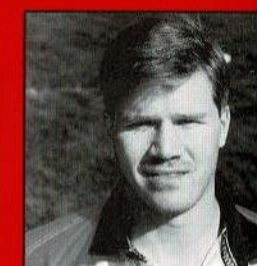
SHAUN IRWIN
Shaun & Pat Whelan



NIGEL HESLOP
Alex Hammond



CHRIS PARR
Irene & Helen Calow



DARREN ABRAM
COCKFIELD FARM

WE'VE CURED HEADACHES FOR THE ROUGHYEDS



Manufacturers of upholstery fillings for over a century, Platt & Hill make foam and fibre fillings of the highest quality right here in Oldham.

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