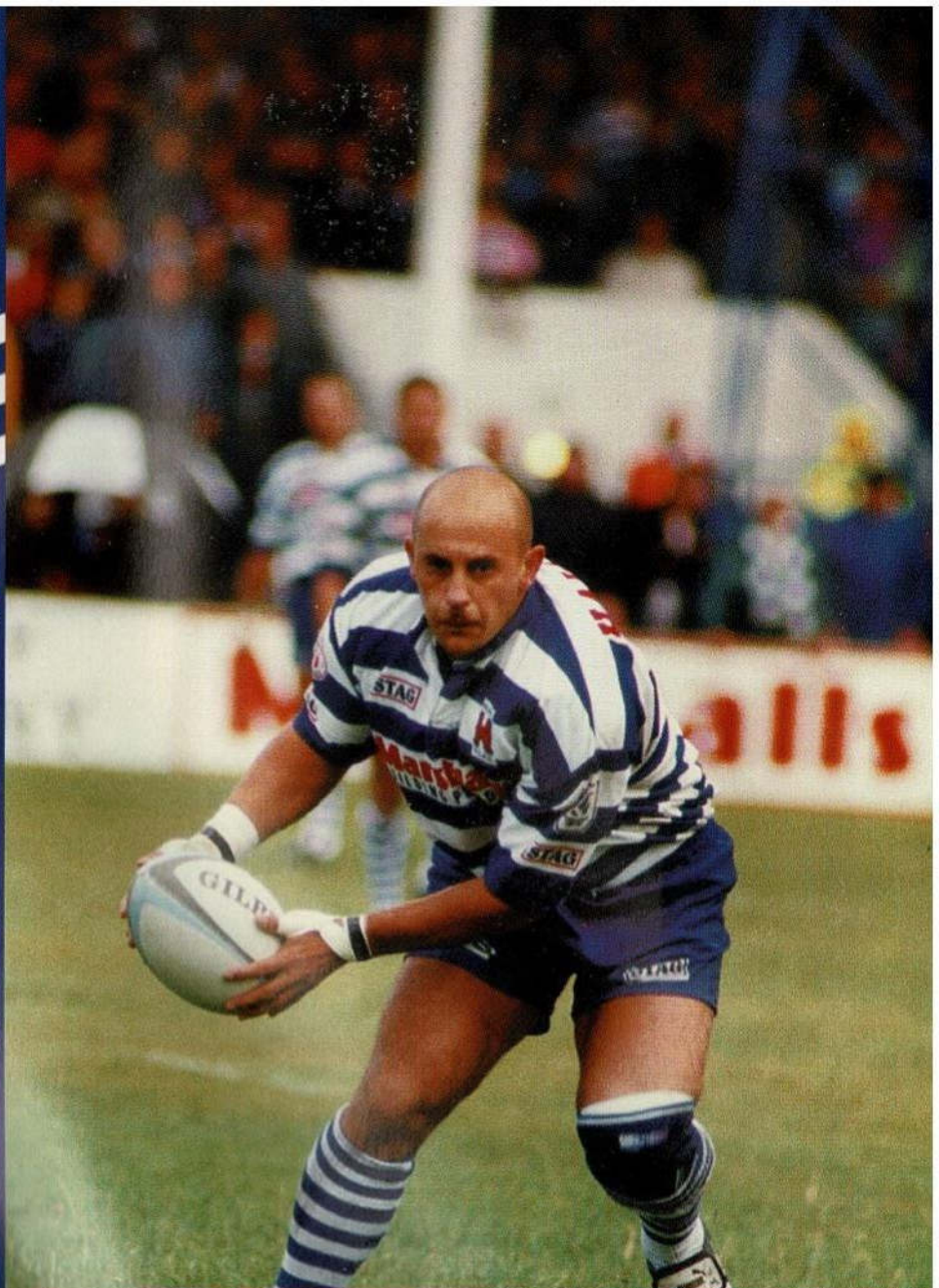






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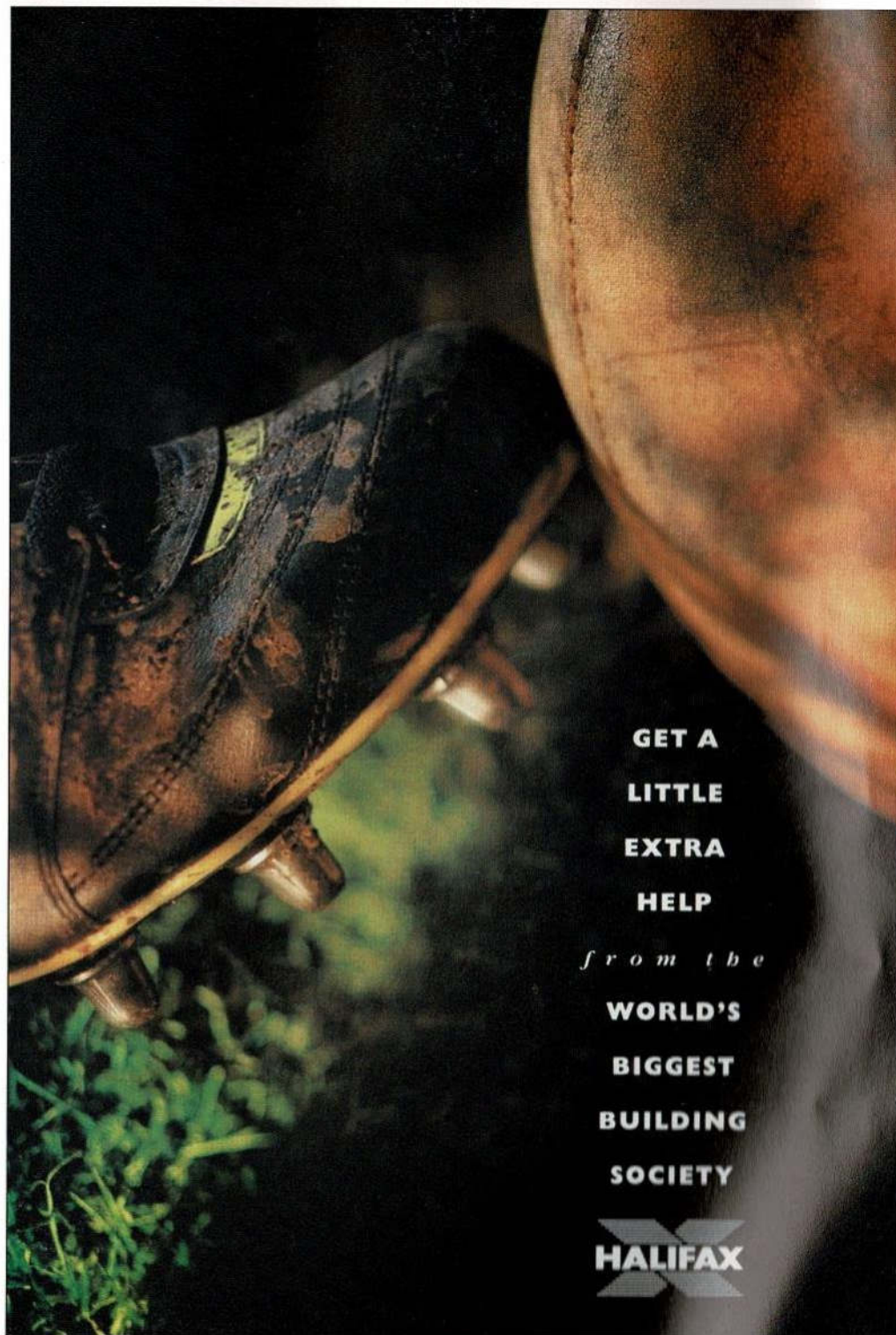
STONES BITTER CENTENARY CHAMPIONSHIP

Today's **TEAM LINE-UP**

HALIFAX		Team Changes	T	G	Dg
1	Mike UMAGA	.....			
2	Abi EKOKU	.....			
3	Asa AMONE	.....			
4	Grant ANDERSON	.....			
5	Fereti TULAGI	.....			
6	Craig DEAN	.....			
7	Wayne PARKER	.....			
8	Karl HARRISON	.....			
9	Paul ROWLEY	.....			
10	Martin KETTERIDGE	.....			
11	Michael JACKSON	.....			
12	Carl GILLESPIE	.....			
13	Simon BALDWIN	.....			
14	Carl BRIGGS	.....			
15	TBA	.....			
16	TBA	.....			
17	TBA	.....			

OLDHAM		Team Changes	T	G	Dg
1	Paul ATCHESON	.....			
2	Afi LEUILA	.....			
3	Paul TOPPING	.....			
4	Darren ABRAM	.....			
5	Adrian BELLE	.....			
6	Francis MALONEY	.....			
7	Martin CROMPTON	.....			
8	Craig RICHARDS	.....			
9	Chris MCKINNEY	.....			
10	Jason TEMU	.....			
11	Ian GILDART	.....			
12	David BRADBURY	.....			
13	Howard HILL	.....			
14	Gary BURNS	.....			
15	Chris PARR	.....			
16	Paul CROCK				
17	Paul NORMAN				

OFFICIALS: Ref: D. CAMPBELL (Widnes) · Touch Judges: TBA



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Welcome... TO THRUM HALL

WELCOME to Thrum Hall to all spectators this afternoon and a Happy New Year to one and all from the Directors, Players and Staff.

It seems strange to be entering a New Year with only three home league games remaining, but 1996 is going to be an epic year in Rugby League terms as the game enters a new epoch.

With a whole new global audience waiting to be converted to the finest collision sport in the world the events of the next few months will be seen as a turning point in the future of the game. We are also hoping to welcome Kiwi Martin Moana this afternoon. We received his work permit in the week before Christmas and were trying to get him on a flight from New Zealand as this

programme went to press.

Any addition to the playing staff is more than welcome as we have had far too many breaks of the wrong type in the period leading up to the festive season.

Martin is here for the first two seasons of super league as well as the rump of this campaign and we wish him every success.

We will be unveiling our season ticket prices for Super League in the near future and also launching our full range of hospitality initiatives so watch the local press for further details or ring 361026.

The Alliance team are at home to York this coming Thursday as they continue their race for the title.

Come and cheer the lads on.



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**GOOD AFTERNOON
Happy New Year!**

It seems a bit odd, however for me to be writing that, as, due to printing deadlines because of the Christmas holidays, I'm actually writing this on December 18th!

Far from having today's game against Oldham in my mind, I'm still looking at facing Sheffield Eagles on Wednesday with our injury list longer than ever due to Mike Umaga needing stitches in a leg wound, and Wayne Parker's wrist injury.

It seems that whoever is responsible for doling out injuries is concentrating on our best players! Wayne is the form halfback in the league at the moment, controlling our game brilliantly, and Mike has been devastating since his arrival, considering he's from Union his progress in this game is even more remarkable.

Having said all that, I know that whoever plays at Sheffield (and Bradford on Boxing Day) will give their best. We have some excellent junior prospects in the Club, and although the deep end is not the preferred place for a baptism, they've reacted well to the experience. The game at Wigan showed how well young players *do* perform with the right attitude and raw enthusiasm, and because of their involvement we nearly took



Wigan all the way at Central Park.

Workington's performance against us in our last game at Thrum Hall is another such case, they came without several first choice players due to their own injury problems and really made us work hard for the points.

Our visitors today will still be fired up from that marvellous victory over Wigan. It was a tremendous performance with the ex-Wigan lads Paul Atcheson and Martin Crompton starring. Although The Bears as they are now known occupy a lowly spot in the competition we will not be underestimating them.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting us over the last 12 months, I look forward to 1996 and the major changes that this will bring. There are exciting times ahead!

Steve Simms

**TAVERNERS NEWS****Happy New Year!**

Hopefully we finished off 1995 with a win at Odsal on Boxing Day - providing of course that we had sufficient fit players to put a team out!

This will of course be the last year for 'Festive Fixtures', what are we going to do now? There'll be no excuse for not visiting the relatives!

A good time was had by all on Christmas Eve, and a big thank you goes to the Supporters Club for providing the entertainment.

If you haven't yet renewed your membership this should be done without delay. If you're on the waiting list a review of available places will be made at the end of January and invitations to join will be extended dependant on the number of memberships not renewed.

The Alliance Team are here for their final home fixture of the season - against - York this Thursday. A recording of today's game will be shown after the match.

Next Sunday we are away at Castleford. The bar will be open on our return and warm food will be available. There will also be a match on Sky Sports at 7pm. We would ask our members to support this as, with dwindling numbers, we may have to review whether it is cost effective to open. A recording of the game at Wheldon Road will be shown in the bar the following Thursday at 8.00pm.

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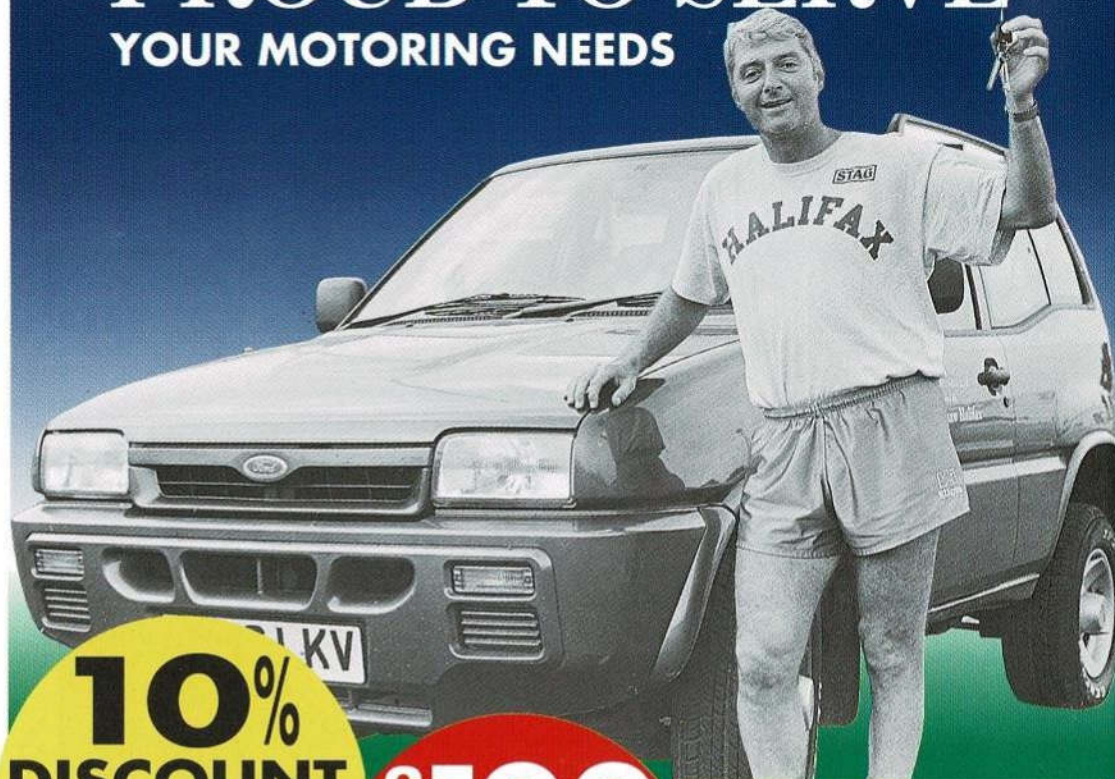
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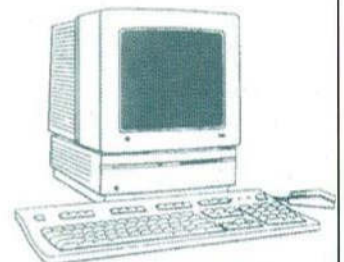
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Rugby League

IN TOUCH

Player	95 /96					Halifax Career				
	App	G	DG	T	Pts	App	G	DG	T	Pts
Asa Amone	12	4	0	1	12	12	4	0	1	12
Grant Anderson	12	0	0	2	8	14	0	0	2	8
Simon Baldwin	15	0	0	7	28	39	0	0	12	48
John Bentley	12	0	0	10	40	107	1	0	84	338
Carl Briggs	15	0	9	3	21	15	0	9	3	21
Craig Dean	11	0	0	4	16	22	0	0	6	24
Gary Divorty	4	0	0	0	0	104	0	3	32	131
Abi Ekoku	11	0	0	4	16	11	0	0	4	16
John Fieldhouse	13	0	0	0	0	111	0	0	14	56
Carl Gillespie	17	0	0	5	20	28	0	0	7	28
Karl Harrison	14	0	0	1	4	124	0	0	10	40
Paul Highton	10	0	0	2	8	11	0	0	3	12
Michael Jackson	13	0	0	2	8	51	0	0	7	28
Wayne Jackson	10	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0
Andy James	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Martin Ketteridge	6	1	0	0	2	17	1	0	1	6
Richard Marshall	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Paul Moriarty	10	0	0	2	8	40	0	0	10	40
Damian Munro	2	0	0	1	4	3	0	0	2	8
Wayne Parker	14	0	1	5	21	38	0	1	8	33
Mark Perrett	9	0	0	2	8	74	0	0	9	36
Mark Preston	9	0	0	1	4	131	0	0	90	360
Paul Rowley	13	0	0	3	12	36	0	0	8	32
John Schuster	12	48	0	4	112	79	255	2	40	672
Michael Slicker	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Roy Southernwood	6	0	0	0	0	147	0	1	20	81
Freddie Tullagi	7	0	0	3	12	7	0	0	3	12
Mike Umaga	16	5	0	7	38	16	5	0	7	38

(Up to and including Dec 17th)

FAX H STATS



SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP THIRD ROUND DRAW

Pennine League side West Bowling, who produced the shock of the silk Cut Challenge Cup Second Round when they defeated National Conference Premiership side Wigan St Patricks, got an early Christmas present today - an away trip to Second Division promotion hopefuls Carlisle in the third round.

West Bowling were written off as virtual no hopers when they were drawn away at St Pats but, with scrum-half Terry Pool outstanding, they thoroughly deserved their 13 - 6 victory. Carlisle who have produced their fair share of shocks this season certainly will not be relishing the visit of the Yorkshire amateurs.

Conference First Division sides Eastmoor and Thornhill both knocked out premiership opposition - Eastmoor defeating Leigh Miners and Thornhill beating Hemel Hempstead.

Eastmoor now face a tough task at Second Division table-toppers Hull KR while Thatto Heath must make the short trip to Chorley Chieftans.

The Silk Cut Challenge Cup is now in its 12th season and to mark the occasion there is record prize money of £322,000 with an additional £128,000 being donated to the Rugby Football League's capital development fund.

The ten winners of the ties go into the fourth round draw along with the 11 championship and 11 First Division clubs.

The replay between Egremont and Woolston Rovers will be on Saturday 23rd December 1995, kick-off to be confirmed.

DRAW

Leigh Centurions	v	Egremont (or)
		Woolston Rovers
Chorley	v	Thatto Heath
York	v	Lock Lane
Carlisle	v	West Bowling
Swinton	v	Thornhill
Barrow Braves	v	Doncaster Dragons
Hunslet Hawks	v	Skirlaugh
Highfield	v	West Hull
Bramley	v	Heworth
Hull KR	v	Eastmoor

Ties to be played on Sunday, 14th January 1996.

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Miss Evening Courier 1995 Hayley Boughen. Photo - Picture The Scene

FIXTURES	Att	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
AUGUST																			
23 LONDON BRONCOS	4946	W 50-12	Umaga 1T	Bentley 1T	Schuster 2T8G	Anderson	Preston 1T	Briggs 1T2G	Parker 1T	Harrison	Rowley	W. Jackson	Morarty	M. Jackson	Baldwin 1T	Ekoku	Divory	Fieldhouse	Gillespie
27 BRADFORD BULLS	6156	W 20-10	Umaga	Bentley 1T	Schuster 4G	Anderson	Preston	Briggs	Parker	Harrison	Rowley	W. Jackson	Morarty	M. Jackson	Baldwin 1T	Ekoku	Divory	Fieldhouse	Gillespie
SEPTEMBER																			
1 Oldham	2838	W 21-4	Umaga	Bentley	Schuster 4G	Baldwin	Preston	Anderson	Briggs 1DG	Harrison	Rowley 2T	W. Jackson	Morarty	M. Jackson	Divory	Ekoku	Fieldhouse	Gillespie	Southernwood
6 WIGAN	7776	L 13-48	Umaga	Bentley	Schuster 2G	Anderson	Preston	Briggs 1T1DG	Parker	Harrison	Rowley	W. Jackson	Morarty	M. Jackson	Baldwin	Ekoku	Divory	Fieldhouse	Gillespie
10 Leeds	12340	L 27-40	Umaga	Bentley 1T	Schuster 3G	Hochinson	Preston	Briggs 1T1DG	Parker	Harrison	Rowley	Fieldhouse	Morarty	M. Jackson	Baldwin 1T	Ekoku 2T	Amore	Ketteridge	Gillespie
17 SHEFFIELD EAGLES	3324	W 24-6	Umaga 1T	Bentley 4T	Schuster 2G	Highton	Ekoku	Briggs	Parker	Harrison	Southernwood	Fieldhouse	Morarty 1T	Gillespie	Baldwin	Dean	Perrett	James	M. Sicker
24 WARRINGTON TOWN	3012	W 24-17	Umaga 2G	Bentley 1T	Amore	Highton 1T	Ekoku 2T	Briggs	Parker	Harrison	Southernwood	Fieldhouse	Morarty 1T	Gillespie	Baldwin	Dean	Perrett	James	M. Sicker
29 CASTLEFORD	3891	W 19-10	Umaga 3G	Bentley	Amore	Highton	Ekoku	Briggs 1G	Parker 1T	Harrison	Southernwood	Fieldhouse	Morarty	Gillespie 1T	Baldwin	Dean	Preston	Highton	Perrett
NOVEMBER																			
1 Warrington	7197	W 16-14	Umaga 1T	Ekoku	Schuster 4G	Amore	Preston	Briggs	Parker 1T	W. Jackson	Rowley	Ketteridge	Perrett	Gillespie	Baldwin	Dean	Anderson	Highton	M. Jackson
5 St Helens	7882	L 20-58	Umaga 1T	Bentley	Schuster 4G	Amore	Tuaghi 1T	Anderson	Parker	Harrison	Rowley	W. Jackson	Perrett	Gillespie 1T	Baldwin	Briggs	Highton	Ketteridge	M. Sicker
12 SWINTON (RT 2)	2994	W 20-18	Umaga	Tuaghi	Amore	Anderson	Preston	Schuster 1T4G	Dean	Sicker	Rowley	Fieldhouse	Perrett	Gillespie 1T	Highton 1T	M. Jackson	Briggs	Perrett	Preston
15 London Broncos	1825	L 27-38	Umaga 1T	Ekoku	Schuster 5G	Anderson	Tuaghi	Briggs 1DG	Dean 1T	W. Jackson	Rowley	Fieldhouse	M. Jackson	Amore	Highton	Gillespie 1T	Baldwin	Perrett 1T	Preston
26 London Broncos (RT3)	1205	W 22-18	Umaga	Bentley 2T	Schuster 1T6G	Amore	Tuaghi 1T	Dean	Parker	Harrison	Rowley	Fieldhouse	Morarty	M. Jackson	Gillespie	Highton	W. Jackson	Briggs	Perrett
DECEMBER																			
3 LEEDS	5378	W 29-10	Umaga	Bentley	Schuster 4G	Anderson	Tuaghi	Dean 2T	Parker 2T1DG	Harrison	Southernwood	Fieldhouse	M. Jackson 1T	Amore	Gillespie	W. Jackson	Baldwin	Highton	Briggs
10 St Helens (RT 4)	7419	L 18-46	Umaga 2T	Bentley	Amore 3G	Anderson	Tuaghi	Dean	Parker	Harrison	Southernwood	Fieldhouse	Morarty	M. Jackson	Gillespie	Rowley	Baldwin 1T	Marshall	Briggs
13 Wigan	8813	L 18-32	Amore 1G	Ekoku	Tuaghi 1T	Anderson	Munro 1T	Dean	Parker	Harrison	Rowley	Ketteridge	Jackson	Gillespie	Baldwin 2G	Highton	Perrett	Marshall	Briggs
17 WARRINGTON TOWN	3342	W 26-12	Umaga	Ekoku	Amore 1T	Anderson	Munro	Dean 1T	Parker	Harrison	Rowley 1T	Ketteridge 1G	Jackson	Gillespie	Baldwin 1T	Highton	Perrett	Briggs	W. Jackson
20 Sheffield Eagles																			
26 Bradford Bulls																			
30 Regal Trophy (Semi)																			
JANUARY																			
1 OLDHAM																			
6 Regal Trophy (Semi)																			
7 Castleford																			
13 Regal Trophy (Final)																			
14 WARRINGTON																			
21 ST HELENS																			



Bill King of Willand Engineering presents Wayne Parker with his 'Top Tackle' award following the game against Leeds.

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**GOOD AFTERNOON
& HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Our last Alliance game saw our first defeat in 11 games.

It was a game we should have won. We had the game wrapped up 10 minutes into the second half at 16 points to 4, but then a couple of decisions went against us and we squandered a couple of try scoring opportunities, eventually losing the game by a single point - ironically it was a very similar situation in our game against Wakefield at Thrum Hall, although we were the ones snatching victory that night. I'm not using the decisions as an excuse, we can only look at ourselves for the reasons for losing, but sometimes it takes defeat to learn some lessons, and I'm sure that's what we've done.

We're now in the position where to win the Davison 1 title we have to win our remaining 5 fixtures - a tall order but one which, if we apply ourselves and put the hard work in - we can achieve. Our initial objective when we set out at the start of the season was to take that title, and I see no reason to deviate from that now.

We've got a couple of tricky away



games

to come, the toughest of which is away to Hull Kingston Rovers, who are our main rivals for the title. We've also got a trip to Derwent Park in Cumbria, which is not the easiest place to visit - especially at this time of year, but we'll apply ourselves to the task and I'm sure we'll do the business there.

Of the remaining fixtures, we've a couple of home games left, against York and Leigh. The York game is this coming Thursday, so I hope you'll be here to give them your support and see them get off to a winning start in 1996.

Tony Anderson

**ALLIANCE FIXTURES
CENTENARY SEASON****AUGUST**

Thurs	17	FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	H	W	20 - 10
Thurs	24	Widnes	A	L	8 - 30
Thurs	31	HULL KR	H	W	20 - 16

SEPTEMBER

Thurs	7	WAKEFIELD TRINITY	H	W	20 - 18
Thurs	14	Sheffield Eagles	A	W	40 - 8
Sat	23	WORKINGTON TOWN	H	W	23 - 20
Thurs	28	Leigh	A	W	41 - 20

NOVEMBER

Thurs	2	KEIGHLEY COUGARS	H	W	54 - 15
Thurs	9	WIDNES	H	W	29 - 28
Thurs	16	Featherstone Rovers	A	W	35 - 30
Thurs	30	York	A	W	30 - 22

DECEMBER

Thurs	7	SHEFFIELD EAGLES	H	W	33 - 20
Thurs	14	Wakefield Trinity	A	L	18 - 19
Thurs	28	Keighley Cougars	A		7.30pm

JANUARY

Thurs	4	YORK	H		7.30pm
Sat	13	Workington Town	A		2.30pm
Thurs	18	Hull KR	A		7.30pm
Thurs	21	LEIGH	H		



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Challenge Cup Winners

1898/99, 1924/25, 1926/27

Beaten finalists 1906/07, 1911/12, 1923/24, 1925/26

Second Division/Divisional Premiership

Winners 1987/88, 1989/90

Beaten finalists 1991/92

Lancashire Cup Winners

1907/08, 1910/11, 1913/14, 1919/20, 1924/25, 1933/34, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1958/59

Beaten Finalists

1908/09, 1911/12, 1918/19, 1921/22, 1954/55, 1966/67, 1968/69, 1986/87, 1989/90

Lancashire League Winners

1897/98, 1900/01, 1907/08, 1909/10, 1921/22, 1956/57, 1957/58

OLDHAM, who officially adopted the 'Bears' nickname a few weeks ago, are our first visitors of 1996.

At the time of writing they are placed 10th in the Championship, with 4 wins from 15 games played, although the most recent was against Wigan at Watersheddings courtesy of a last minute Martin Crompton try.

The Bears have been perceived as 'building' for the Superleague season, and Coach Andy Goodway has pledged his future to the Club after being linked with the coaching duties at Paris. Goodway, who is also a member of the England coaching team, is a highly rated young coach who was nominated for Coach of The Year last term, and he has made some astute signings.

Paul Atcheson, the ex-Wigan full back is one of them, and his performance in the defeat of his old club was a major factor in the victory. Half-backs Martin Crompton and Francis Maloney are always dangermen - both potential matchwinners forming an effective partnership at Watersheddings.

Oldham have announced they will play their Superleague matches at Boundary Park and Maine Road - whilst a new council owned stadium is developed at Westwood Park, adjacent to the Oldham Athletic soccer ground.



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PAUL ATCHESON

Outstanding attacking full-back. A product of Blackbrook juniors (St. Helens) who turned professional with Widnes in 1990. Moved to Wigan and then joined Oldham last May for £50,000. Has represented Great Britain at academy and under-21 level and was a member of the Welsh squad in the 1995 European and World Championships. Versatile player who can play in any of the outside back positions.

SCOTT RANSON

Fast and elusive winger. A product of Thatto Heath juniors (St. Helens) who turned professional with Swinton in 1987. Was top try scorer at Swinton during his last two seasons with the Lions. Joined Oldham in February 1992 and has continued his prolific try scoring feats at Watersheddings.

WALLY GIBSON

Talented Australian utility back whose unpredictability makes him a dangerous attacker. Played for the Tunnidcliffe club in Australia before joining Huddersfield in 1989. Became a firm favourite with the Fartown followers who were disappointed when he moved to Oldham in September 1992. Can play in any back position but has been playing mainly on the wing in recent matches.

DARREN ABRAM

Prolific try scoring centre who has been Oldham's top try scorer during the past two seasons. Has also been club top try scorer during his spells with Rochdale Hornets and Trafford Borough. A product of Thatto Heath juniors (St. Helens) who won BARLA international honours before turning professional with Warrington in 1985. Had a spell on loan with Swinton before moving to Chorley Borough. Was with Borough when club switched to Altrincham and changed name to Trafford Borough. Abram then had a spell with Rochdale Hornets before joining Oldham in February 1993.

PAUL TOPPING

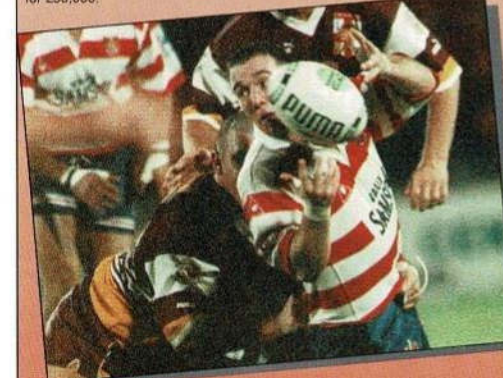
Utility player who is equally effective whether at centre, stand-off or loose-forward. Outstanding defender and also Oldham's top point scorer during the past two seasons. Topping is a product of the Wigan St. Patricks junior club who turned professional with Swinton in August 1985. He had a spell on loan with Mansfield before joining Leigh in 1990 and then transferring to Oldham in September 1993. Topping made one appearance for Lancashire in 1991 and was included in the Ireland squad for last autumn's Emerging Nations World Championship.

AFI LEUILA

Tough tackling centre Afi Leuilai joined Oldham last October from the Counties-Manukau club of New Zealand. Leuilai had a spell with St. Helens last season and then spent the summer with North Queensland Cowboys. He has played rugby union for Tonga.

ROB MYLER

Versatile back equally at home either at full-back or on the wing. A product of the Widnes St. Maries junior club who turned professional with Warrington in 1989. Had a spell on loan at Salford last season. Transferred to Oldham last May for £50,000.



FRANCIS MALONEY

Powerfully built stand-off and accurate positional kicker. A product of the St. John Fisher junior club (Dewsbury) who turned professional with Leeds in 1990. Moved to Featherstone Rovers in 1992 and won Great Britain under-21 recognition whilst at Post Office Road. Transferred to Warrington in May 1994 but did not settle at Wilderspool and so he moved on to Oldham in May 1995 for £50,000. Took over the goal kicking duties at Watersheddings.

MARTIN CROMPTON

Scrum half, captain and the orchestrator of most of Oldham's attacking play. A former Wigan St. Patricks junior who began his professional career with Warrington. Moved back to Wigan in 1992 when he joined the senior Central Park outfit. Oldham snapped him up for a bargain £35,000 fee in September 1993. A brilliant tactical kicker who represented Ireland in last autumn's

Emerging Nations World Championship.

STEVE GARTLAND

Talented utility player who has made steady progress settling into Super League rugby. He is a product of the Oldham St. Annes junior club who turned professional with Rochdale Hornets during August 1990. Gartland was a prolific point scorer at Spotland where he notched up what was then a club record 276 points during season 1992/93. He was transferred to Oldham in July 1994 and has developed into a valuable member of the Roughyeds first team squad. Gartland has proved to be equally effective whether at stand-off or at hooker.

CRAIG RICHARDS

Strong running and enthusiastic forward. A product of the Queensbury amateur club of Bradford who turned professional with Bradford Northern in 1987. Moved to Oldham in September 1993 and has developed into an important member of the Oldham pack.

CHRIS PARR

Hard working prop. A product of the Wigan St. Patricks junior club who began his professional career with Huddersfield in 1990. Won Great Britain under-21 honours whilst at Fartown. Moved back over the Pennines in 1992 when he joined Swinton. Oldham signed him in October 1993 and he has continued to show good form at Watersheddings.

IVAN GREEN

Hard working utility forward who is particularly good on defence. A product of Golbourne juniors (Leigh) who turned professional with St. Helens in 1988. He was unable to break into the first team at Knowsley Road and so moved to Oldham on a free transfer in August 1993. Can play in any back-row position as well as cover for the hooking spot.

IAN SHERRATT

Experienced prop who represented Lancashire schoolboys. Played for the Waterhead (Oldham) junior club before turning professional with Bradford Northern in August 1982. Transferred to Oldham in 1987 and then moved to Salford in 1989 before returning to Watersheddings in November 1991. Under rated forward who has been unlucky not to gain senior representative recognition.

JASON TEMU

Hard running and tough tackling prop who first came to notice with the Marist club in New Zealand. He joined the Counties-Manukau outfit for the New Zealand Lion Red Cup competition of 1994 and it was after that successful campaign that Temu joined Oldham. He has represented New Zealand Residents during their 1994 tour of Australia and was a member of the Cook Island team which lifted the Emerging Nations World Championship last autumn.

IAN GILDART

Hard working forward. A product of Wigan Colts who turned professional at Central Park in October 1986. Although he made 139 appearances for Wigan he failed to gain a regular first team spot and so moved over to Wakefield Trinity in 1994. Moved back over the Pennines to Oldham for £45,000 last June. Represented Great Britain at under-21 level during his Central Park days.

JOE FAIMALO

Hard working second-row forward who is enjoying his best run of form. A product of the Eastern Suburbs club in New Zealand, Faimalo had brief spells with Workington Town, Oldham and then Swinton during the 1991/92 season without impressing. He returned home and enjoyed success with Hawkes Bay which prompted him to return to Oldham in September 1994. His determination and stamina last season made him one of the mainstays of the Roughyeds pack.

GARY LORD

A player well known here at Thrum Hall is Gary Lord. He is a product of Stanley Rangers juniors (Castleford) who joined the Senior Castleford club in 1984. Lord appeared at full-back for Castleford at Wembley in 1986 but he has since developed into a hard working second-row forward. He was transferred to Leeds in 1988 and then on to Halifax in October 1991. He made his debut later that month in a 76-8 home victory over Hull KR. In all, Lord made 88 appearances for Halifax and scored 10 tries before moving to Oldham in July 1994 for £35,000. He made his Oldham debut against his former club the following month when Halifax won 40-20 at Watersheddings.

PAUL DAVIDSON

Hard working prop or second-row forward. A product of the Hensingham junior club (Whitehaven) who turned professional with Widnes in 1990. Joined Oldham in July 1994 for £17,000. Has a fine turn of speed which he has been using to good effect in recent matches. Can also play centre.

HOWARD HILL

Outstanding young back-row forward. Joined Oldham in July 1994 from the Hensingham junior club of Whitehaven. Made steady progress and broke into the first team squad at the beginning of this season. Has given some mature performances and seems certain to win representative honours in future season.

COACH ANDY GOODWAY

Oldham's coach Andy Goodway is a product of the Redhill amateur club (Castleford) who turned professional with Oldham in 1979. He won Great Britain recognition before transferring to Wigan in 1985. Won every domestic honour with Wigan where he began his coaching career with the academy side during a lengthy playing absence with a broken arm. Spent the 1992/93 season with Leeds before returning to Watersheddings in September 1993. Was assistant coach to Bob Lundner at Watersheddings in 1994 and took over as head coach six months later. Was assistant coach to the England squad who reached the 1995 World Cup Final.



ST HELENS 46 · HALIFAX 18
Regal Trophy Quarter Final
Knowsley Road, Sunday December 10th
1995

HALIFAX could be excused for developing a complex about Knowsley Road. If anything can go wrong, it will, and there's always plenty to go round. Four weeks after taking a 50-point beating in the league, the Thrum Hallers returned to face the music in the Regal Trophy and the Saints went marching in to the same old tune which left Halifax nursing broken hearts and bones in almost equal measure. Given the pre-game absence of John Schuster, the result wasn't perhaps entirely unexpected, but Steve Simms could have done without adding John Bentley and John Fieldhouse to the list of wounded as Bobby Goulding orchestrated a beating every bit as crushing as those that went before.

It all started well enough with a third-minute try for Mike Umaga, created by Craig Dean and goaled by Asa Amone, but Halifax ought to know by now that this is merely Saints' way of saying Hello. The welcome mat doesn't stay down for long, and the sides were soon level at six-apiece courtesy of a Bobby Goulding penalty plus an Andy Northey try laid on with ominous ease by Apollo Perelini and Dean Busby. Goulding's conversion edged Saints in front at 8-6, at which point Bentley ran full tilt into Perelini and discovered why the Knowsley Road sadists refer to the South Sea Islander as the Terminator. The clash of heads was part and parcel of a hard man's game, but it signalled Christmas in the stands for Bentley with a fractured cheekbone and Amone's equalising penalty shortly afterwards did no more than grant Halifax a reprieve.

Two tries inside three minutes added insult to injury, the first when Amone spilled Goulding's bomb in front of his own posts and Keiron Cunningham put Scott Gibbs over in the corner. Substitute Danny Arnold claimed

the second from Busby's pass and Halifax were looking down both barrels again as Saints took aim on their hapless victims for the second time in a month.

They contented themselves with an injury-time Goulding penalty for a 12-point half time lead, but it was no more than the calm before the storm which broke over the Thrum Hallers in the third quarter as Goulding set about booking Saints place in the semis.

Halifax had already survived Northey's claim for a try when the scrum half sent Cunningham in for his side's forth try and the Thrum Hallers could only brace themselves for what was coming and pray that it wouldn't hurt too much.



Goulding didn't keep them waiting long, launching a cross-kick for his wide receivers and taken on the full by Arnold deep in the Halifax end-zone. Umaga wasn't far away either, but it might as well have been a mile, and the Saints were out of sight in any case at 30-8.

Perelini reinforced the point when he carved his way past Jackson and Umaga for the sixth try that might have carried Halifax into double figures but woke St Helens up at the same time.

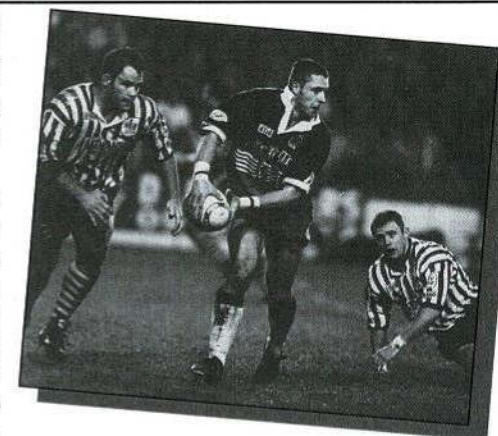
The Thrum Hallers' own nightmare resumed within two minutes when Anderson's fumble was snapped up by Northey.



Desperate defence denied the centre 15 yards out, but it was strictly damage limitation stuff, and there was no one left to stop Joey Hayes' sprint from acting halfback for the try that restored the status quo at 42-14 with 10 minutes left for play.

If Steve Simms thought the worst was over, the fates had one last treat in store when Fieldhouse launched himself at the St Helens defence and out of the season with a broken jaw as the welcoming committee, Goulding among them, closed in. Battered and bruised enough already, consolation was all that was left to Halifax now and they claimed a measure of that at least when Parker, Southernwood, Jackson, Umaga, Baldwin, Gillespie and finally Baldwin again cut the margin to 42-18 in the 76th minute.

The final word, though, belonged to Saints as had the game since midway through the first half, and they claimed their just reward when Goulding launched yet another time



bomb into the corner, pursued at a rate of knots too great for any Halifax defender to live with by Hayes.

The Knowsley Road jinx lives on - it seems too much to hope that one of these days it might have a happy ending.

AWAY THE LADS



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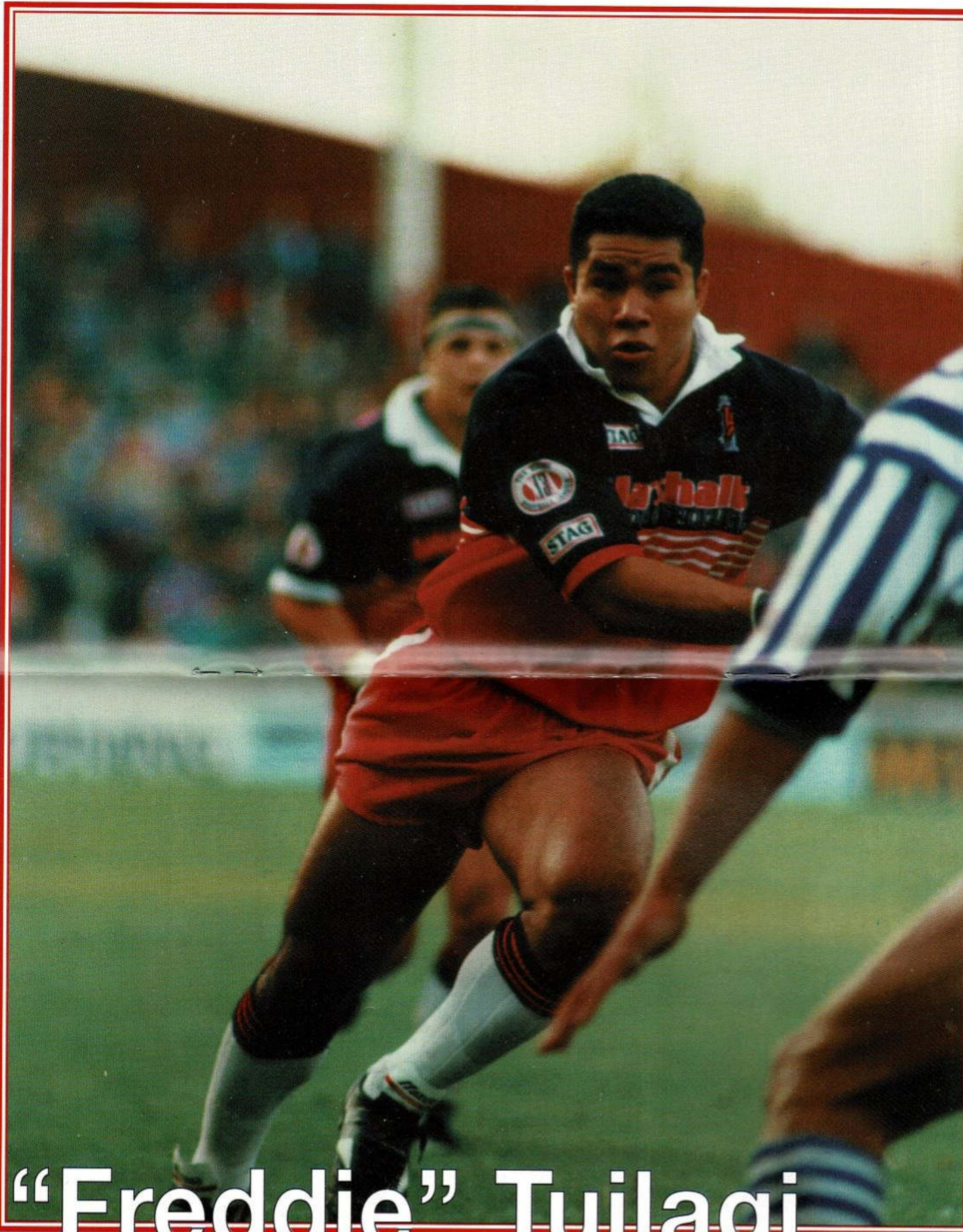
WA Wallace Arnold

OFFICIAL TEAM COACH TO HALIFAX RUGBY LEAGUE F.C.



Halifax

PLAYER PROFILE



"Freddie" Tuilagi

Full Name:	Fereti Tuilagi	Previous Clubs:	Maris St Joseph RU (W. Samoa)	Honours:	W. Samoa RU	8 Caps
D.O.B.	9th June 1971					
Height:	5' 11"					
Weight:	14st 10lbs					



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throughout the New Year and
into the Superleague.*

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Mr & Mrs John Hartley
Mr E R Lawson
Mr J B Doyle
Mr M J Doyle
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GOOD AFTERNOON

Hope you've all had a great Christmas and you are enjoying your Xmas break. Our last game away to Sheffield Eagles was an improved performance but we can still do much better.

The game was played in perfect conditions underfoot but extremely cold. Some of our players were playing their third game in five days which is not an ideal situation at such an early age, but with better preparation and a little more concentration, hopefully we will get it right. We got off to a good start with an early try from Ricky Everitt followed by another by Alan Williams making it 10-0. Chris Chester and Chris Radford running our attacking plays bringing Andy Hobson and Lee Knowles attacking out wide causing Sheffield a few problems, but our support play at times was lacking. After a few handling mistakes we let Sheffield gain territorial advantage and their large pack made good inroads into our defence with us not controlling the rucks too well Sheffield got to our line and scored from dummy half for a soft try. Andy Hobson scored well with Radford dropping him off inside from third man out to put him through a large hole with Andy's pace finishing the job. This brought the score to a 4-16 lead at half time. The second half was a different tale with us going further and further ahead against a struggling 12 man Sheffield defence due to losing a man with a high tackle on Andy Hobson, the ref gave him an early bath. It didn't help Sheffield's cause with the player dismissed being their No.6, causing them problems also on attack. But we weren't complaining we just got on with the job and completed it comfortably looking fluent with the ball at times but occasionally pushing one pass too many. Our defence conceded 10 points but there is a lot more work to be done on this department. The final score was 10-38 with Rushforth not mentioned in this report but showing some class on attack when linking up from fullback. All the lads of the Academy and myself and Mark wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year and thank you for your support throughout the year keep following the Fax because there is some real class coming through.

Mick Slicker

New Boy



DAVID BASTIAN

Full Name: David Stuart Bastian
Date of Birth: 9th February 1978
Place of Birth: Horsforth, Leeds
Height: 6' 2"
Weight: 13st 5lbs
School: Benton Park High, Leeds
Previous Club: Milford ARLFC
Favourite player: Paul Newlove

Loose forward David Bastian began his career with South Leeds Amateurs Milford, beginning as a 9 year old winger, progressing to the centre, and finishing up a classy loose forward.

He was a Yorkshire representative regular, playing at both under 13 and under 15 level. He played for Leeds City Boys and crowned a junior career with an appearance for England Schoolboys in 1994.

ACADEMY FIXTURES CENTENARY SEASON

AUGUST

Sat	19	HULL KR	H	W	36 - 18
Tue	29	Oldham	A	W	42 - 11

SEPTEMBER

Mon	4	FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	H	W	32 - 18
Sat	9	Widnes	A	W	28 - 25
Mon	18	Salford	A	L	12 - 27

OCTOBER

Mon	2	Rochdale Hornets	A	L	21 - 22
Mon	23	SHEFFIELD EAGLES	H	W	72 - 14
Sun	29	Keighley Cougars	A	P	

NOVEMBER

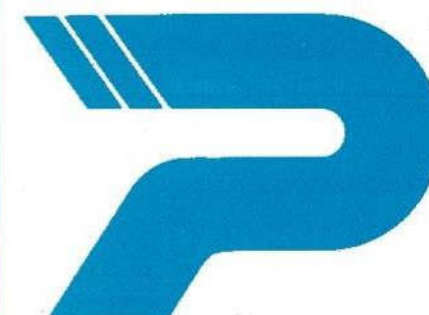
Mon	6	OLDHAM	H	W	46 - 32
Mon	13	Featherstone Rovers	A	L	22 - 27
Mon	20	WIDNES	H	H	38 - 22
Mon	27	SALFORD	H	W	50 - 30

DECEMBER

Mon	11	ROCHDALE HORNETS	H	L	10 - 29
Sat	16	Sheffield Eagles	A	W	10 - 38
Sat	30	KEIGHLEY COUGARS	H		2.30pm

JANUARY

Sat	6	Hull KR	A		2.30pm
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HI BOYS AND GIRLS

And a big HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone! We hope you have had a wonderful time over the Christmas holidays. From what we've heard from some of our members it's been brilliant. Santa seems to have brought a lot of toys including some fantastic bikes. Make sure you are very careful on those roads and wear your helmets. Did your parents behave themselves - they do tend to get a bit daft at this time of year. Hope you managed to get photos of their silly moments so that you can show them up for once.

One of our members has sent in a couple of Yuletide jokes for you to read:

"Here's your Christmas present. A box of your favourite chocolates."

"Coo, thanks! But it's half-empty!"

"Well, they're my favourite chocolates too..."

Only a week after Christmas an angry Mum stormed into the toy-shop. "I'm bringing back this unbreakable toy fire-engine" she said to the man behind the counter. "It's useless".

"Surely your son hasn't broken it already?" he asked.

"No, he's broken all his **other** toys with it!"

Thank you for those. Can you do any better? Lets see if you can send some in - what about rugby jokes?"

Don't forget to come to our next meeting which will take place on **Tuesday 16th January, 7.30 - 9.00 pm**. This will be our last meeting for this shortened season. But don't worry, all existing members will automatically become members for our first Super League Season for free - yes we said FREE. Anyone else wishing to join us will have to pay £3.50.

Finally we wish you the best of luck with sticking to your New Year's resolutions. If you haven't made any yet here's some ideas;

- (a) Tidy my bedroom at least once a week
- (b) Wash up after every meal
- (c) Help Mum carry the shopping
- (d) Help Dad clean the car...

See you soon!

Junior Blues · New Membership '95/96

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL: _____

D.O.B. _____ Age _____

FAVOURITE PLAYER _____

HOBBIES _____

26

This Afternoon's Mascots Sponsored by G L Hayes Ltd

THIS afternoon we have not one, but FIVE mascots; two Gavins, Grant, Greg and Gareth Hayes, thanks to G L Hayes Ltd., our mascot sponsor. One thing the boys are all agreed on is their favourite players - Michael Jackson and John Bentley.



Gavin number 1 is 12, he attends Ryburn Valley High School. His favourite sports are football, rugby and cross country running. He represents his school in all these, and plays football for Siddal Vale FC. His favourite player is Michael Jackson.



Our second Gavin is 10, and he goes to New Road Junior and Infants. He also plays football at Siddal Vale, where he is in his second season, and he likes cricket and rugby.



Grant is 6 and he's just started playing Cricket with Sowerby St Peters and goes to New Road Junior and Infants School.



Greg is 5 and also goes to New Road Junior and Infants School. Greg likes watching videos especially the Challenge Cup Final which Halifax won!



Gareth is our youngest mascot at just 2 year old, he goes to Norland Playschool. Gareth also likes watching Videos especially the Challenge Cup Final.

Enjoy your day boys!

Karl Harrisson

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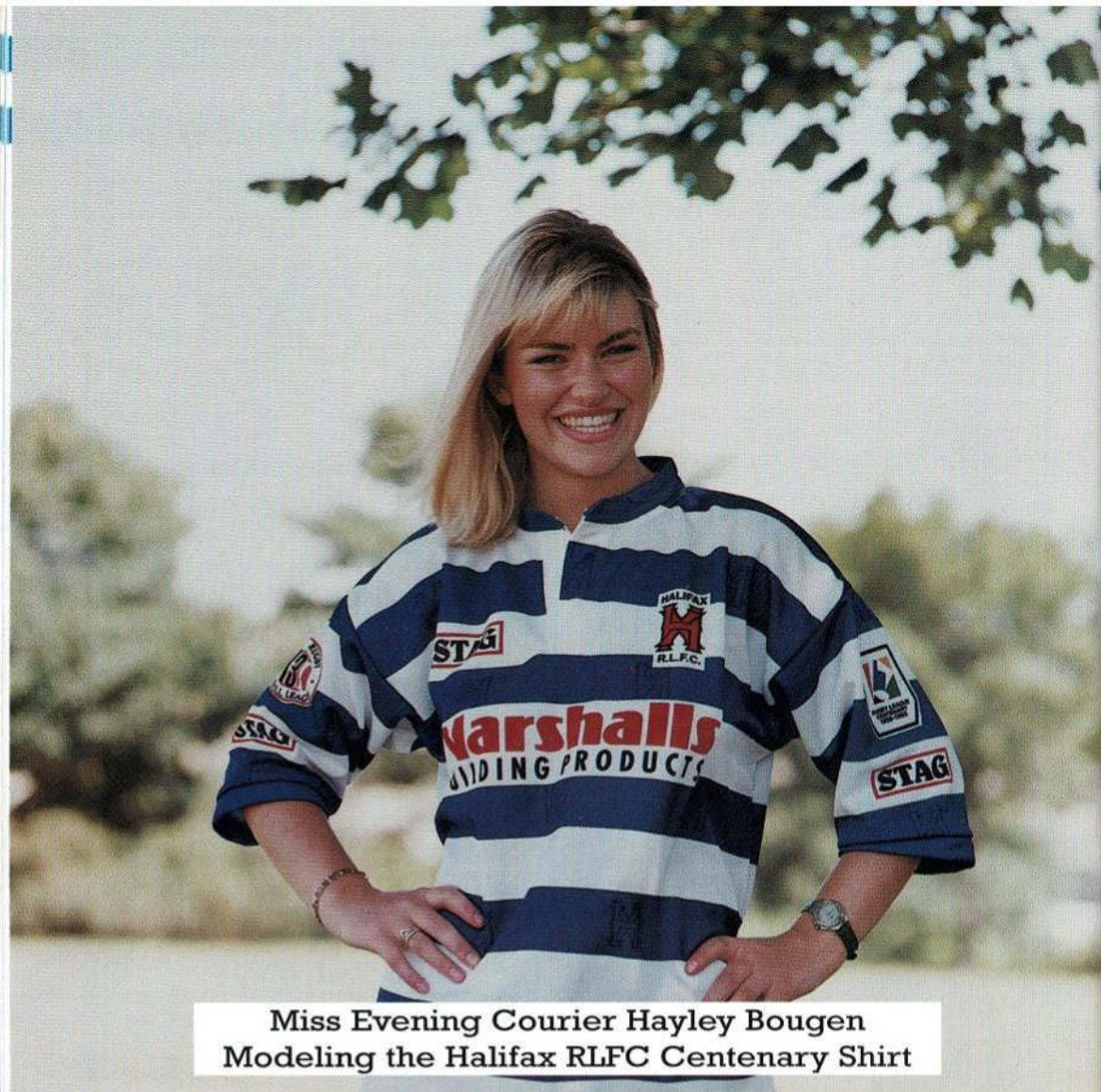
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Miss Evening Courier Hayley Bougen
Modeling the Halifax RLFC Centenary Shirt

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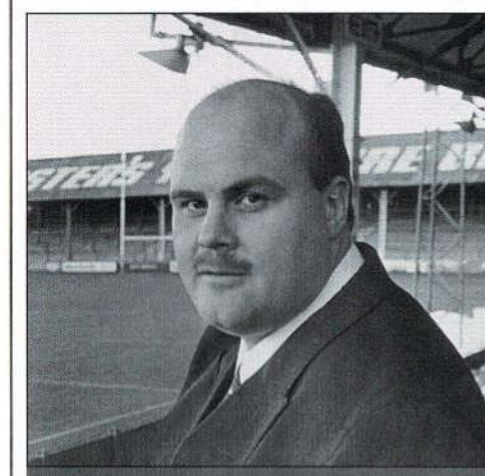
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Nigel Wood, Chief Executive

NIGEL Wood, Halifax's first Chief Executive, has now been in the job just over a month - and has spent most of that time becoming acquainted with the many people with an interest in Halifax RLFC, including volunteers, officials, stewards, directors and players - but more importantly, he's spent time listening to supporters, and taking time to hear their complaints as well as their praises.

Here we print a small, typical selection of the letters which have been arriving daily for his attention. If you would like to write to him, telling him what you think we do well or not so well as a club - please write to Nigel Wood, The Pavilion, Thrum Hall, Halifax HX1 4TL. All the letters printed below have been replied to personally.

I had been hoping to acquire some season tickets for the 1st Superleague season as a Christmas present, but none were available. Why not?

I understand your frustration. The club is not yet certain precisely when matches will be played during the summer, or indeed, when Sky will require the games they will cover. We are hoping to announce a major consultation exercise early in the New Year in which we can canvass the views of all interested parties on a

number of issues. When some of the existing uncertainties become known we will launch Superleague season tickets, as competitively priced as possible. This will include a brand new Family Season Ticket.

It took me over 10 minutes to get into the ground last Sunday, even though I have a season ticket. Do you only open some turnstiles when you're expecting a big crowd to save money?

Quite simply, no. It is the nature of attending professional sport in this country to actually enter the ground as near to kick-off as possible. With only a limited number of turnstiles and operators available extended queues can sometimes occur. This problem is exacerbated when the Club undertakes initiatives to attract new support, such as the recent free child entry schemes. Hopefully in the Superleague season, the playing of Two games back to back will serve to tempt supporters into the ground in a more even flow. In any event, we will look again at recent particular problems to see if it is possible to work things better.

May I ask why there were no scores or scorers given out at the game against Workington? Also, why not announce substitutions?

Anyone who has looked out of the window from which our PA announcer views the game will know that his view of the pitch is severely restricted, particularly of the "Scratching Shed" end of the ground. Consequently he depends on a video link from the gantry, and the commentary, to confirm the scorers. During that particular game, a technical fault wiped out the transmission, therefore our PA man was as uncertain of the scorers as you were! Things should be back to normal today. The substitutions are more difficult, as the touchline activity is out of view even to the commentator on the gantry. We are looking, however, at ways to provide this information when the Superleague season begins in March, probably by the use of Radios operating on a different frequency to those of the stewards.

GILBERTS HAVE GOT A NEW BALL
PASS IT ON


A collage of various beer labels set against a dark, textured background. The labels include: Webster's Yorkshire Bitter (circular, red and white), Kronenbourg 1664 Strong Lager (ornate, blue and white), Foster's Draught (large circular, blue and white), Courage Directors Bitter (circular, red and white), John Smith's Bitter (circular, red and white), Holsten Pils (cylindrical, yellow and red), Carlsberg Lager (cylindrical, green and white), John Smith's Magnet (cylindrical, red and white), and Beamish Draught Genuine Stout (cylindrical, red and white).

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Swinton v Hunslet Old Trafford 1987



Bradford v Widnes Old Trafford 1990



Hull v Widnes Old Trafford 1991



Henry Paul and Scott Gibbs at the launch of the Stones Centenary season 1995

- 

Stones Bitter continues to be the major sponsor of Rugby League. This is the tenth year of the highly successful sponsorship.
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Support for the sport by Stones has included the Championship, the Premiership Finals, and in 1992 the World Cup Final at Wembley.
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In addition, Stones played a part in shaping the future of the game, sponsoring the Rugby League's Framing the Future project.
- 

This year the Stones Centenary Championship is a major year of celebration and development for the game.
- 

Stones continues to involve fans and players alike through Team of the Month, Man of Steel awards and competitions for match tickets and special Stones Centenary cask ale.



**Three Cheers for the first
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Coming up AT THRUM HALL

Thursday, January 4th
HALIFAX A
v
YORK A
At Thrum Hall
Kick off 7.30pm

Saturday, January 6th
HULL KR ACADEMY
v
HALIFAX ACADEMY
At New Craven Park
Kick off 2.30pm

Sunday, January 7th
CASTLEFORD
v
HALIFAX
At Wheldon Road
Kick off 3.30pm

Saturday, January 13th
HALIFAX A
v
WORKINGTON TOWN A
At Derwent Park
Kick off 2.30pm

Sunday, January 14th
HALIFAX
v
WARRINGTON
At Thrum Hall
Kick off 3.00pm

CONGRATULATIONS

To the following Fax Flyer members who have won prizes in the Fax Flyer Draw

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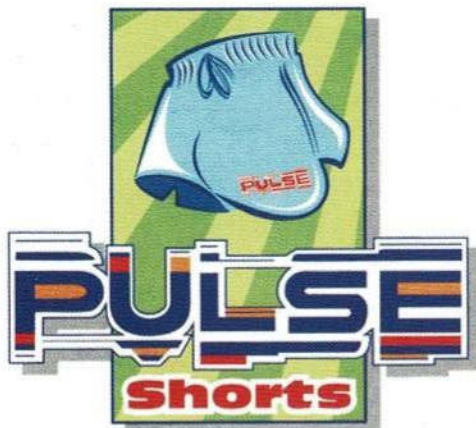
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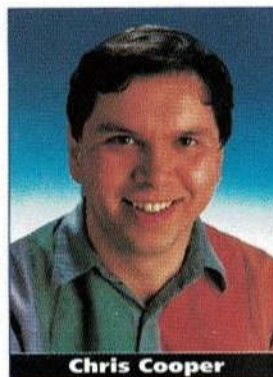
WELL, if I were you I would save this programme because it could become a collector's item. After the Centenary Season has finished in around 3 weeks time, the Seasonal Derby game will become a thing of the past. Fax will still play the Bradford Bulls but the game will not be a way of escaping post-Christmas boredom at home. Instead the match will not only be great entertainment, it will probably be a chance to grab your sunglasses and get a bit of a tan as the summer sunshine beats down on Thrum Hall. How times change!

MY production for the switch to summer is that a whole new range of supporter's merchandise will find its way into your club shop. Anyone who has been fortunate enough to visit Australia may have discovered the vast array of goodies on offer for the league fan. Perhaps we will soon be seeing Halifax beach towels, Halifax sun umbrellas and Halifax "coldy holders". For those of you not familiar with a "coldy holder", just like dear old Simmsy and TA, it

is a brilliant thing from Down Under. A 'Coldy Holder' is a sort of a fat spongy thing (so nothing like TA and Simmsy in appearance) which keeps your tinnie cool and enables you to hold it without getting frostbite. By the way, if Fax should start to market the above product a consideration would be most welcome.

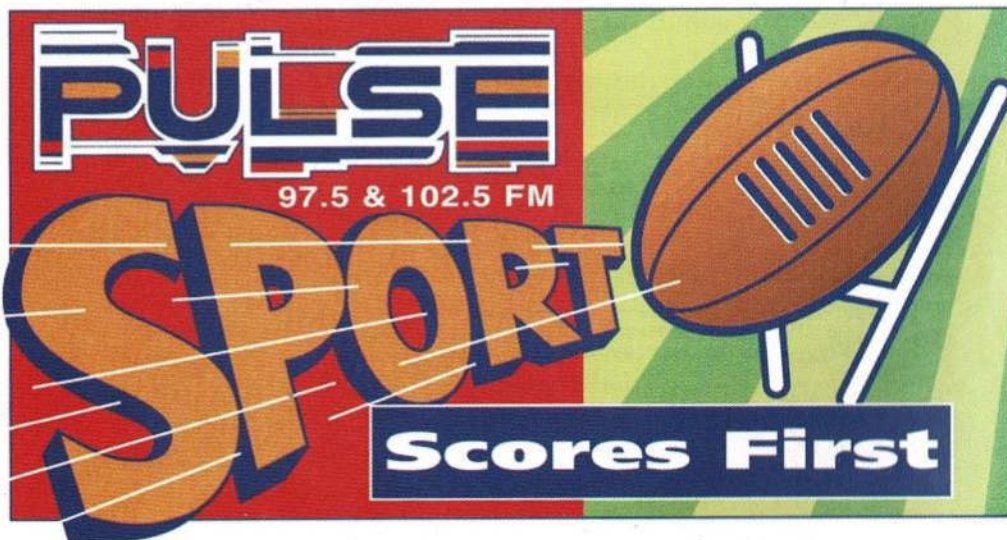
I HOPE the Fax lads from the South Pacific have enjoyed their Christmas and New Year in West Yorkshire. In their part of the world it's the height of summer at the moment and maybe Mike Umaga, Fereti Tuilagi, Asa Amone and John Schuster are all feeling a bit home-sick. John Schuster might not be missing home quite as much, after all he has been playing abroad for quite some time but the three new arrivals may all be longing for home. If you see them around town it might be nice to wish them all the best for the Festive Season.

DON'T forget the sports bulletins on the Pulse at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 in the morning and at 4.30 and 5.30 in the afternoon are the best place to hear all the latest Rugby League news... and there's a preview of the weekend's action on Pulse Sport on a Saturday afternoons.



Chris Cooper

FINALLY, on behalf of everyone at The Pulse, allow me to wish you a very Happy New Year and many enjoyable afternoons watching Halifax.



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