



Friday 30th May 1997 K.O. 7.30pm

SPERMAG

OLDHAM BEARS v CASTLEFORD TIGERS
VOLUME 1 No 7 £1.50

OLDHAM



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HONOURS

RUGBY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

1909-10, 1910-11, 1956-57 Runners Up

1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22, 1954-55

FIRST DIVISION CHAMPIONS

1904-05

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

1897-98, 1900-01, 1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57,

1957-58

RUGBY LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS

1899, 1925, 1927 Runners Up 1907, 1912, 1924, 1926

LANCASHIRE CUP WINNERS

1907, 1910, 1913, 1919, 1924, 1933, 1956, 1957, 1958

Runners Up 1908, 1911, 1918, 1921, 1954, 1966, 1968,

1986, 1989

SECOND DIVISION CHAMPIONS

1963-64, 1981-82, 1987-88

SECOND DIVISION PREMIERSHIP WINNERS

1988, 1990 Runners Up, 1992

CLUB RECORDS

RECORD VICTORY

63-0 v Goole, March 18th 1899 (Challenge Cup Rd 1)

67-6 v Liverpool City, April 4th 1959 (League)

RECORD SCORE

70-10 v Bramley, Feb 12th 1995 (Challenge Cup Rd 4)

67-6 v Liverpool City, April 4th 1959 (League)

RECORD ATTENDANCE

All Time 28,000 v Huddersfield, 4th Feb 1912

Last 20 years 11,254 v Bradford Bulls, 9th March 1997

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

TRIES IN A SEASON

Reg Farrar 49 1921-22

TRIES IN A CAREER

Alan Davies 174 1950-61

TRIES IN A MATCH

James Miller 7 v Barry, Oct 31st 1908

GOALS IN A SEASON

Bernard Ganley 200 1957-58

GOALS IN A CAREER

Bernard Ganley 1,358 1950-61

GOALS IN A MATCH

Bernard Ganley 14 v Liverpool City, April 4th 1959

POINTS IN A SEASON

Bernard Ganley 412 1957-58

POINTS IN A CAREER

Bernard Ganley 2,761 1950-61

POINTS IN A MATCH

Abe Johnson 30 v Widnes (12 goals, 2 tries), April 9th

1928

MOST APPEARANCES

Joe Ferguson 628 Sept 1899 - April 1923

MOST CONSECUTIVE APPEARANCES

Joe Lawton 134 Sept 1897 - Nov 1902

all the above records are relevant to Oldham first class fixtures only

A Message FROM THE CHAIRMAN

JIM QUINN

We are effectively at the half-way point of the season now because we fly off to Australia on Sunday for our matches in the World Club Championship.

It is fair to say that our season so far has fallen short of early expectations. Having signed four new players to add to last year's squad - Brett Goldspink, Nathan Turner, Luke Goodwin and Vince Fawcett - we felt we were in a position to do better than we did in 1996.

Perhaps, the second half of the season will enable us to turn things round. There were certainly some positive signs judging by the way we played against Halifax, the football skill and defensive tenacity we showed in our win at Sheffield and the remarkable fightback against



Leeds at Boundary Park that had supporters on their feet. This evening's game against Castleford, of course, is the last match before the squad departs on its history-making trip Down Under for matches against North Queensland Cowboys in Townsville

and Adelaide Rams on the Adelaide Oval cricket ground.

At the end of today's game it would be nice if our fans were to give the boys a rousing send-off with their best wishes for a safe and successful trip to the other side of the world. We will be carrying the name of the town and the name of our club all around Australia and I would like to think the players will return home more experienced and more battle-hardened as they prepare for the second-half of the

Super League season and for the home matches against the Aussie clubs in the second phase of the World Club Championship. They will certainly be envious, on their travels, of the facilities available to leading sportsmen in Australia which are far superior to anything available in the UK.

Tonight's game should be another cracker between two teams who were expected to do better on the field of play than they have done so far. The situation at the lower end of Super League is very tight and one cannot over-emphasise the importance of spectators getting behind our team in this crucial match.

For those fans who are travelling to Australia to watch the Bears in action I would like to say how much we would welcome a link-up with our supporters. We will be there to do a job of work, of course, but fans have only to feel comfortable in the company of club and players.

Finally, a special word of welcome tonight to Stuart Raper, the new Castleford coach. Stuart was a fine, young player for Oldham a few years ago and many fans will recall his stirring efforts on the club's behalf. We wish Stuart every success in his coaching career in England, but club loyalty demands that those sincere sentiments are put on the back-burner until tonight's game is over and ready for entry in the record books.

I can assure you that we will do our utmost to prove first-class ambassadors Down Under, not only for the Bears club but for the English game. And on our return we will be all geared up to take on the Aussies in our own backyard - with your support, of course.

Jim Quinn

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DOWN MEMORY LANE

DON YATES

Tonight's visitors to Boundary park are Castleford, a club who, surprisingly, have never won the League Championship but whose cup pedigree stands comparison with any club in the game. They have won the Yorkshire Cup five times, the Regal Trophy twice, the Floodlit Trophy a record four times and the Wembley Challenge Cup on four occasions. Their first Wembley triumph came in 1935 after just nine years of professional rugby. Their route to Wembley that year began with an away tie against the amateurs of Astley & Tyldesley. That tie was switched to Castleford and, although the amateurs no doubt enjoyed the financial benefit, they conceded nine tries when losing 33-4. A hard fought 8-2 win at Liverpool Stanley earned Castleford a home quarter-final tie with Hunslet which drew a record crowd of 25,499 to Wheldon Road. Castleford won that tie 10-3 and they then beat Barrow 11-5 in the semi-final at Station Road, Swinton. Huddersfield provided the opposition at Wembley with Castleford slight favourites, but it was expected to be a close affair. Both sides had registered home victories over their opponents during the league campaign. Castleford won 12-9 before losing 5-3 at Huddersfield. In addition Castleford had knocked Huddersfield out of the Yorkshire Cup but only by the narrowest of margins. After a 6-6 draw at Fartown, Castleford won the replay 3-2. The teams for the final were as follows: Castleford: George Lewis, Bernard Cunniffe, Arthur Atkinson, Jim Croston, Tommy Askin; Billy Davies, Les Adams; Pat McManus, Harold Haley, Tommy Taylor; Jim Crossley, Frank Smith & Ted Sadler. Huddersfield: Tom Scourfield, Stan Mountain, Idris Towill, Alex Fiddes, Ray Markham, Gwyn Richards, Dai

Davies, Reg Roberts, Willie Watson, Herbert Sherwood, Henry Tiffany, John Fuller and Fred Talbot.

Castleford's young team began well in that final. The wide open spaces of Wembley held no fears for the club from the tiny Wheldon Road enclosure. Indeed, Castleford should have been in double figures before Huddersfield shocked the 39,000 crowd by scoring completely against the run of play when Idris Towill was on the end of a sweeping passing move. The score failed to rattle Castleford who continued to press, and continued to miss scoring opportunities. However, on the half-hour they took a lead which they were never to lose. First skipper Arthur Atkinson landed a penalty and within a couple of minutes co-centre Jim Croston put his winger Tommy Askin over.

Castleford's 5-3 interval lead increased to what proved to be an unassailable 11-3 margin after only 10 minutes of the second half. First scrum-half Les Adams seized upon a Huddersfield mistake to score and then another bout of free flowing open rugby saw Bernard Cunniffe cross wide out. Huddersfield hit back and put Castleford under severe pressure but all they had to show for it was a penalty from Herbert Sherwood. Two minutes from time a rare Castleford blunder enabled Huddersfield

skipper Alex Fiddes to score a try which gave the Fartowners hope at 11-8. That score came much too late to worry a competent Castleford side who had little trouble playing out those closing moments and defending their 11-8 lead.

Following that cup triumph, Castleford became the first British club to involve themselves in European competition when they met Lyons-Villeurbanne for an unofficial European Cup Winners Cup. Castleford beat the French cup holders 24-21 away and then by 18-8 at Wheldon Road. After today Castleford will begin preparations for their World Challenge in which both Hunter Mariners and Perth Western Reds will discover what difficult opponents the Tigers are in cup competition.

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ACADEMY NEWS

BRIAN GARTLAND

Our Academy team travelled over to Yorkshire in thick fog on Monday night to play Batley. After arriving at Mount Pleasant the were surprised to see the rain pouring down. It was not a night for open rugby I can tell you. The boys acquitted themselves in the conditions and one of the pleasing aspects of our thirty four points to nil victory was the fact we kept a clean score sheet. Which was very pleasing in the conditions. Well led by captain Simon Svabic their was some good displays by Mark Powell and Ward Jones who scored his first

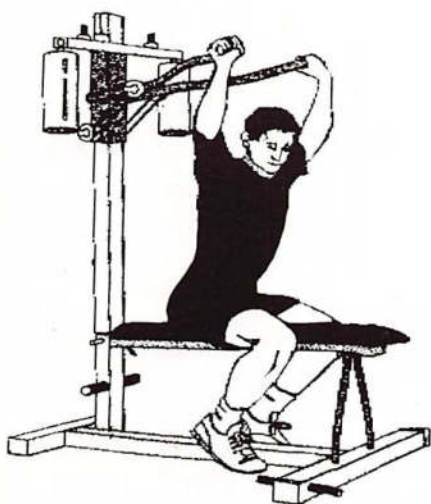
try for the club since signing as a 17 year old and hooker Leon Wilkes who normally plays scrum half (one to watch for the future). Plus our second row forward from Rochdale Ben Simpson who I think will be destined for big things in the game, he works hard on his skills and fitness which I am sure he will, because he wants to succeed. Our young forwards Rhys Orris and James Rogers acquitted themselves well after coming on as substitutes to say they are only 16 year olds. Well done lads.

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STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

DON YATES

This evening Castleford will be making their second appearance here at Boundary Park because in February 1985 a first round Challenge Cup-tie was switched here because Watersheddings was frost bound. The match attracted a crowd of 6,056 but most left disappointed as Castleford won the tie 14-8. That was one of 33 defeats suffered by Oldham at the hands of Castleford in the 57 matches between these clubs. Oldham have won 22 with two drawn. Oldham's biggest victory over Castleford came in October 1985 when they won 46-22 at

Watersheddings whilst their biggest win at Wheldon Road came in January 1942 when winger Lees crossed for a hat-trick of tries in Oldham's 31-16 victory. Castleford's biggest victories over Oldham came in January 1986 when the Tigers won 28-4 at Castleford and in March 1987 when they won 29-6 at Watersheddings. Castleford have lost only once from their last five visits to Oldham so it is to be hoped that the Bears alter that trend in this evening's match which is vitally important in the long term future of both clubs.



Graham Steadman

Details of Castleford's last visit to Oldham

Sunday 14th July 1996



Super League
At Watersheddings



Oldham 20 Castleford 30

Half-time 16-4; Attendance 3,480

Oldham tries	Paul Atcheson, Howard Hill, Martin Crompton, Gary Lord
goals	Francis Maloney (2)
Castleford tries	Chris Smith, Adrian Flynn, Simon Middleton, Tony Smith, Junior Paremore
goals	Franco Botica (5)
Oldham:	Paul Atcheson, Scott Ranson, Paul Topping, Howard Topping, Adrian Belle, Francis Maloney, Martin Crompton, Ian Gildart, Jon Clarke, Jason Temu, Gary Lord, Matt Munro, David Bradbury
Substitutes:	Joe Faimalo, Paul Crook, Paul Davidson, Jimmy Cowans
Castleford:	Jason Flowers, Chris Smith, David Chapman, Adrian Flynn, Simon Middleton, Franco Botica, Tony Smith, Lee Crooks, Brendan Tuuta, Dean Sampson, Andrew Schick, Lee Harland, Ian Smales
Substitutes:	Graham Steadman, Shaun Richardson, Junior Paremore, Nathan Sykes

Results of Oldham v Castleford

matches during the past ten seasons.
(all league matches except were stated)

1987-88	did not meet
1988-89	Castleford 22 Oldham 19 Oldham 34 Castleford 18
1989-90	did not meet
1990-91	Oldham 28 Castleford 22 Castleford 28 Oldham 10
1991-92	did not meet
1992-93	Oldham 22 Castleford 40 (Regal Trophy)
1993-94	Castleford 34 Oldham 16 Oldham 10 Castleford 28
1994-95	Castleford 34 Oldham 14 Oldham 10 Castleford 18
1995-96	Castleford 28 Oldham 22 Oldham 25 Castleford 20
1996	Castleford 20 Oldham 24

JUNIOR BEARS



*Hi there Junior Bears,
How's things?*

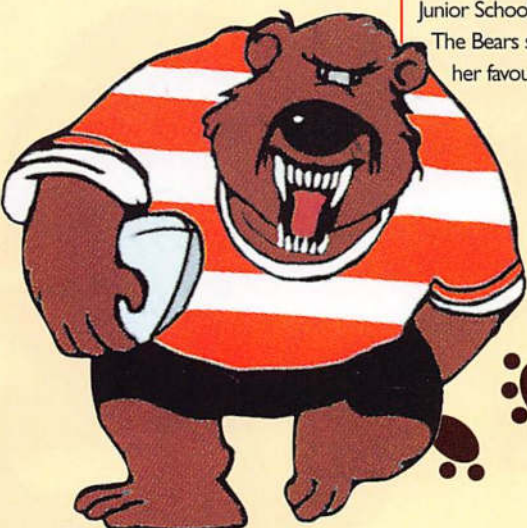
School holidays this week I hope you are all enjoying them, last day today though. Let's hope we can finish off the holidays on a winning note against Castleford this evening.

We extend a warm Boundary Park welcome to all the players, officials and supporters of the Castleford Tigers and if they have brought along their tiger; Lets hope I don't meet up with him, after all he may be King of the Jungle but I am still King of the Super League.

This is our last match here for a while as the Oldham Bears jet off to the other side of the world on Sunday to play in the World Club Championships against North Queensland Cowboys and Adelaide Rams. The Bears will have three weeks in the Southern Hemisphere. Let's wish them a safe and good journey and

ALL THE BEST

for the matches, and hope that they enjoy their time with the Aussies...



Let's hear all that vocal support again this evening. I know the players love to hear it and it really makes my day... what do we sing?... **Come on Oldham, Come on Oldham.**

Who has sent in answers to our Leeds Competition?

Which Oldham player has a nickname 'Crunch'?... Wait and see at our next meeting...

The teasers set in the Salford programme were just for you to do at home, here are the answers.

Q. What Super League team plays at 'The Stoop'?

A. London Broncos

Q. Which Oldham player has a brother who plays for Salford Reds? (try and name both brothers)

A. Oldham - Joe Faimalo
Salford - Esene Faimalo

Welcome to our Mascot for the day who is **Lisa Woolley**

Nine years old Lisa attends Fitton Hill Junior School.

The Bears skipper Martin Crompton is her favourite player.



Lisa's hobbies apart from watching the Bears are reading and listening to The Spice Girls. Her favourite is Emma (Baby Spice)...

As there are no more programme notes until we play St Helens on 29th June we have a lot of Junior Bear birthdays to announce, here we go...

- 7th James Greenwood, Russell Cawdron
- 8th Frankie Byrne, Emily Stafford
- 9th Robert Slater, Gary Wall
- 10th Nick Watterson
- 11th Laura Prendergast
- 12th Joe Needham
- 13th Lee Baguley, Martin Commons
- 16th Claire Walch
- 17th Samantha Brown
- 22nd Daniel Smith
- 24th Joe Dewhirst
- 25th Andrew Doran
- 27th Thomas Aspin
- 28th Elliot Schofield

phew got through that all right I hope

Once again Good Luck Oldham Bears in Australia from all the Junior Bears...



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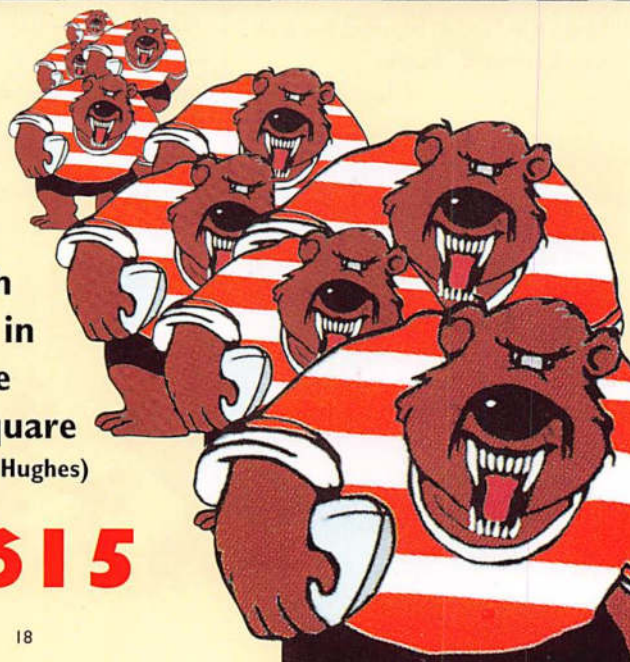
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ON THIS DAY...

DON YATES

It was on this day in 1984, Wednesday 30th May, that Great Britain met North Sydney during their tour of Australia. The Lions won 14-8 before a crowd of 4,067. Castleford hooker Kevin Beardmore appeared in that match alongside three Oldham players, winger Des Foy, second-row forward Andy Goodway and substitute Mick Worral. Goodway scored one of Britain's two tries, with Des Drummond grabbing the other and Mick Burke landing three goals. Six years later, on Wednesday 30th May 1990, Olympic Park, Melbourne staged the second 'State of Origin' match of that season. New South Wales clinched the series with a 12-6 victory before a sell out crowd of 25,800. At loose-forward for Queensland in that match was Oldham's current coach Bob Lindner who made 25 appearances in that competition. On that very same day, Wednesday 30th May 1990, Wigan signed utility back Frano Botica from New

Zealand rugby union. Frano enjoyed five highly successful seasons at Central Park. He made 179 appearances and scored 66 tries, 827 goals and 13 dropped goals. Botica then moved to Castleford in March 1996 but is now back playing rugby union. Another prolific goal kicker, Australian Mick Cronin, enjoyed a successful afternoon on Sunday, 30th May 1982. That day he landed a club record 11 goals for Parramatta and also crossed for a try as Illawarra were hammered 55-5 at Belmore Sports Ground. Back in England on that day, Sunday 30th May 1982, Lancashire met Cumbria in a County Championship match at Derwent Park, Workington. The match was only of academic interest as Yorkshire had already beaten both counties to lift the title which probably accounted for the disappointing attendance of only 732. Lancashire won 46-8 after a close first half, at the end of which they led by only

10-8. Oldham had a player appearing for each country. Hooker Alan McCurrie for Cumbria and loose-forward Terry Flanagan for Lancashire.

It was on this day way back in 1908, Saturday 30th May, that Australia met New Zealand at the Exhibition Ground, Brisbane. The New Zealand 'All Golds' were returning from their tour of England and proved too good for the Kangaroos. They won this test 24-12 to wrap up the three match series having already won in Sydney three weeks previously. It was on this day in 1963, Thursday 30th May, that Oldham met St. Helens at Watersheddings in a First Division match. That 1962-63 season had been extended because of the harsh winter and Saints were playing their third match in six days. Despite that, they were too strong for Oldham and won 24-9 to clinch the Championship runners-up spot. Not such a successful season for Oldham who were relegated.

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The Bear Facts Super League '97

Rd	Date	Team	Venue	Time	Score	Att
1	Sun 16th March	Leeds Rhinos	A	3pm	L 22-32	11,516
2	Fri 21st March	Bradford Bulls	H	7.30	L 30-18	5461
3	Fri 28th March	Salford Reds	(A)	3pm	L 35-26	5295
4	Tues 1st April	London Broncos	(H)	7.30pm	L 32-22	3556
5	Sun 6th April	Warrington Wolves	(A)	3pm	L 28-18	5370
6	Sun 13th April	Paris St Germain (BSKYB)	(H)	6.35pm	W19-18	3396
7	Sun 20th April	Wigan Warriors	(A)	3pm	L 44-10	7885
8	Sun 27th April	Halifax Blue Sox	(H)	3pm	L 30-29	4236
9	Sun 11th May	Sheffield Eagles	(A)	3.15pm	W 18-14	4245
10	Sun 18th May	Leeds Rhinos	(H)	3pm	L 43-26	4500
11	Fri 23rd May	Bradford Bulls	(A)	7.30pm	L 42-28	13,262
12	Mon 26th May	Salford Reds	(H)	3pm	W10-19	
13	Fri 30th May	Castleford	(H)	7.30pm		
14	Sun 29th June	St Helens	(H)	3pm		
15	Wed 2nd July	London Broncos	(A)	7.30pm		
16	Sun 6th July	Sheffield Eagles	(H)	3pm		
17	Sun 13th July	Castleford Tigers	(A)	3.30pm		
18	Sat 19th July	Queensland Cowboys	(H)			
19	Sat 26th July	Adelaide Rams	(H)			
20	Sun 10th Aug	St Helens	(A)	6pm		
21	Sun 17th Aug	Halifax Blue Sox	(H)	3pm		
22	Fri 22nd Aug	Wigan Warriors	(H)	7.30pm		
23	Mon 25th Aug	Paris St Germain	(A)			

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Martin Crompton



Number 8
Ian Gildart



Number 9
John Clarke



Number 10
Jason Temu



Number 11
Gary Lord



Number 12
Joe Faimalo



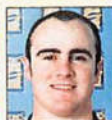
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Number 14
Matt Munro



Number 15
Paul Davidson



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Howard Hill



Number 17
Mike Neal



Number 18
Chris McKinney



Number 19
Afi Leuila



Number 20
Jim Cowan



Number 21
Vince Fawcett



Number 22
Brett Goldspink



Number 23
Nathan Turner



Number 24
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Number 25
Luke Goodwin



Number 26
David Stephenson



Number 27
David Jones



Number 28
David Jones



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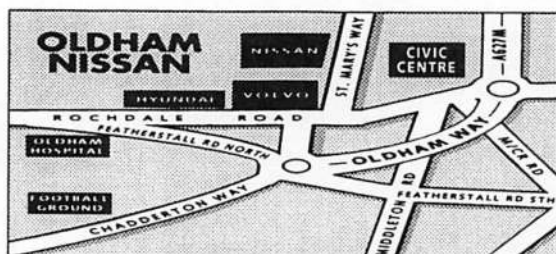
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DEVELOPMENT NEWS

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DAILY MIRROR

The Oldham Renault Schools Cup competitions are finally getting to a close. As already stated, Saddleworth school took the under 16's final by beating St Augustines. A date for your diary is the 5th of June when there will be two finals taking place at Hathershaw Sports Centre. The first game of which kicks off at 3.30 is 5th final of the Plate competition between Fitton Hill and Watersheddings at under 11 age group and this will be a great game. The next final kicking off at 6.30 on the same day, same venue, will be

between Radclyffe and Siddar Moore from Rochdale at U13 level and there are some stars of the future in this game. Two boys who have pledged their future to the Bears spring to mind: Deon Roach and Kris Tickle. Congratulations are in order to all four teams on reaching the final and the best of luck to you all. Royton Tigers won the Oldham Amateur League Trophy for U16's when they beat Waterhead in the final by 10 points to 6.

B Gartland

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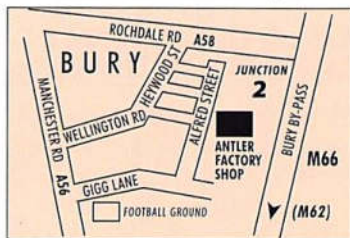
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ALLIANCE NEWS

PADDY KIRWAN

The return after injury of Vince Fawcett and the continued comebacks of Jason Temu and Nathan Turner at Bradford last week will be welcome news for Bob Lindner in the struggle for Super League survival. All three players when fully fit have the ability to improve the first team squad and will ensure healthy competition for places in the forthcoming weeks. After the disappointment of the home defeat against Featherstone, and the loss at Leeds, it was important to perform well at Bradford and achieve a good result. We did not start very well, failing to clear our own half on several occasions, and went behind 4-0 to two penalties for holding down. We hit back almost immediately, a good break and quick play of the ball by Vince Fawcett was continued by Wilde who fed Mike Prescott to break the line and put Fawcett in at the corner. Paul Deacon converted beautifully to give us a 6-4 lead. The game was fairly even until 10 minutes

from half time when Bradford first capitalised on a knock on from a Gary Burns tap penalty to score a converted try direct from the scrum. They then scored a converted try direct from the scrum. They then scored a try from a crossfield kick, on the last tackle, by veteran winger Gerald Cordle. This try just before half time was particularly frustrating because we had defended the six well and forced the ball to the touch line looking for a handover. The try from Shaun Cooper under the posts put Bradford 16-6 in front. From the restart we managed to force a Bradford error in their half. Regaining possession from the scrum, a sweeping move right to left saw Craig Barker sent Nathan Turner through a hole in the Bradford defence to draw the full-back and put Stephen Wilde on a run to the corner. The 16-10 deficit at half-time was more satisfactory knowing we were capable of a much better second half performance. We started the second half well and a

period of sustained pressure in the Bradford half reaped rewards. From a set scrum move, Joe McNicholas stepped inside to beat four defenders and score 15 yards to the left of the posts. However Paul Deacon failed to convert.

Trailing by two points the game swung from end to end until Aidie Meade broke the defence and was tackled yards from the line. From acting half-back Nathan Turner crashed over in the corner to put us into an 18-16 lead.

During the last minutes we scrambled extremely well to keep Bradford out and received the benefit, for a change, of some 50/50 refereeing decisions to come away with a hard earned victory. The game was a big boost to Jason Temu and Nathan Turner, and I was very impressed with prop Danny Guest, back-row men Jimmy Cowans and Mike Prescott, and also young full-back Jason Brassington.

ALLIANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

1997

MARCH

THURSDAY 13th	LEEDS RHINOS	(H) 7.30pm
THURSDAY 20th	BRADFORD BULLS	(A) 7.30pm
THURSDAY 27th	SALFORD REDS	(H) 7.30pm

APRIL

THURSDAY 3rd	WARRINGTON WOLVES	(H) 7.30pm
THURSDAY 10th	HULL	(A) 8.00pm
THURSDAY 17th	WIGAN WARRIORS	(H) 7.30pm
THURSDAY 24th	HALIFAX BLUE SOX	A) 7.30pm

MAY

THURSDAY 8th	FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	(H) 7.30pm
WEDNESDAY 14th	LEEDS RHINOS	(A) 7.30pm
THURSDAY 22nd	BRADFORD BULLS	(H) 7.30pm
THURSDAY 29th	CASTLEFORD TIGERS	(A) 7.30pm

JUNE

THURSDAY 5th	HULL KINGSTON ROVERS	(H) 7.30pm
FRIDAY 20th	SALFORD REDS	(A) 8.00pm
THURSDAY 26th	St HELENS	(A) 7.30pm

JULY

THURSDAY 3rd	FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	(A)
THURSDAY 10th	CASTLEFORD TIGERS	(H) 7.30pm
FRIDAY 18th	HULL KINGSTON ROVERS	(A) 7.30pm
THURSDAY 31st	HULL	(H) 8.00pm

AUGUST

THURSDAY 7th	St HELENS	(H) 7.30pm
THURSDAY 14th	HALIFAX BLUE SOX	(H) 7.30pm
WEDNESDAY 20th	WIGAN WARRIORS	(A) 7.30pm
THURSDAY 28th	WARRINGTON WOLVES	(A) 7.30pm

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OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE

ROGER HALSTEAD

The Luke Goodwin show gave Leeds the fright of their lives in another Boundary Park thriller. And it's no coincidence that the Bears are playing some of their best rugby for years since the Aussie half-back was found a niche at loose-forward by new boss Bob Lindner.

The Rhinos won 43-26, but the score did scant justice to an Oldham side which went 28-4 down and pulled back in glorious fashion to 28-26 in a thrill-a-minute second-half.

Ten minutes from the end it was anybody's game after the Bears had rammed 22 unanswered points down Rhinos throats.

But Goodwin, who had kicked immaculately up to that point, missed a conversion attempt from just wide of the posts and Leeds were visibly lifted as they regrouped to run away with the game in the last few minutes. Even so, the Bears players were given a standing ovation as they left the field, such was the impact they made in the second half when Goodwin led



a comeback charge that was full of fire, determination and, most of all, quality football.

First he capitalised on great work by Darren Abram, Paul Atcheson and Matt Munro to crash over near the posts.

Then he spotted a weak link in the Leeds defence on the short side to chip ahead, re-gather at speed and score in the corner before hammering home a superb goal off the touchline to reduce the Leeds lead to 28-22.

Still not finished, he produced a pass across the face of the Leeds goal that went with all the speed and accuracy of a missile to drop into the hands of David Stephenson, whose quick transfer gave Martin Crompton a walk-in for the fifth Bears try. Despite missing the goal, the Aussie was a landslide man-of-the-match winner, proving conclusively that Oldham have unearthed a little gem who can play a major role in what will surely be a steady climb away from the relegation danger zone. Not one of the 4,500 fans who watched this game at Boundary Park would have believed that Leeds had reached the dizzy heights of second place while the Bears were struggling at the wrong end of the of the table. That shows just how competitive this Super League is and how games can hinge - and very often do - on the bounce of the ball, the choosing of wrong options or the verdict of match officials when faced with difficult decisions.

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OLDHAM BEARS

FRIDAY 30th MAY 19



SCRUMS

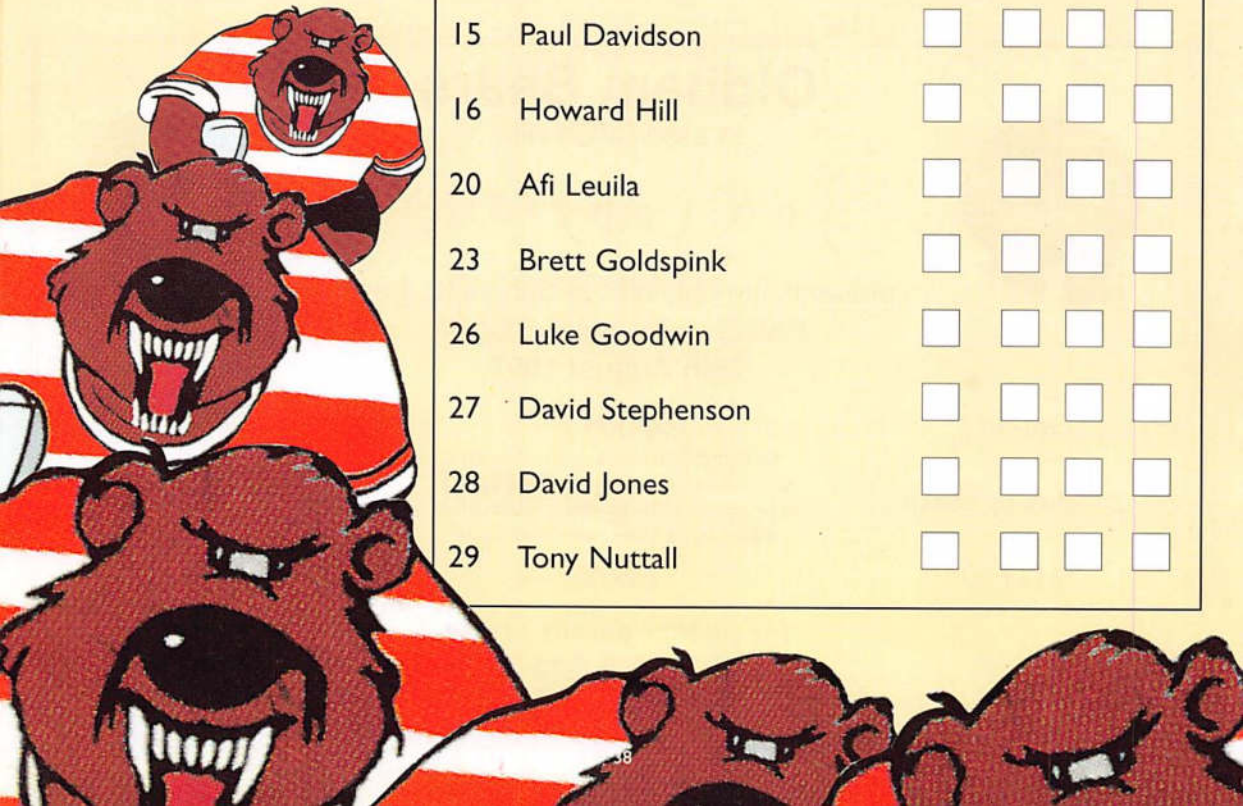
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24

OLDHAM BEARS

	Team	T	G	DG
1	Paul Atcheson	☐	☐	☐
2	Scott Ranson	☐	☐	☐
3	Darren Abram	☐	☐	☐
6	Francis Maloney	☐	☐	☐
7	Martin Crompton	☐	☐	☐
9	John Clarke	☐	☐	☐
11	Gary Lord	☐	☐	☐
12	Joe Faimalo	☐	☐	☐
14	Matt Munro	☐	☐	☐
15	Paul Davidson	☐	☐	☐
16	Howard Hill	☐	☐	☐
20	Afi Leuila	☐	☐	☐
23	Brett Goldspink	☐	☐	☐
26	Luke Goodwin	☐	☐	☐
27	David Stephenson	☐	☐	☐
28	David Jones	☐	☐	☐
29	Tony Nuttall	☐	☐	☐



CASTLEFORD TIGERS

7 KICK-OFF 7.30pm



CASTLEFORD TIGERS

		Team	T	G	DG
21	Jason Flowers	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	Jason Roache	☐	☐	☐	☐
32	Jason Critchley	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	Adrian Vowles	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	David Chapman	☐	☐	☐	☐
14	Graham Steadman	☐	☐	☐	☐
31	Michael Ford	☐	☐	☐	☐
10	Dean Sampson	☐	☐	☐	☐
29	Richard Russell	☐	☐	☐	☐
8	Lee Crooks	☐	☐	☐	☐
18	Andrew Schick	☐	☐	☐	☐
30	Ian Tonks	☐	☐	☐	☐
12	Brendan Tuuta	☐	☐	☐	☐
28	Danny Orr	☐	☐	☐	☐
24	Sean Richardson	☐	☐	☐	☐
26	Lee Bardauskas	☐	☐	☐	☐
25	Diccon Edwards	☐	☐	☐	☐

SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24

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RESERVE

G Wallace

TOUCH JUDGES

J Molyneux

S Marshall

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