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THE 5 PERIODS ARE:

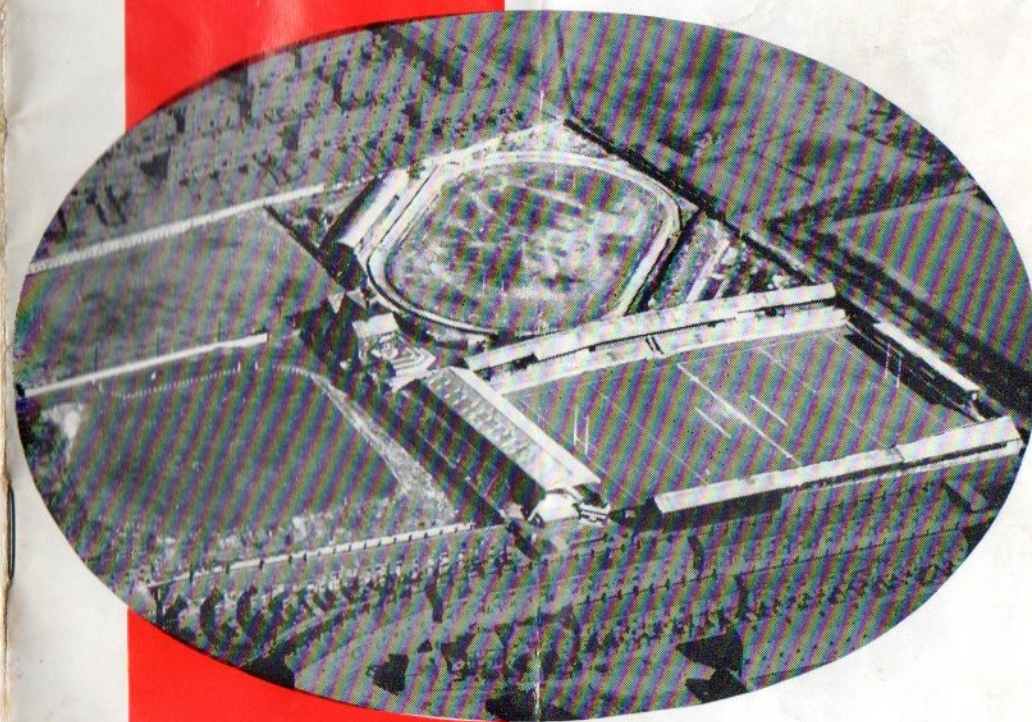
August	6	to	September	24
September	26	to	November	19
November	21	to	January	14
January	16	to	March	11
March	13	to	April	29



OFFICIAL
6d.
PROGRAMME

OLDHAM

Rugby League Football Club



RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Northern League Championship Match

OLDHAM 17

v.

SALFORD 4

SATURDAY, 21st JANUARY, 1967
Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

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CLUB VIEWS AND NEWS

Our victory at Barrow last weekend was a fine team display and we hope that their good form will be continued this afternoon.

The form of Peter Smethurst in the centre and the return to form of Dave Parker were two particularly pleasing factors in the game. Smethurst was all over the field. Two bone crushing tackles on first Wear and then Kelland together with two well taken tries were Peter's contribution and Dave Parker silenced the critics with a sound loose forward game. Although I have mentioned these two players perhaps it is a shade unfair because as I say everyone played their part in bringing two valuable points back to Watersheddings.

HERE AND THERE

Our congratulations go to Bob Irving on his selection for Great Britain. Bob will be taking his place in the second row tomorrow at Carcassonne.

Alf Mumberson, Jim McCormack, Stan McLeod and Trevor Simms have been placed on the transfer list.

Tom Warburton is making steady progress following his serious leg injury although he will be an absentee for some weeks yet.

The first round cup match Huddersfield v Oldham will be played at Fartown, Huddersfield on Saturday, February 4th, kick-off 3 p.m. Stand tickets at 5/6 and 6/6 can be obtained after the match today.

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Our attempts to bring Geoff Shelton to Watersheddings have failed despite our £5,000 offer.

ALAN BURNS

At 5.30 p.m. on Thursday evening January 12th Alan Burns rejoined his former club Whitehaven and began a series of brickbats aimed at the Oldham Committee. A Barrow newspaper stated that Barrow 'had been taken for a ride.' An Oldham newspaper read:—"Clearly Oldham have again lost out on a deal—and further shown why they are regarded as a 'soft touch.' The whole affair has been handled badly."

A story is best started from the beginning and that's where I intend to start. At the end of last season Alan Burns was written to and was given a deadline date—July 1st—in which to make up his mind on whether it was his intention to return to Oldham or not. When the reply was to the negative Burns was placed on the transfer list at what was thought a very realistic fee £3,000. Barrow and Workington first made enquiries about this player and later were joined by Whitehaven, Leeds and Leigh. The Oldham Committee stated to all these clubs that £2,000 was the lowest figure they could accept for this player.

Burns told me that he would play for no one except Whitehaven. We once agreed for Burn's transfer to Leigh for £2,000. Leigh even promised him a taxi down to every match so that he could train and in fact live in Whitehaven—Burns turned it down. Workington also interviewed the player with a view to signing him but he would not join them. Leeds interviewed Burns. They offered him a month's trial but Burns turned this down despite the fact that the Headingley club were prepared to pay all his expenses for that month's accommodation in the city.

The matter was then left on the Watersheddings table for a few weeks and it was not until a further Whitehaven offer was made that the matter was brought to

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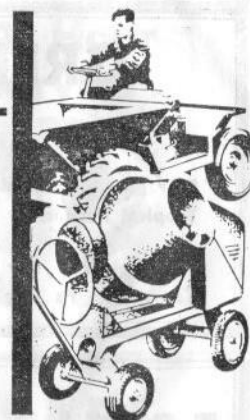
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the forefront again. Whitehaven offered a figure of £500 and they stated 'that's the highest we can go.' In view of this we contacted Barrow and asked them to consider an exchange deal, Delooze for Burns. They thought about it and eventually agreed. I felt in my own mind that Burns would turn down a move to the Furness Club and my thoughts received foundation when Burns failed to keep an engagement with the Barrow Club.

Whitehaven in view of the negotiations going on between Barrow and ourselves contacted us again and, because of a generous donation from their supporters organisation decided they could now offer £1,000 for Burns and this was accepted. Surely it is better to cut one's losses.

The whole point in enquiring about Delooze was not 'a sprat to catch a mackerel' as has been said but a sensible way in which to get a forward playing for you in preference to a forward not playing for you.

To say that "the affair has been handled badly" and that we "have taken Barrow for a ride" is just ridiculous.

Final note: Just over two years ago Tommy Warburton and Bob Irving signed for Oldham, and didn't cost £1,000 between them.

WELCOME TO SALFORD

Our visitors today are the fast improving Salford side, who have now probably the best social facilities in the league at their ground, the Willows.

In two previous meetings this season, both at the Willows, each side has won once, Salford in the league game and ourselves in the second round of the Lancashire Cup. All is set for the 'conqueror' this afternoon.

This match is something of a return home for a number of players now associated with Salford, viz. Vin Nestor, Geoff Sims, Terry Ogden and Stuart

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- 4—HOLROYD, P.
- 5—DOLLY, T.
- 6—DONOVAN, J.
- 7—CANNING, T.
- 8—BOTT, C.
- 9—TAYLOR, K.
- 10—WILSON, K.
- 11—SMETHURST, P.
- 12—FLETCHER, G.
- 13—PARKER, D.
- Substitutes—
- 14—BUCKLEY
- 15—A. N. OTHER

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- 4—NESTOR, V.
- 5—SOUTHWARD, J.
- 6—McINNES
- 7—BRENNAN, J.
- 8—COLLIER, F.
- 9—BURDELL
- 10—OGDEN, T.
- 11—WHITEHEAD
- 12—BREEN, A.
- 13—HUGHES, A.
- Substitutes—
- 14—SIMS, G.
- 15—HENNIGHAN, M.

Touch Judges :
(Yellow Flag)
H. JACKSON (Barrow)
(Crimson Flag)
J. HEAP (Rochdale)

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Whitehead have all worn Oldham's first team colours and, of course, Griff Jenkins the former Watersheddings coach is now coach at Salford.

David Evans ex-Rochdale Hornets is a sound player and will wear the full-back jersey today. On the wings they have Paul Murphy and Cumberland County player Joe Southward. Another Cumberland player Les Bettinson and Vin Nestor fill the centre spots while former Sale R.U. star McInnes plays at stand off. McInnes has become something of a drop goal expert so he will have to be watched very closely this afternoon. Jack Brennan works the scrum.

Two former Widnes players, two former Oldham players, Huddersfield and St. Helens make up the Salford pack, namely Collier, Burdell, Ogden, Whitehead, Breen and Hughes. Geoff Sims will be the back substitute.

CASTLEFORD SCORE BIG MACKESON WIN MASSIVE LEAD IN CONTEST TABLE

Castleford have scored a resounding win in Period 3 of the current Mackeson Rugby League Contest. Alan Hardisty's men have won the flag and silver tankards with the highest average of the season, the highest Period 3 average ever, and the biggest-ever margin over their rivals.

The Flood-lit TV Champions scored an average of 27.67 points in winning all their six matches in the Period. Next best, in a continued spell of Yorkshire domination, were Wakefield Trinity (18.25), Hull K.R. (16.63) and Leeds (15.50).

Castleford's Mackeson success is their second since the contest began five seasons ago—their previous win was in Period 4 of the 1963/4 campaign.

Castleford's prizes will be presented before the start of their important televised home match with Leeds on Saturday, February 11.

Due to lack of space we have had to hold over MEET THE PLAYERS—No. 13

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LEADING POSITIONS AFTER MATCHES PLAYED ON JANUARY 14th

		Matches played	Points scored	Average	Points against
1	Hull K.R.	27	570	21.11	270
2	Leeds	26	515	19.81	272
3	Castleford	24	449	18.71	258
4	Halifax	24	416	17.33	370
5	Wakefield T.	26	433	16.65	287
6	St. Helens	25	416	16.64	279
7	Workington T.	25	388	15.52	266
8	Wigan	28	433	15.46	359
9	Hull	24	370	15.42	335
10	Oldham	26	397	15.27	285

LEADING POSITIONS — FINAL TABLE

		Matches played	Points scored	Average	Points against
1	Castleford	6	166	27.67	32
2	Wakefield T.	8	146	18.25	62
3	Hull K.R.	8	133	16.63	89
4	Leeds	10	155	15.50	86
5	Wigan	8	115	14.38	67
6	Huddersfield	8	104	13.00	84
7	Dewsbury	9	115	12.78	53
8	Hull	8	102	12.75	99
9	Barrow	6	75	12.50	45
10	Hunslet	8	100	12.50	65
11	Workington T.	8	99	12.38	78
12	Keighley	7	84	12.00	94
13	York	6	68	11.33	75
14	Bradford N.	8	89	11.13	64
15	Oldham	8	87	10.88	76

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FIXTURES FOR 1966 - 67

First Team

Date 1966		Opponents	Venue	Result	Date 1967		Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 20	(S)	Hull	Away	W 24-12	Jan. 7	(S)	Wigan	Away	P'oned
" 23	(Tu)	Blackpool Borough	Home	W 40-9	" 14	(S)	Barrow	Away	W 13-8
" 27	(S)	Hull	Home	W 20-7	" 21	(S)	Salford	Home	
Sept. 2	(F)	Swinton	Home	W 16-13	" 27	(F)	St. Helens	Away	
" 10	(S)	(Lancs. Cup 1st Rd.)			Feb. 4	(S)	(1)		
" 12	(M)	Salford	Away	L 13-15	" 11	(S)	Workington T.	Home	
" 17	(S)	(Lancs. Cup 2nd Rd.)			" 18	(S)	St. Helens	Home	
" 24	(S)	Blackpool B.	Away	W 22-4	" 25	(S)	(2)		
" 27	(S)	Whitehaven	Home	W 37-9	Mar. 3	(F)	Widnes	Away	
" 30	(F)	Hallifax	Away	L 15-23	" 11	(S)	Huddersfield	Home	
Oct. 8	(S)	Wigan	Home	L 15-16	" 24	(F)	Swinton	Away	
" 14	(F)	Liverpool C.	Away	W 19-15	" 25	(S)	Widnes	Home	
" 22	(S)	Rochdale H.	Home	W 12-7	" 27	(M)	Hallifax	Home	
" 29	(S)	Whitehaven	Away	L 0-12					
Nov. 5	(S)	Wigan (L.C. Final)	Away	L 13-16					
" 11	(F)	Leeds	Away	L 14-21					
" 18	(F)	Liverpool C.	Home	W 11-2					
" 22	(Tu)	Warrington	Away	L 17-21					
" 25	(F)	Widnes (Fl'it Comp.)	Away	W 14-11					
Dec. 3	(S)	Leeds	Home	W 16-13					
" 10	(S)	Workington T.	Away	W 13-9					
" 14	(W)	Barrow	Home	W 10-4					
" 17	(S)	Leigh	Away	L 8-12					
" 24	(S)	Leigh	Home	W 14-5					
" 26	(M)	Huddersfield	Away	L 7-13					
" 27	(Tu)	Swinton	Home	P'oned					
" 31	(S)	Rochdale H.	Away	0-0 Abnd.					
		Warrington	Home	L 6-12					

NEXT MATCH AT WATERSHEDDINGS

OLDHAM v WORKINGTON

Saturday, February 11th

Kick-off 3 p.m.



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