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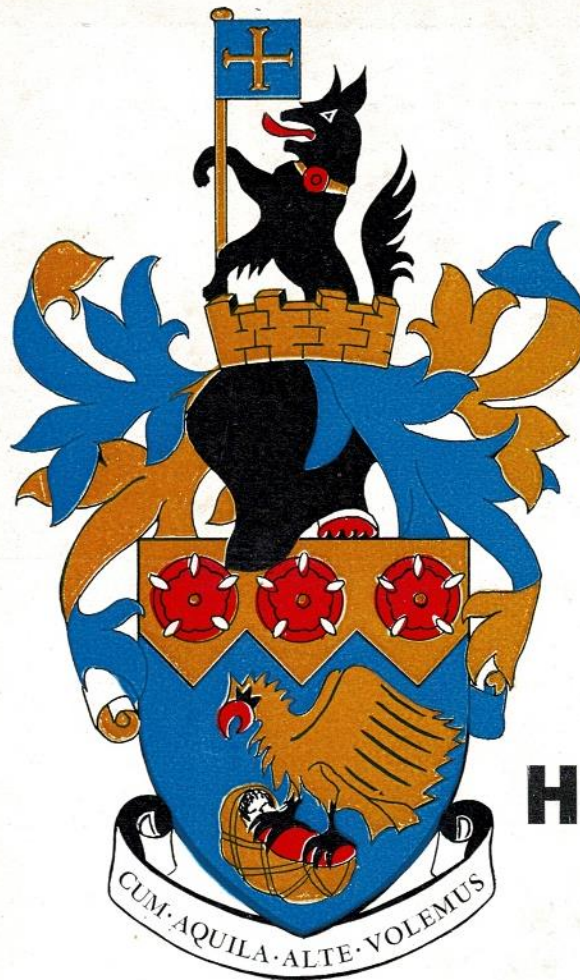
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SATURDAY 11th JANUARY
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Hello there Huyton fans! Well, what a performance our boys turned in last Saturday at Watersheddings when they slammed, yes slammed, the home team to the tune of 13 points to 5. This was just the tonic our club needed in view of the Wembley Cup-ties just around the corner.

For the second season in succession we beat Oldham before their own supporters—a record denied quite a few of the more fashionable clubs. Most fans agree that Oldham, on the day, had a miserable game. Nevertheless, I don't entirely accept that as the only reason why Huyton proved too good for them. The proof is always in the eating of the pudding, as the saying goes, and it is worthy of note that the sporting public of Oldham gave the Huyton boys a great reception as they left the field at the end.

Everyone of our 13 boys deserved full praise for the way they went about their job and none more so than present scrum-half and captain John Smith. He carried off the Players' Award for the third successive time while John Evans, who improves with every game—and Albert Heesom scored brilliant tries on the day.

What a good thing it is that the planned deal with Warrington which would have brought full-back and goal-kicker Keith Affleck to Alt Park in exchange for Albert Heesom fell through. If ever a player showed what he thought about such a deal Albert did against Oldham. He was just marvellous and just a touch of that form today and in the forthcoming tie against Warrington will put the Huyton tail up.

Yes, Huyton were as good as that. Indeed, their defence conceded just one try to the home side and that came in the dying minutes!

Those Huyton fans who did not see two of their team's three tries really missed a treat. I don't think I have seen two better tries out of the side than Albert Heesom's scorching 60-yarder midway through the first half and the crowning touch by Les Chisnall after a superb four-man move. Incidentally, this was Les's

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seventh try of the season—truly indicative of his current play.

Well, all eyes were glued to "the Box" and "steam radio" last Friday evening when the draw was made for the first round proper of the R.L. Challenge Cup Competition. I for one gave a squeal of delight when we came out first and at the same time drawing Warrington. This is the type of challenge our boys need and my first reaction was to think in terms of the game obviously being played at Alt Park. Sorry to say, however, that this is, of course, just not possible.

I now understand the game has been transferred to Wilderspool Stadium and though it means having to play yet another "home" game away, the Oldham victory gives rise for considerable hope in the venture. Warrington are by no means the power they were and despite the steadying influence of their new coach Joe Egan I feel sure Jack Broome will fancy his chances on 25th January.

The Rugby League Challenge Cup tourney is a real money-spinner and what is more it always provides the usual number of shocks en route to the great Stadium. It may be tempting providence in tipping our boys to get through to the next round but similar things have been accomplished in the past. We can but try!

Well folks, today we entertain Oldham again and again by kind permission of our good friends from Widnes, the match is taking place at Naughton Park.

What we did last week should, by all that's even, be capable of being done again today. No doubt our feat last Saturday—described by some Scribes as the "performance of the day"—will have circulated in the area and the Widnes sporting public will come along just to see the improvement our boys have made. I hope so.

We bid our opponents welcome nonetheless and hope that the game will be played in the fine spirit which prevailed at Watersheddings last Saturday. Oldham have a name for playing the open type game and if conditions are right, paying customers will really get their money's worth.

The news that we are to disband the "A" team TEMPORARILY came as a bit of a shock to "Yours Truly" just the same. I understand that a panel of about 20 players has been chosen from which the first team will be selected.

The measure is, like I say, temporary however, and only for the season under review. The "A" team will be reformed in time for the start of the 1969-70 season. The main factor in the club taking this controversial decision was to help preserve the new pitch at Alt Park. A list of 10 home first team games are yet to be played there following the reversal and postponement of fixtures due to the ground not being ready for first team duty. Only four away League games remain and to try and fit in all their "A" team games as well as the long list of first team matches would have meant very heavy wear for the new turf.

Still, not to worry. We are still doing nicely, thank you and here's to a great game today. See You. . . .

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- 1 HEESOM, Alec
- 2 EVANS
- 3 CHISNALL
- 4 BRIGHT
- 5 TRAINOR
or PICKERSGILL
- 6 HEATON, D.
- 7 SMITH
- 8 PAYNE
- 9 NEWTON 2G
- 10 BRIDGEWATER
or BONNER
- 11 BONSER
- 12 HEESOM, Albert T
- 13 WILLS

Referee:
Mr. B. BAKER (Wigan)

OLDHAM 3

- 1 WHITEHEAD
- 2 ELLIOTT
- 3 CRELLIN
- 4 McCORMACK T
- 5 LARDER
- 6 DAVIES
- 7 SMITH or CANNING
- 8 OGDEN
- 9 TAYLOR
- 10 FLETCHER
- 11 McCOURT
- 12 IRVING
- 13 CLARKE
- 14 CANNING
- 15 WILSON



Touch Judges:
Mr. E. LEA (St. Helens)
Mr. W. RIGBY (Leigh)

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1968	F	A	1968	F	A
Aug. 17	Keighley	A 12 17	26		
24	Hunslet	A 0 25	28	Doncaster	H P P
31	Wigan	A 7 43			
Sept. 2	Blackpool B.	A 11 32	1969		F A
6	Widnes (L.C.)	A 15 16	Jan. 4	Oldham	A 13 5
21	St. Helens	A 10 11	11	Oldham	H
24	Warrington	A 7 25	18	Barrow	H
27	Swinton	A 10 19	25	1st Rd. R.L. Cup	
Oct. 5	Featherstone R.	A 7 38	Feb. 1	Salford	H
12	Doncaster	A 2 11	8		
19	Whitehaven	H 18 12	15	Whitehaven (2 R.L.C.)	A
26	Barrow	A 14 32	22	Swinton	H
Nov. 2	Featherstone R.	H 7 5	Mar. 1	Widnes (3 R.L.C.)	H
9	Hunslet	H 13 11	7	St. Helens	H
16	Workington T.	A 2 43	15	Blackpool B.	H
23	Wigan	H 11 28	22	R.L. Cup Semi-Finals	
30	Keighley	H 3 15	29	R.L. Cup Semi-Finals	
Dec. 7	Leigh	A 8 19	Apr. 5		
14	Rochdale H.	H 0 10	7	Widnes	A
21	Rochdale H.	A 11 23	11	Salford	A
25			19	Leigh	H

HUYTON R.L.F.C. "A" TEAM FIXTURES 1968-69

1968	F	A	1968	F	A
Aug 17			25		
28	Wigan	A 13 16	26		
31			28		
Sept. 6	Widnes 'A' (L.C.C.S.)	A 9 22	1969		
14	Workington T. 'A'	A 17 33	Jan. 4	Oldham 'A'	H
16	Widnes 'A' (L.C.C.S.)	H 10 15	11	Oldham 'A'	A
20			18	Barrow 'A'	H
28	Swinton 'A'	H 8 9	25		
Oct. 5			Feb. 1	Salford 'A'	A
12			8	Warrington 'A'	H
19	Whitehaven 'A'	A	15	Whitehaven 'A'	H
26	Barrow 'A'	A 23 20	21	Swinton 'A'	A
Nov. 2			Mar. 1	Widnes 'A'	A
9			8	St. Helens 'A'	H
16	Workington T. 'A'	H	15		
23			22	Warrington 'A'	A
30			29	Wigan 'A'	H
Dec. 7	Leigh 'A'	H	Apr. 5	Widnes 'A'	H
14	Rochdale H. 'A'	A	12	Salford 'A'	H
21	Rochdale H. 'A'	H	19	Leigh 'A'	A



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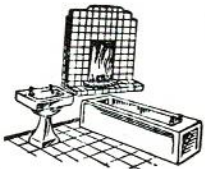
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