

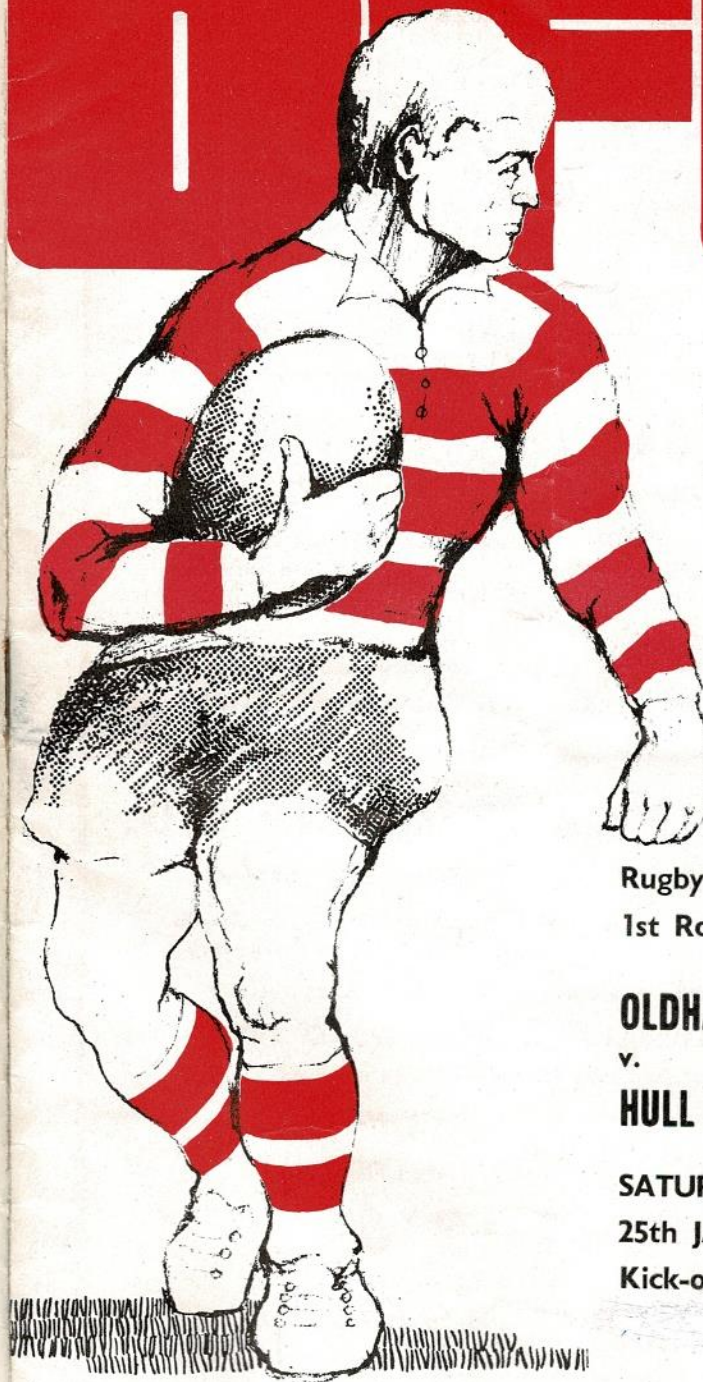


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Rugby League Challenge Cup
1st Round

OLDHAM

v.

HULL K. R.

SATURDAY,
25th JANUARY, 1969
Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

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RUGBY LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP ROUND ONE

Today sees the first round of the R.L. Challenge Cup under way (with the exception of a couple of games played last night). Wembley is just 320 minutes away but there is some hard work to be done before those 320 minutes are up.

However the only match in which we ourselves are concerned with at this particular time is the one this afternoon which reads Oldham v. Hull K.R., and if the game is as exciting as the one last week against Salford, then no one will grumble.

It was a feast of football from the word go and the result was most welcome at Oldham. Personally I put our success in this game down to a few factors. We had a hooker winning the scrums, two half backs in tip-top form and a side which took every chance to grab tries. These factors together with the fine goal kicking of Derek Whitehead and every single player playing his heart out formulated the key to success.

Salford finally were a disjointed team who had been run into the ground by the force of a team in sparkling form. We all hope this form is maintained this afternoon.

Going back to the Cup-tie it is interesting to note that Kingston Rovers are certainly showing an interest

in the match by the purchase of two International players, Carl Dooler and Peter Small. These two players have cost Rovers somewhere in the region of £10,000. They are both on view this afternoon and should help to swell the 'gate'.

Hull K. R. are not having such a happy time at present having lost their last few matches. Recently they went down to Batley by 13 points to 3, and last Saturday Bradford Northern beat them 15-11 in a game which, I understand, the Rovers were much improved.

Markham is a sound full back and is certainly a good replacement for Cyril Kellett. The Hull threequarters are not quite at full strength with the absence of Chris Young with a knee injury, but Wainwright, Moore, Wrigglesworth and Burwell is a threequarter line which much compare with the best when it is playing to form.

Roger Millward passed a fitness test on his ankle at Hull this week but is bracketed for the stand off job with Stephenson. If Millward does play Stephenson will no doubt get the No. 14 shirt, although scrum half Cooper could be a strong challenger.

In the pack K.R. are strengthened with the purchase of Peter Small from Castleford. Peter is selected in the second row and will pack down behind Clawson, Coverley and Mennell, and

alongside Hickson, with Lowe getting the loose forward job.

On paper Hull Kingston should provide tough but attractive opposition. Let us hope it is a good game and that a good crowd turn up to see what should be a great cup tie.

JIM CRELLIN

We extend a warm welcome to the Oldham Club to our recent signing from Workington Town, Jim Crellin. Jim has certainly settled down as far as his football goes and played a great game last Saturday against Salford, which earned him second place in the Player of the Match awards.

Jim starts a new job on Monday week at Hawker Siddeley, but he is still on the look out for suitable accommodation.

RUGBY LEAGUE DOCUMENTARY

B.B.C. have been filming in Lancashire and Yorkshire recently on all aspects of the Rugby League game. Fans who travelled to Featherstone earlier in the season will remember the camera teams running on to the field when play was stopped to get close ups of certain incidents.

They have visited matches, dressing rooms, social clubs, Board meetings, etc. and the full documentary will be shown on BBC 1 on Tuesday, 18th February, 1969 at 9-05 p.m. Supporters might like to make a note of this in their diaries.

THAT TURF!

I would like to offer my congratulations to the ground staff who have kept the playing pitch in a first class order this season.

Last Saturday despite torrential rain the ground was a credit at kick-off time and it certainly did not cut up as much as it was perhaps expected to do.

At present I think we can look at our ground and safely say it matches up to the best in the league.

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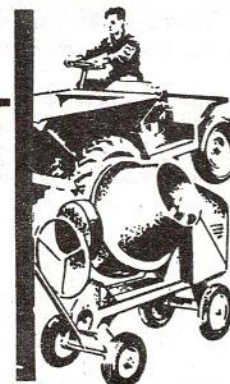
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- 9—COVERLEY
- 10—MENNELL
- 11—SMALL
- 12—HICKSON
- 13—LOWE

Substitutes :

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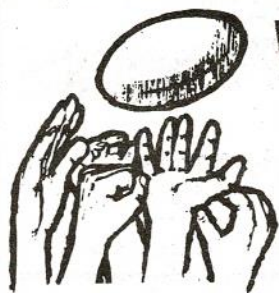
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'200' CLUB

The final draw for the £500 prize will be made in the Social Club on Wednesday evening next, 29th January. Immediately after the draw a new '200' Club will start and anyone interested in joining is asked to contact the Secretary or the Pools' Organiser.

VAT 69 AWARD

The Vat 69 award will be given to the first player to score 23 tries (69 pts) in senior competitive rugby in the calendar year starting January 1st, 1969. The following matches will count :- All N.R.F.L. Club first team matches played in the League, Challenge Cup, County Cup, Floodlight Competition, Full International and County matches.

Seven-a-side games will **not** count.

HUYTON HOLD ON !

Huyton made it clear on Friday (Jan. 17) that they don't intend losing their hard-won Mackeson Golden Ball without a struggle.

They beat Barrow 20-3 and Secretary Ken Grundy now says Huyton are 'quietly confident' about the 1st round tie against Warrington today.

Too long one of the cinderella clubs of the Rugby League, there are now big hopes at Huyton (formerly Liverpool City) now their new Alt Park ground nears readiness. With a £75 boost in the trophy the Huyton players look to today to start a useful Cup run and a further build-up of Mackeson money in the Ball.

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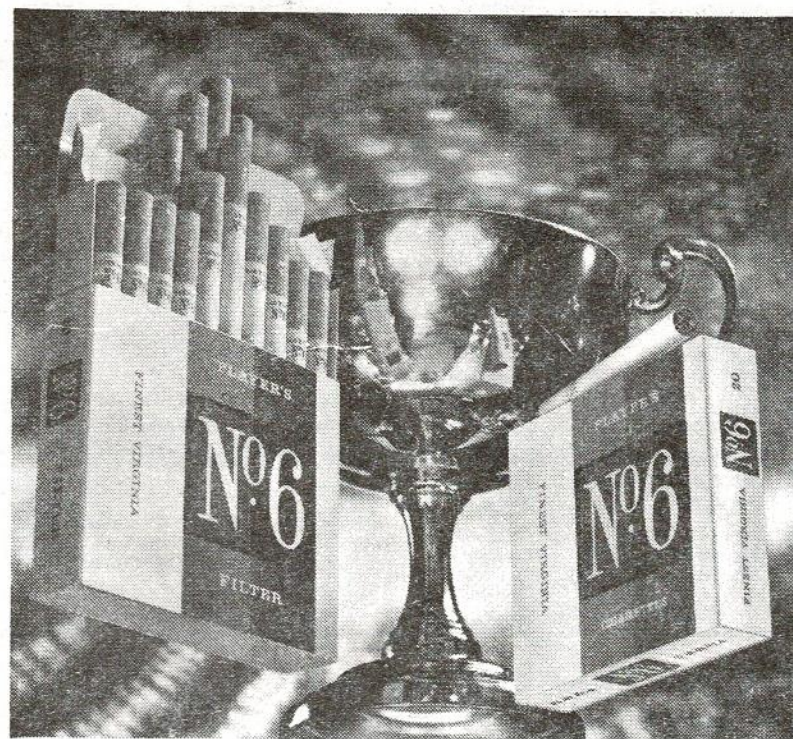
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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

| Date | Club | Grd. | F | A |
|---------|--------------------------|------|-------|----|
| Aug. 10 | Blackpool (friendly) ... | home | 37... | 27 |
| 17 | Huddersfield | away | 14... | 19 |
| 19 | Blackpool | home | 29... | 5 |
| 24 | Featherstone R. | home | 22... | 24 |
| 28 | Rochdale H. | away | 14... | 22 |
| 31 | Workington T. | away | 10... | 29 |
| Sept. 6 | Rochdale (Lancs. Cup) .. | away | 17... | 5 |
| 9 | Blackpool B. | away | 44... | 10 |
| 14 | Hunslet | away | 22... | 14 |
| 21 | Wigan | home | 4... | 9 |
| 28 | Doncaster | away | 26... | 10 |
| Oct. 5 | Huddersfield | home | 15... | 13 |
| 12 | Featherstone R. | away | 12... | 23 |
| 19 | Widnes | home | 17... | 9 |
| 25 | Salford | away | 2... | 4 |
| Nov. 11 | Wigan | away | 3... | 50 |
| 15 | Warrington | home | 14... | 10 |
| 30 | St. Helens | away | | |
| Dec. 1 | Whitehaven | away | 15... | 6 |
| 7 | Hunslet | home | 30... | 13 |
| 14 | Leigh | home | | |
| 20 | Widnes | away | 5 | 26 |
| 22 | Whitehaven | home | 17... | 7 |
| 26 | Swinton | home | | |
| Jan. 4 | Huyton | home | 5 | 13 |
| 8 | Warrington | away | 19... | 10 |
| 11 | Huyton | away | 3 | 7 |
| 18 | Salford | home | 22... | 12 |
| Feb. 1 | Leigh | away | | |
| 8 | St. Helens | home | | |
| Mar. 1 | Workington T. | home | | |
| 8 | Barrow | home | | |
| 15 | Doncaster | home | | |
| Apr. 4 | Swinton (G.F.) | away | | |
| 7 | Rochdale H. (E.M.) ... | home | | |
| 11 | Barrow | away | | |

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

| Date | Club | Grd. | F | A |
|---------|--------------------------|------|---|---|
| Aug. 31 | Workington 'A' | home | | |
| Sept. 7 | Rochdale 'A' (Shield) .. | away | | |
| 14 | Rochdale 'A' (Shield) .. | home | | |
| 21 | Wigan 'A' | away | | |
| Oct. 12 | Rochdale 'A' | home | | |
| 19 | Widnes 'A' | away | | |
| 26 | Salford 'A' | home | | |
| Nov. 2 | Whitehaven 'A' | away | | |
| 9 | Wigan 'A' | home | | |
| 16 | Warrington 'A' | away | | |
| 23 | Whitehaven 'A' | home | | |
| 30 | St. Helens 'A' | home | | |
| Dec. 14 | Leigh 'A' | away | | |
| 21 | Widnes 'A' | home | | |
| 28 | Warrington 'A' | home | | |
| Jan. 4 | Huyton 'A' | away | | |
| 11 | Huyton 'A' | home | | |
| 18 | Salford 'A' | away | | |
| Feb. 1 | Leigh 'A' | home | | |
| 8 | St. Helens 'A' | away | | |
| Mar. 1 | Workington T. 'A' ... | away | | |
| 8 | Barrow 'A' | away | | |
| 21 | Swinton 'A' | away | | |
| Apr. 7 | Rochdale 'A' | away | | |
| 12 | Barrow 'A' | home | | |
| 19 | Swinton 'A' | home | | |

Times of Kick-off

All Saturday games at home k.o. 3 p.m. Evening k.o.'s as advertised. All 1st & 'A' team matches.

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