

HAVEN

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MATCHDAY
MAGAZINE
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1972 - 1973

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6th, 1973. KICK-OFF 2-30 p.m.

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SEASON 1972-1973

WHITEHAVEN

	Tries	Goals	Pts.
1—ROSE
2—MORRIS
3—GRACEY
4—COTTIER
5—SEWELL
6—MATHER
7—SMITH
8—PRINGLE
9—McCRACKEN
10—IRVING
11—McFARLANE
12—GLAISTER
13—MARTIN R.
14—TODD
15—McLEAN

OLDHAM

	Tries	Goals	Pts.
1—MURPHY
2—ELLIOTT
3—LARDER
4—DAVIES
5—HODGKINSON
6—WAINWRIGHT
7—McCONE
8—WILSON
9—TAYLOR
10—HALSALL
11—IRVING
12—ASHCROFT
13—REYNOLDS
14—
15—

Referee : Mr. G. WILSON, Dewsbury.

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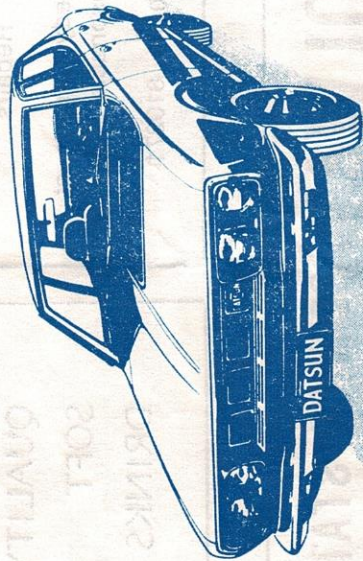
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IN MY OPINION

What a great revival, who can now doubt that the greatest team in Cumberland without fear of contradiction are the lads from Whitehaven, we are the greatest, and last Monday we reigned supreme, we dominated Workington from start to finish in every section except the hooking department, and here we can say that what Billy McCracken didn't do in the scrums he certainly made up for it in the loose.

Five wins on the trot including 3 away games, a really great performance lads, and today we can make it 6, we know Oldham have made a great revival, but so have we and "gut feel" tells me we can pull it off.

What about the crowd, nearly 2,000 on such a terrible murky wet day, it shows that interest does exist and we all hope that you'll come again to see the team of stars.

Alan Sewell's try against Workington put him just in front of Rodney Morris as the leading try scorer with a total to date of 8, and I'm only counting league matches, what a far cry from a couple of season's ago when we all cried out for a pair of wingers. Alan and Rodney have certainly filled the gaps beautifully and we can all be proud of them.

Looking through the results of this season to date, and last season it is interesting to note that when "Spanky" McFarlane scores in a match we always win, so let's have some more dropped goals please "Spanky."

How many of us knew before the game that John Pringle was in bed with the dreaded flu less than two hours before the match? Very few I bet! And yet he managed to show what a great superb player he is by turning on a sterling performance, John must have been "shattered" after the match.

No doubt we all know that we play Bradford Northern away in the first round of the cup, and on our present performance I see no problem at all. I am convinced that the lads will wipe the floor with them and return victors. I don't mind the team going away so much, after all it's a long time since we last did. What I object to is we only have one match in February at home and that isn't many.

JACK HIGGINS.

NEXT HOME MATCH

Another Big One For The Chop

WHITEHAVEN v WIGAN

SUNDAY, 21st JANUARY, 1973. KICK-OFF 2-30 p.m.

OLDHAM

Today we welcome to the Recreation Ground, our friends from Lancashire — Oldham — and wish them in this their first game of 1973 a Happy New Year.

Seven years ago Oldham were the pride of Lancashire and figured prominently in many awards, unfortunately they slid into a rapid decline and finished near the bottom of the league table season after season. Last season saw the end of the rot which had set it, and Oldham set about getting new players and building a team around existing potential stars. Under the leadership of Chairman Arthur Walker, players with loads of experience were purchased, players like Cliff Hill, Keith Ashcroft and Frank Foster. It wasn't long before these great players were blending in with the other Oldham players to make a 'comeback', and what a 'comeback' it was. From rag to riches the Cinderella's of the game, from a shaky start to finishing the season without defeat, in their last 9 matches. Without a shadow of doubt the purchase of Frank Foster and the return to form of their captain Cliff Hill certainly gave Oldham their late spurt to finish from near bottom up to 13th from the top of the league table.

Many thought that it was a "flash in the pan" revival, however the club had other ideas, and during the close season plans and schemes were put down to show that the club directors intended Oldham to take their place at the top again.

Arthur Walker re-introduced the 'Law Cop' revival with Rochdale Hornets, this had been abandoned six years ago, because Rochdale were putting too much sting into the game. Arthur revitalised the cup to arouse interest in the game and this was just the start, after all Oldham had reported a loss of £10,000 last season and this couldn't go on. The first match of the season Oldham presented six dolly birds in Red and White to cheer on the club, the second match saw Haven defeated by 30 points to 13, Oldham's scorers Norman Hodgkinson 2 tries, Geoff Munro, Phil Lander, Bill Chorm, Bob Irving each with 1 try and Phil Lander kicking 6 goals, Haven's reply was a try each by Keith Irving, Mike Barwise and John Pringle and Keith Irving kicking 2 goals. The lead set by the club has triggered off a chain reaction and Rugby has again become the No. 1 talking point in the pubs and clubs of Oldham, as Oldham are now producing their best football for 10 years. With 116 tries last season and 145 goals, they certainly have plenty to talk about. Phil Lander 'bagged' 261 goals himself last season, and another big talking point was that they scored 33 tries in 4 consecutive games.

WHITEHAVEN RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

FIXTURES 1972/1973

For Ag.			
August			
20—Widnes	A 13 35		H 17 15
23—Oldham	A 13 30		A 9 58
26—Salford	H 17 32		H 12 7
28—Barrow	H 8 13		A 20 10
			A 20 10
			A 15 13
September			
3—Rochdale 1st Round	H 19 24		H 5 0
Lancashire Cup	A 8 6		H 5 0
8—Wigan	H 12 11		A
15—Halifax	H 11 16		A
23—Featherstone	H 5 13		A
30—Dewsbury			A
October			
8—Widnes	H 20 13		H
14—Halifax	A 22 23		H
21—Leigh	H 23 20		A
28—Keighley	A 8 17		H
November			
4—Bramley	A 2 18		A
12—Warrington	H 11 12		A
18—Swinton	A 7 25		H
26—Rochdale	H 7 9		A
December			
3—Blackpool			H
10—Warrington			A
16—Keighley			H
23—Huyton			A
26—Barrow			A
30—Dewsbury			A
January			
1—Warrington			H
6—Oldham			H
14—Blackpool			A
21—Wigan			H
27—1st Round Challenge Cup			A
February			
2—Salford			A
10—			A
17—2nd Round Challenge Cup			H
24—Swinton			H
March			
4—Rochdale			A
11—St. Helens			H
18—Leigh			A
24—Bramley			H
30—St. Helens			A
April			
7—			A
11—			A
20—Huyton			H
21—Warrington			A

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... scoring,
... one or two players
... contemplating their
... future in the senior side
... with competition for places forth-
... coming from the "A" team.

HOW THE POINTS CAME

32: Mather try and goal, 5-0
46: McFarlane drop goal, 7-9
50: Mather goal, 9-0

WHITEHAVEN: Rose, Morris,
Gracey, Cottier, Sewell, Mather, Smith,
Glaister, McCracken, Irving, McFarlane,
second-half.

OLDHAM: Murphy, Elliott, Larder,
Davies, Hodgkinson, Wainwright,
McCone, Halsall, Taylor, Wilson,
Irving, Ashcroft, Reynolds.
Referee: Mr. G. Wilson (Dewsbury).
Attendance: 1,000.

RUGBY LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Warrington	20	18	1	1	552	200	37
Leeds	19	16	0	3	484	167	32
Salford	20	15	0	5	503	226	30
Castleford	18	13	2	3	386	177	29
St Helens	19	14	0	5	434	229	28
Wakefield	21	12	2	7	352	230	27
Featherstone R	20	13	0	7	352	243	27
Oldham	21	11	1	9	365	335	26
Widnes	20	13	0	7	397	325	25
York	21	11	1	9	365	335	26
Wigan	20	13	0	7	397	325	25
HORNETS	19	11	1	7	244	244	24