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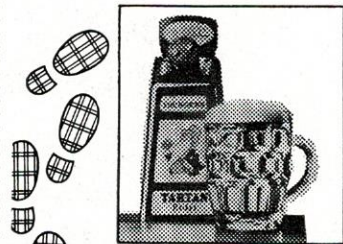
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7p OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 7p

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'A' Team Coach.

Mr. JOHN SHERIDAN

Colts Coach

Mr. DENNIS HARTLEY

Ground: WHELDON ROAD, CASTLEFORD (Tel. 2674)

OUR VISITORS

For this evening's game we welcome to Wheldon Road the Officials, Players and Supporters of Oldham. At the present time their team is placed sixth from the bottom in the First Division, but have quite a few matches in hand of other clubs concerned in the relegation struggle, and they should certainly steer clear of this problem.

Oldham, promoted to the 1st Division this season, have now built up a useful side, making some canny buys to strengthen their playing personnel. Now coached by Jim Challiner, former Great Britain and St. Helens coach, the team consists of quite a few players from our own area. These include props Terry Ramshaw, now skipper of the side, and Barry Kear, who was bought from Hull this season for £2,000, a fee voluntarily donated by their supporters. Another local in the pack who has played for most of the season is Dickie Brown, recently placed on the transfer list. At half-back two players who live at Pontefract, David Treasure, formerly with Bradford N., and Mick McCone who was bought from Doncaster. Two seasons ago they signed winger Stephen Lunn, who played with our "Under 17" team, but he does not yet appear to have consolidated a first team spot.

Other notable players in the team from Watersheddings include international full back Martin Murphy, goal-kicking centre Phil Larder, hooker Kevin Taylor and one of the bargain buys of the season in second row forward Keith Flanagan. Out of the side through a serious injury is Tony Wainwright, former Leeds centre.

When we played at Oldham in January in snowy conditions we came away victors by 8 pts—6, a pointer that this evening's game could well be a hard fought affair.

CLUB NOTES

Team Performance

Since the best-to-be forgotten cup tie against Salford, the 1st Team, as if to prove their performance was completely out of character, have gone from strength to strength and have won all six matches played and scored 168 pts to 37 against in the process. This has been done by good, clean, attractive rugby played in the best tradition and it is worthwhile mentioning at this stage that no 1st Team player has been sent off this season, a record for which all concerned can be justly proud.

In that fine win over Wigan last week, two performances stand out for special mention—the breaking of the club's and his own personal record of 121 goals in a season by Sammy Lloyd, and secondly the impact made by Clive Pickerill in only his second full 1st team appearance. His play was a revelation but not surprising to those supporters who have watched the 'A' Team this season. Well done, Clive, due reward for the dedication and application you have given this season, and an example for other young players to follow.

Another player worthy of mention for his standard of improvement this season is prop Alan Bence, now surely one of the best number 8's in the game.

Injured List

Our playing strength has been severely hit recently by injury and illness and for the last two weeks we have been unable to field an 'A' Team.

This formidable list includes players who are out of action for the rest of the season—Keith Worsley, Alan Lowndes, Steve Norton, Derek Woodall and Roy Hepton, who have suffered breaks or need surgical treatment; Steve Fenton has a knee injury, Gary Stephens—hand trouble, Ray Newton—bronchitis, Malcolm Reilly—knee trouble and so on.

TREVOR BRIGGS / MICK REDFEARN TESTIMONIAL FUND

A big "thank you" to the Committee and members of WHELDALE CORONATION WORKING MEN'S CLUB for the concert which resulted in approximately £75 being raised for the Fund.

BUFFET DANCE in the Brigshaw Comprehensive School on Friday, April 9th Dancing to the JOE GARRETT SOUND from 7.30 p.m. till midnight. Admission £1.50 — Tickets now on sale.

THE SELECT YOUR BEST TEAM COMPETITION is now in full swing. Six winning prizes of Patrons' Tickets for the 1976/77 season. Closing date for entries — April 19th. This competition is creating a terrific amount of interest — HAVE A GO — only 5p per entry.

Arrangements are going ahead to stage a Benefit Match on the Wheldon Road Ground on Sunday, May 23rd. Castleford Versus an International team chosen by Roger Millward. — More details later.



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By Roger Halstead
of the *Oldham Evening Chronicle*

RUGBY LEAGUE coverage in the national press is very much on the decline.

It is perhaps unfair to generalise because some papers do allocate more space to League than others. But it doesn't need a close scrutiny of the nationals to conclude with a reasonable degree of accuracy that our game is losing column inches—and losing them fast.

You cannot put a pint into a gill glass, and vast changes in our social climate over the last decade or so have led to the growth in popularity of such participation sports as fishing, bowls, squash and numerous other hobbies and pastimes that are now overtaking Rugby League in the national paper sports editors' list of priorities.

As League has waned—certainly in terms of gate figures—there has been a boom in other sports, Union included, and this is not unnaturally reflected in our sports pages.

While sitting at home the other day I glanced, at random, at three popular morning papers.

One carried 15 paragraphs of Rugby League, a 12-paragraph bowls column, and no fewer than 38 paragraphs of Rugby Union, split into five different stories by named writers.

Another carried ONE filler par on League but a huge spread on bowls, including a picture.

Another managed 10 paragraphs on League in its total of six tabloid pages of sport.

I am well aware that I am leaving myself wide open to accusations that you cannot gauge the quantity of publicity given to any one sport by merely taking one day's editions.

It could, I agree, have been a quiet day on the League front—but with papers regularly carrying news and features these days on squash, bowls and fishing it must naturally follow that League coverage diminishes.

Sadly, this is only the start of it. With the advance of technology in the printing and allied industries vast changes in national newspaper production are envisaged in the next year or two.

Manchester, in the next few years, will lose its "pull" as the biggest national newspaper centre outside Fleet Street. One can expect a much heavier concentration of production from London.

There is a very real threat of the League area—Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cumbria—becoming little more than a grey area on the national papers' map of campaign, if not exactly a mere dot.

Alive to the problems, the R.L. Council appointed, a little more than 18 months ago, its own P.R.O. in the shape of the energetic and hard-working David Howes.

As a full-time journalist himself David knows as well as I, or any other newspaperman working in Rugby League, just how hard life can be in the battle for space—possibly more so than many, including myself, working in newspapers covering a limited area.

He is doing a good job in the face of the most tremendous odds, but he needs the support and backing of all R.L. men—and particularly the help of YOU, the fans on the terraces—if the fight is to be won.

In the ultimate analysis it is the views and opinions of you people, the readers of Rugby League, that are going to count most.

YOU are the sports editors' market. YOU are the people who may very well choose which paper you buy on the strength, or weakness, of the game's coverage in that paper. YOU are the men, and women, who need to shout from the grandstands and terraces of our grounds that you want to see more space given to our game.

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6-John Blair

7-David Treasure

Forwards
8-Brian Hughes

9-Kevin Taylor

10-Kevin Flanagan

11-Fred Hall

12-Dicky Brown

13-Tony Peters

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14-

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Rugby League at Wheldon Road

Wednesday 7th April Kick-off 7-30 p.m.

Castleford v Widnes

Thursday 15th April Kick-off 7-30 p.m.

Castleford v Leeds

Easter Monday 19th April Kick-off 7-30 p.m.

Castleford v Featherstone R.

Appearances and Scorers - 1975-76

Up to and including March 27th

Up to and including March 27th

FIRST TEAM

"A" TEAM

	App.	Tries	Gl.	Pnts.
A. Ackroyd ..	9	4	—	12
A. Bence ..	32	3	—	9
C. Birdsall ..	15	—	1d	1
T. Briggs ..	28	6	—	18
G. Brook ..	15	3	—	9
S. Brunyee ..	2	—	—	—
B. Burton ..	8	4	3	18
P. Cookland ..	20	—	—	—
R. Coombs ..	1	—	—	—
A. Dickinson ..	2	—	—	—
S. Fenton ..	11	2	—	6
A. Fisher ..	20	—	—	—
D. Fowler ..	6	1	—	3
Peter Johnson	2	—	—	0
Phil Johnson ..	11	6	—	18
J. Joyner ..	28	11	—	33
G. Lloyd ..	30	5	123	261
A. Lowndes ..	11	3	—	9
G. Morris ..	6	—	—	—
R. Newton ..	20	4	—	12
S. Norton ..	25	7	—	21
P. Orr ..	4	3	—	9
C. Pickerill ..	5	2	—	6
M. Redfearn ..	17	2	7	20
M. Reilly ..	22	7	—	21
T. Richardson	12	2	—	6
T. Sheppard ..	5	1	—	3
R. Spurr ..	26	7	—	21
G. Stephens ..	31	9	—	27
K. Worsley ..	28	10	—	30
G. Wraith ..	24	7	—	21
J. Walsh ..	12	3	1	11

TOTAL 112 134-1d 605

	App.	Tries	Gl.	Pnts.
A. Ackroyd ..	8	3	3	15
M. Bailey ..	7	1	—	3
C. Birdsall ..	7	2	3	12
T. Biscomb ..	13	13	—	39
G. Brook ..	4	2	—	6
S. Brunyee ..	8	6	—	18
B. Burton ..	1	1	—	3
G. Cloughton ..	11	5	—	15
P. Cookland ..	6	—	—	—
R. Coombs ..	21	12	—	36
A. Dickinson ..	8	1	—	3
S. Fenton ..	7	1	—	3
T. Fisher ..	1	—	—	—
B. Garbett ..	21	4	—	12
A. Hardy ..	25	6	3d	21
D. Hartley ..	7	1	—	3
P. Higgins ..	16	5	—	15
J. Huddlestone	17	2	—	6
Peter Johnson	21	3	—	9
Phil Johnson ..	9	3	—	9
A. Johnston ..	5	1	—	3
J. Joyner ..	1	3	—	9
J. Kain ..	10	2	—	6
J. Kear ..	7	1	3	9
G. Lloyd ..	1	—	3	6
P. Longstaffe ..	6	2	—	6
A. Lowndes ..	2	—	—	—
R. Maskill ..	2	—	—	—
G. Morris ..	20	11	—	33
R. Newton ..	2	—	—	—
A. Oulton ..	18	10	66	162
P. Orr ..	3	1	9	21
C. Pickerill ..	27	5	—	15
S. Pincher ..	6	3	6	21
G. Pye ..	1	—	—	—
M. Redfearn ..	12	2	11	28
T. Sheppard ..	11	6	—	18
R. Spurr ..	2	2	—	6
E. Tyreman ..	6	—	—	—
James Walsh ..	21	17	8	67
D. Woodall ..	19	2	—	6
K. Worsley ..	2	—	—	—

TOTAL 139 112-3d 656

"A" TEAM FIXTURES 1975/76

Date	Ground	Opponents	K.O.	For	Against
Saturday August	16	Away	WAKEFIELD T.	3.00	15 17
" "	23	Home	BRADFORD N.	3.00	13 23
" "	30	Away	HALIFAX	3.00	28 12
" "	6	Away	BRAMLEY	3.00	19 9
Friday "	12	Home	LEEDS	7.30	15 20
Saturday "	20	Away	DEWSBURY (1st Rd. Cup)	3.00	19 9
Friday "	26	Home	BATLEY	7.30	51 0
Saturday October	4	Away	HULL K.R.	2.30	20 13
Friday "	10	Home	DEWSBURY	7.30	28 5
Saturday "	18	Home	BRADFORD N. (2nd Rd. Cup)	3.00	20 10
" "	25	Away	HUDDERSFIELD	3.00	25 18
Friday "	31	Home	KEIGHLEY	7.30	29 8
" "	14	Home	NEW HUNSLET	7.30	39 5
Saturday "	22	Away	BATLEY	2.30	24 7
Friday "	28	Home	WAKEFIELD T.	7.30	23 10
Friday December	5	Away	KEIGHLEY	7.30	26 3
" "	12	Home	HULL	7.30	35 6
Saturday "	20	Away	LEEDS	3.00	22 17
" "	27	Home	FEATHERSTONE R. ..	3.00	7 15
Friday January	2	Home	BRAMLEY	7.30	17 10
Saturday "	10	Away	NEW HUNSLET	2.30	32 8
Friday "	16	Home	HULL K.R.	7.30	26 5
Saturday "	24	Away	BRADFORD N.	3.00	Postponed
Wednesday February	4	Home	YORK	7.30	31 2
Saturday "	7	Home	HALIFAX	3.00	Postponed
Friday "	13	Away	DEWSBURY	3.00	16 2
Saturday "	21	Away	HULL	2.30	20 23
Friday March	5	Home	HUDDERSFIELD	7.30	28 6
Saturday "	13	Away	YORK	3.00	13 0
Saturday "	27	Away	FEATHERSTONE R. ..	3.00	Postponed

COLTS FIXTURES 1975/76

Date	Ground	Opponents	K.O.	For	Against
Saturday September	6	Home	LEIGH	3.00	17 23
" "	13	Home	LEEDS	3.00	21 17
" "	20	Away	WAKEFIELD T.	3.00	23 33
" "	27	Away	LEIGH	3.00	10 13
" "	4	Away	HULL K.R.	3.00	7 21
" "	11	Home	ROCHDALE H.	3.00	13 7
" "	25	Away	ST. HELENS	3.00	13 21
" "	1	Home	KEIGHLEY	3.00	16 13
" "	8	Away	SALFORD	2.30	20 16
" "	15	Home	ST. HELENS	2.30	Postponed
" "	22	Away	WIDNES	2.30	45 3
" "	29	Home	WAKEFIELD T.	2.30	Postponed
" "	6	Away	KEIGHLEY	2.30	20 11
" "	13	Home	HULL	2.30	43 0
" "	20	Away	LEEDS	2.30	17 19
" "	27	Home	SALFORD	2.30	Postponed
Saturday January	3	Home	WIDNES	2.30	37 11
" "	10	Away	WIGAN	2.30	2 18
" "	17	Home	HULL K.R.	2.30	19 15
" "	24	Away	WARRINGTON	3.00	14 13
" "	31	Home	YORK	3.00	Postponed
" "	7	Home	WIGAN	3.00	5 17
Sunday	15	Away	Challenge Cup 1st Rd. LEIGH	1.45	10 20
Saturday "	21	Away	HULL	3.00	4 20
" "	28	Away	Challenge Cup 2nd Rd. WARRINGTON ..	3.00	54 11
" "	6	Home	YORK	3.00	5 10
" "	13	Away	YORK	3.00	Postponed
" "	20	Home	BRADFORD N.	3.00	Postponed
" "	27	Away	BRADFORD N.	3.00	Postponed
" "	10	Away	ROCHDALE H.	3.00	Postponed

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES 1975/76

Date			Opponents	K.O.	For	Against
Friday	Aug.	15	Home WAKEFIELD TRINITY	7.30	14	18
"	"	22	Away WIDNES	7.30	9	11
"	"	29	Home HULL—1st Rd. Yorks. Cup	7.30	16	16
Tuesday	Sept.	2	Away ' ' Replay	7.30	16	15
Friday	"	5	Home WARRINGTON	7.30	24	14
Sunday	"	14	Away FEATHERSTONE Y. Cup		5	8
Sunday	"	21	Away WAKEFIELD TRINITY	3.30	12	21
Friday	"	26	Home 1st Rd.-Players No. 6 YORK	7.30	26	15
"	Oct.	3	Home HULL K.R.	7.30	13	24
Sunday	"	12	Away DEWSBURY	3.30	12	20
Friday	"	17	Away SALFORD	7.30	10	18
"	"	24	Home HUDDERSFIELD	7.30	26	14
Sunday	Nov.	2	Away KEIGHLEY	3.00	27	9
Sun.	"	9	Away 2nd Rd.-P No.6 WAKEFIELD	3.30	24	14
Sunday	"	16	Away ST. HELENS	3.00	9	22
Saturday	Dec.	13	Away WIGAN	3.00	10	15
Friday	"	19	Home KEIGHLEY	7.30	23	7
"	"	26	Away FEATHERSTONE R.	2.30	18	18
1976						
Thursday	Jan.	1	Away BRADFORD N.	2.30	33	0
Sunday	"	4	Away OLDHAM	3.30	8	6
Friday	"	9	Home SWINTON	7.30	19	5
Sunday	"	18	Away HULL K.R.	2.45	14	18
Friday	"	23	Home BRADFORD N.	7.30	24	7
Friday	Feb.	6	Home SALFORD	7.30	16	19
Saturday	"	14	Home 1st Rd.,R.L. Cup SALFORD	2.45	3	25
Friday	"	20	Home ST. HELENS	7.30	26	10
Friday	"	27	Home DEWSBURY	7.30	45	2
Saturday	March	6	Away HUDDERSFIELD	3.00	42	0
Sunday	"	14	Away SWINTON	3.00	9	2
Saturday	"	20	Away LEEDS	3.00	18	13
Friday	"	26	Home WIGAN	7.30	28	10
Friday	April	2	Home OLDHAM	7.30		
Wednesday	"	7	Home WIDNES	7.30		
Sunday	"	11	Away WARRINGTON	3.00		
Thursday	"	15	Home LEEDS	7.30		
Monday	"	19	Home FEATHERSTONE R.	7.30		

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