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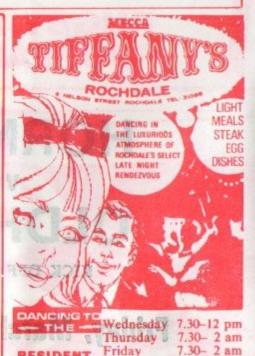
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Pochdale Hornets is a club with a great tradition, where the enjoyment comes not only from the sport itself but from the friendliness of the spectators to whom we extend our wishes for an enjoyable match.

M.V. LAND

Managing Director.

Club News

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to the Athletic Grounds for our very attractive holiday fixture against neighbours Oldham, a match being sponsored by Mr. Malcolm Land of Trendmost Ltd., curtain manufacturers of Mere Lane, Rochdale, and to whom we are most grateful.

Today's clash is very important for both Rochdale Hornets and Oldham. We, of course, need both points in our bid to take the Second Division championship. We are, at present, in third position, two points behind leaders Barrow and on the same number as Leigh, who have a superior scoring record than us. But we have two games in hand on both those clubs so we must have a great chance. However, we must travel to both Hilton Park and Craven Park so we still have a lot of work to do.

Oldham, on the other hand, are still on the fringe of the promotion race. Their handsome victory over Blackpool Borough on Sunday kept them in fifth place just two points behind Huddersfield, who are in the key fourth place. So, obviously, Oldham cannot afford to lose any more matches if they

are to accompany us back into top flight.

If today's clash is anything like the Boxing Day fixture at Watersheddings then we are all in for a treat. That day Oldham were defending a 100 per cent home record and us a 100 per cent away record. In the end we triumphed, thanks to two superb tries from wingman Jimmy Johnson within minutes of each other half way through the second half. It was a great game and we hope for a repeat today.

Today's Man-of-the-Match will receive an award from Trendmost, in the

form of a cheque, a little extra for the lads to play for.

There is good news for player-coach Kel Coslett on the injury front. Threequarters David Jenkins and Steve McGiffen, who have been out since January, came through strenuous fitness test in the "A" team last Friday night and are available for selection.

Club captain Alan Hodkinson, who had to pull out of our home game with Keighley, is also keeping his fingers crossed that he will be fit to face Oldham, while Coslett himself, who has been wearing a neck support this

week because of a trapped nerve, is also confident of being fit.

So, with a little bit of luck, we should be able to field a reasonable strong side for this traditional holiday game. Any late changes will be made over the public address system. And, of course, we will be wanting to steer clear of injuries today because on Monday we travel to Leigh for what could be our toughest match of the season. The lads would be grateful of all the support you can give them at Hilton Park. See you there.

Our Visitors

Today we extend a warm welcome to our old friends - and long-standing rivals - from Watersheddings. Under the shrewd coaching of Dave Cox, who once had a spell as a player at the Athletic Grounds, Oldham have always been on the fringe of the promotion race and a victory today could really give them a good chance of a return to the First Division. There are many familiar faces in the Oldham line-up. Expected to be at full-back is long-serving Martin Murphy, the former England international, while centre Phil Larder has bounced back after a series of bad injuries and was among the points against Blackpool on Sunday. Among the forwards who can be expected to give 100 per cent or more are hooker Roger O'Mahoney, Kevin Flanagan, who needs no introduction to Rochdale supporters and Brian Hughes, the hard-working Yorkshire based prop.

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(" ONWARD, HORNETS, ONWARD! ")

Traditionally holiday clashes between Hornets and rivals Oldham are high spots in the season for the clubs respective spectators and today's meeting is no exception. In fact today's game is unusually significant for Hornets are striving to gain promotion as second division champions, whilst the Watersheddings outfit are still in with a chance of clinching fourth place behind Hornets, Barrow and Leigh.

On several past occasions clashes between the two clubs have taken on more of a civil war aspect than a rugby league match, with tensions running high, and so it is to be hoped that this does not occur this afternoon, for both teams are capable of playing open, attractive rugby. Whatever the outcome it is certain that one set of fans will be more than usually disappointed at a lost match.

The Grand National Draw in aid of Norman Brelsfords benefit will take place next Tuesday evening, 28th March. A small number of tickets are still available so there is still a chance for you to support our efforts in respect of this popular player. They are obtainable from any Hornets official to-day.

Hornets fans who are still souvenir hunting and our visitors from Oldham should pay a visit to the souvenir shop at the rear of the main stand. Geoff Hurst and his wife Christine will be pleased to see you and the shop stocks a considerable range of items. Opening times are before and after the match and at half time.

Open throughout the game are our three tea bars serving a wide range of refreshments. The main tea bar has the widest range with pie and peas and soup as well as tea and coffee. Hot pies are of course available at all the tea bars.

SOUVENIR SHOP

Our Souvenir Shop at the rear of the main stand sells a wide range of items and is well worth a visit. The Shop is run by Geoff Hurst and his wife Christine who open up both BEFORE AND AFTER THE MATCH and AT HALF TIME.

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	AYRES, Warren HEATON, Jeff	7	BLAIR, John PATERSON, John		
	JOHNSON, Jim RAWLINSON, John WAINWRIGHT, Tony JENKINS, David	2 3 4 5	ELLIOTT, Mike LARDER, Phil WARD, Phil LUND, Steve		
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Jones	33	1	1	*	McGiffen	9		*	*	
McLoughlin	22	4		*	Duffy	7	*	*	*	
Johnson	20	13	*	*	Jenkins	7	4	*	*	
Ashcroft	18	3	*	*	Heneghan	6	1	*	*	
Gourley	18	*			Maloney	6	*	22	*	
Storey	17	2	50	*	Marsh	6	1	*	*	
Hoyle	16	4	*	*	Birdsall	3		*	*	
Hodkinson	13	2	*	*	Garside	3		*	*	
Rawlinson	13	3	*	*	Burns	1		*	*	
Avres	12	5	*	2	Pratt	HOT	*	*	*	
Coslett	12	*	16	*	Smethills	1		*	*	
Longstaff	12	4	*	*						

MAN IN THE MIDDLE

Today's official is Mr. Bernard Shooman, a 43-year-old payroll manager who lives in Roundhay, Leeds. A married man with three children, Mr. Shooman is the secretary of the Leeds branch of the R.L. Coaches Association and was promoted to grade 2 in 1974. He lists his hobbies as refereeing, coaching, plus watching and playing Rugby League.

HALF TIME DRAW

Once again we are selling Bingo Tickets for the Half-Time Special with prizes of £300 for 10p. Profits of the day are donated to the running of the Colts Team. Please support our efforts.

AMATEUR NEWS

On Easter Monday morning Kick-off 11-0 am. The Rochdale Amateur League will stage the Riley Cup Final at the Athletic Grounds, between Spotland (the holdres) and East Ward, a team in only their second season, and on Sunday, April 16th. Kick-off 3-0 pm, they will stage the Close Cup Final. The teams have vet to be named for the semi-finals are to be held on April 2nd.

NEXT HOME MATCH

Friday, March 31st

Kick off 7-30 p.m.

Includes selection as substitute.

HORNETS 'A' v SALFORD 'A'

Sunday, April 9th Kick off 3-00 p.m.

HORNETS V HUDDERSFIELD

We are asked to point out that the kick off on Easter Monday for the game at Leigh is 7-30 p.m.

If you're a Rugby League fan you'll NEED a copy of the

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Fixtures 1977-8

		F. A. 'A' TEAM FIXTURES 1977/78
Date	Opponents Ground	
Aug. 7—(Su 20—(Sa	m.) Oldham (Charity)	14 - 5 Aug. 26—(Frl.) Warrington (7-30)
28 (Su	m.) L.C.C. 2 St. Helens H	4 - 4 Sept. 3-(Sat.) Leigh
30-		5 -16 9-(Fri.) Warrington (7-30)
sept. 4 (Su	m.) Huyton	18 - 5 7 - 5 17—(Sat.) Huyton (2-30)
18 50	n.) BatleyH	10 - 5 m (max) myton (2-30)
25—(Su	n.) Halifax (3-30)A	an to the fitter of the fitters (1-50) continued
	n.) WhitehavenH	
9—(Su	n.) BlackpoolA	20-) Now 10 /Est)
12-1	Leeds	5-19 Winan A 10-36
16 (50	n.) Halifax	The 2 /Cat i
21- (Fr	L) Player's No. 6 Salford A	Next and a second secon
30 (Su	m.) Keighley	13- 4 17-(Sat.) Workington
13 /5"	n.) BlackpoolH	s. o Jan. 7-(Sat.) Swinton
20 (Su	n.) Batley	24- 6 14-(Sat.) Barrow (2-30)
	n.) YorkH	22- 6
	m.) Huyton (2-30)A	17- 2 25- Widnes (3-00)
18—(Su	n.) DoncasterH	16-17 Feb. 4—(Sat.)
	on.) Oldham	
	m.) Leigh	
8—(Su	in.) Swinton	The state of the s
22—(Su	n.) BarrowH	
20 50	m.) York (3-00)A	B 10—(FrL) St. Helens (7-30)
Feb. 5-(Su	n.) SwintonH	
	n.) R.L.C.C. (I) WidnesA	8.15 Apr. 1—(Sat.) Barrow
Mar. 5-(Su		7—(Fri.) Salford (7-30)
	n.) KeighleyH	14-10 15—(Sat.) Oldham (3-00)
19—(Su	n.)	CALL II II I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
24—(Fri	i.) OldhamH	All matches kick off at 3 p.m. unless stated.
	on.) Leigh	All matthes kick on at 5 p.m. unless stated.
pr. 2—(Su	n.) Barrow (2-30)A	
16 (8)	n.) Huddersfield	These fixtures are copyright and must not
		be reproduced without the permission of
23 -(Su	n.) Huddersfield	the Secretary of Rochdale Hornets R.L.F.C.

COLTS FIXTURES 1977/78

	All Saturday dates	INDEPENDENTS NATION
Date	Opponents Ground	24-
Sept.	3—Leigh A 20-11 10—Warrington H 24-26 17—Saiford A 8-31 24—St. Helens H 47-25	Jan. 7—Bradford (2-30 p.m.)
Oct.	1—Wakefield A 0-35 8—Castleford H 6-52 15—Widnes A 21-41 22—Wigan A 17-12	Peb. 4—Hull K.R
Nov.	29 — Wigan	Mar. 4—Saiford H 19-13 11—St, Helens A 22-19 18—Wakefield C.C. (2) H 19-22 25—Lefgh H
Dec.	3	All 3-00 K.O. except where stated.

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