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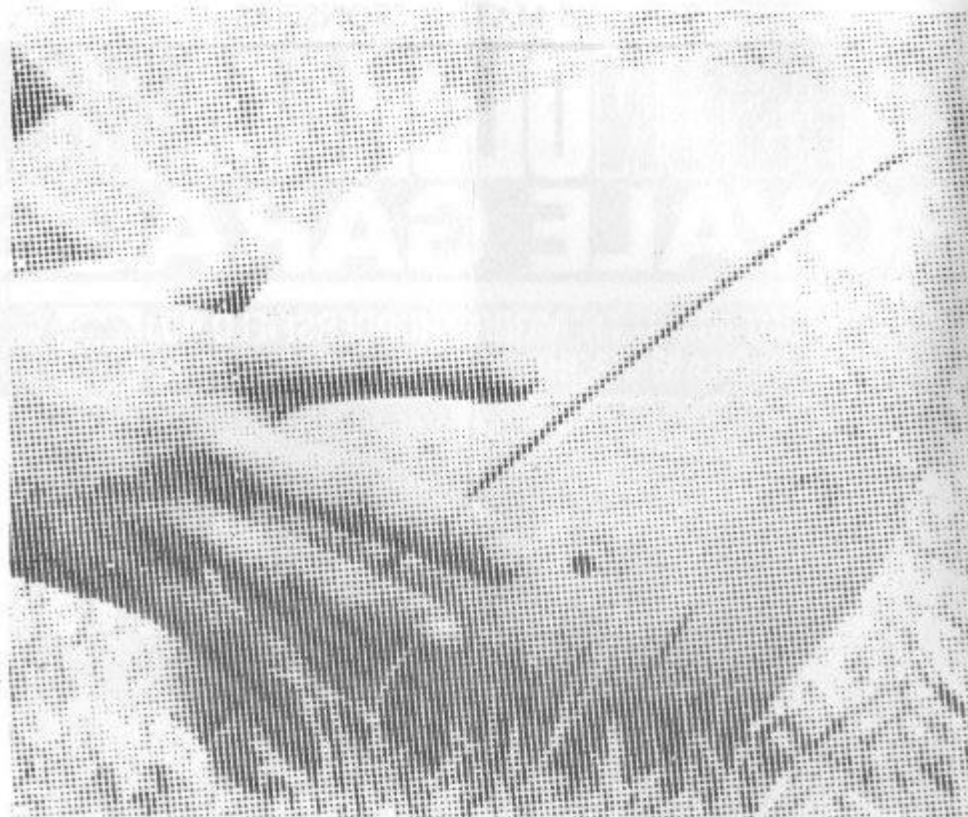
V

HULL

MONDAY 7th MAY, 1979 Kick off 7.30 pm



10p



A FRIEND DROPPING IN Manchester Evening News

OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB THE PAVILION, WATERSHEDDINGS, OLDHAM

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Assistant Physiotherapist: J. WATKINS

Secretary: K. WILKINSON, Tel. 061-624 4865

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Groundsman: F. BROOKES

Assistant Groundsman: M. BASHFORTH

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Rugby League Championship Play-off winners: 1909-10, 1910-11 and 1956-57.

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22 and 1954-55.

First Division Champions: 1904-05.

Second Division Champions: 1963-64.

Rugby League Challenge Cup winners: 1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27.

Runners-up: 1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24 and 1925-26.

Lancashire Cup winners: 1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59.

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67 and 1968-69.

Lancashire Championship winners: 1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57 and 1957-58.

Runners-up: 1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24 and 1954-55.

Lancashire Shield winners: 1975-76.

OLDHAM OUTLOOK

TONIGHT is a very special occasion for Mike Elliott, our long-serving Welsh winger, who made his debut way back in 1962 and will retire at the end of the season after setting a record of more than 450 first-team appearances.

As this is our last home game, Mike will be making his farewell appearance and we hope the fans will give him the send-off he deserves after such a long and loyal career at Watersheddings.

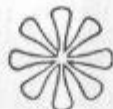
Mike came to Oldham from South Wales as a 17-year-old in 1962. He made his debut in the October of that year against Wakefield Trinity and in a side which, for the record, included Geoff Sims, Ray Fisher, Trevor Simms, Jimmy Gaskell, John Noon, Alf Mumberson, Graham Wood, Don Platt, and Geoff Robinson.

There now, that takes you back a bit, doesn't it? In fact, that was the first of 452 senior games Mike was to play for Oldham and he has now passed the previous best of 444 held by hooker Kevin Taylor, who signed the following year from Werneth juniors.

Harvey Ashworth

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In all, more than 35 players have turned out as Mike's centre partner and in his first 17 games alone he had seven men inside him as Oldham struggled to rebuild a side after the break-up of their great team in the late fifties.

Mike has scored more than 150 tries for the club. He has been joint top scorer twice -- once with Kevin Taylor and once with David Treasure -- and top scorer on no fewer than four occasions.

His best haul of tries in a season was the 23 he scored in season 1971-2 a feat which compares favourably with the totals scored by players like John Eddy and Dick Cracknell in the fifties.

Mike, now 34, has no intention of returning to the Valleys. He is well settled here now in the Oldham area where he lives with his local-born wife Joan and children David (7) and Rachel (12 months).

It will be something of a nostalgic occasion for him tonight -- especially as he scored his very first League try against Hull in April, 1963!

We wish him and his family all the very best for the future, thank him for deeds well done, and trust that we will still be seeing him from time to time on the Watersheddings terraces.

As this is the last home game of the season may we also thank supporters for their support during the long, hard winter of 1978-9. It has not been the best of seasons for us from the playing point of view but we are now passing through a period of extreme transition and we expect to see more changes -- for the better -- by the start of the next campaign in August.

Mr. ARTHUR WALKER

Rugby League will be the poorer for the loss of our former chairman, Arthur Walker, who died last week, aged 60, and whose funeral was held at Rochdale Crematorium on Tuesday.

Mr. Walker was one of the game's best known post-war administrators. He was on the Rochdale Hornets board from the early fifties until 1967 when he resigned as their chairman after many years as leader of the board of directors.

He was largely responsible for the arrival of the Fijian players into the English game in the early 1960s and the funeral bearers were all Fijians, including the best known player to come from the South Sea Islands, Joe Levula.



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Before his entry into the Fijian market, Mr Walker captured the headlines when he persuaded the late and great Jim Sullivan to take over at the Athletic Grounds.

He served on most Rugby League committees, was co-manager of the 1962 Australian tour party and was chairman of the Rugby League Council in 1964-5.

In 1970 he came to Oldham as front man for the then ginger group, which carried all before it at the club election, and he remained chairman and and Rugby League Council representative of the Oldham club until 1977.

A moment's silence was observed before the Whitehaven game last Sunday and the players wore black arm bands.

The Oldham club was represented in force at the funeral. Among those present from Watersheddings were chairman Ray Hatton, vice-chairman Jack Bowden, secretary Kevin Wilkinson, and former club treasurer Rory Hartley, who is not seeking re-election to the committee this time because of his own illhealth.

The Oldham club -- committee, officials, members, supporters and players extend their deepest sympathy to Mrs Walker in her sad loss.

DO YOU KNOW THE RULES

THE 7-POINT TRY

To offer protection to a try scorer. The Rugby League Council introduced the now known "7-Point try".

If, in the in-goal area, a player who has scored a try, or who is in the act of scoring is fouled the referee will award a penalty kick at goal in front of the post on the 10yds line, after the conversion has been attempted.

If the would be try scorer does not touch down due to the foul, the referee can award a penalty try, plus a further penalty.

Note, that this second penalty is only awarded for a foul attempted or committed in the in goal area. Therefore if a player is fouled going for the line, the referee can only award a penalty kick at the spot, or if he is convinced the player would have scored award a penalty try, but! "No second penalty award"

Ball stealing in the in goal area does not constitute foul play, the referee will award a penalty 5yds from the line opposite the spot, or if he is convinced the player would have scored, award a penalty try.

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Our Visitors

TODAY we welcome to Watersheddings the record breakers of Hull, champions of the Second Division and a team which, at the time of writing, was going all out to become the first team in Rugby League history to go through an entire season with a 100 per cent league record.

Hull played against Halifax last Tuesday night, having clinched the title at Blackpool the previous Sunday.

If they beat the men from Thrum Hall, only Oldham and New Hunslet stand between Hull and a record which will surely stand for many years to come.

Hull have made a lot of big-money signings in the last 18 months as they bid to keep pace with the Rovers from Craven Park as top attraction on rugby-daft Humberside.

Loose-forward Steve Norton, the Test star, moved from Castleford to the Boulevard for £9,000 plus Jimmy Crampton -- a move valued in total at £25,000.

Scrum-half Clive Pickerill was a £20,000 buy from Wheldon Road, but the man who has really hit the headlines is a third former Castleford star -- Sammy Lloyd.

The speedy second-row man, a brilliant goalkicker, has sent the scoring records tumbling in his first season at the Boulevard thanks to an educated boot which enabled him to land 11 goals in the 61-10 defeat of Oldham at the Boulevard last September.

Lloyd has already beaten the previous record for the most number of goals in a season, held jointly by Mick Stacey of Leigh and Brian Jefferson of Keighley.

Hull have already beaten the previous best for the number of consecutive wins: 19 achieved by Bradford Northern in season 1973-4.

And they have already gone beyond the most number of Second Division points scored on aggregate -- a record held previously by Hull KR.

Lloyd, Norton and Pickerill, however, are only half of the Hull story. The other chapter relates to another three signings -- Vince Farrar, Charlie Stone and John Newlove from Featherstone Rovers.

Prop Farrar is the Hull skipper, Stone is the grafting second-row man, and Newlove the clever and experienced stand-off footballer whose job it is to provide the link between pack and backs.

Hull have not been entirely happy with their threequarters and recently made an abortive move for the former Welsh RU centre ace Ray Gravell.

It is another Welshman, Paul Prenderville, who is currently becoming the rage of Humberside. He moved north at the start of the season as a full back or utility man, but it is on the wing where he is doing best.

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- 10 Fred HALL
- 11 Garry WALCZAK
- 12 Colin HAWKYARD
- 13 Bob BLACKWOOD
- 14 Ian OGDEN
- 15 Peter DEAKIN

Referee:

J. E. SMITH (Halifax)

HULL

- 1 George ROBINSON
 - 2 Graham BRAY
 - 3 Glyn TURNER
 - 4 Brian HANCOCK
 - 5 Paul PRENDERVILLE
 - 6 John NEWLOVE
 - 7 Clive PICKERVILLE
 - 8 Keith TINDALL
 - 9 Ian CROWTHER
 - 10 Vince FARRAR
 - 11 Charlie STONE
 - 12 Sammy LLOYD
 - 13 Steve NORTON
 - 14
 - 15
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With the Amateurs ALAN BURKE

Although the professional Rugby League season in Oldham comes to an end this evenings at Watersheddings, the local amateur league teams have still several fixtures to fulfil before their current campaign finally comes to an end. Amateur teams throughout the Pennine League were so severely hit by the Winter's bad weather that there are rearranged games scheduled until the last week in May, with others still being outstanding.

This coming Friday at Watersheddings the Final of the Oldham Amateur League Championship Play-off takes place (7pm), while also on the Oldham senior ground this Sunday will be the Finals of the Rochdale and Oldham Youth League's Walker Cup and Close Cup. The Walker Cup, which is contested between teams at Under-15 level, has Saddleworth Rangers and Saint Anne's in its decider, while the Under-17's Close Cup Final will see Saint Anne's and Waterhead in opposition.

Following their success earlier this season in the BARLA Lancashire Cumbria Youth Cup, the Saddleworth Rangers Under-18s' team have now reached the Final of the BARLA National Youth Trophy, which will take place at Borough Park, Blackpool, on Saturday, May 26 (1.45). The Rangers' Youth team now face Hunslet Supportees in the Final, while on the same day the Final of the BARLA National open-age Cup will be played (3.30pm).

Prospects for next season are already very bright in the Oldham Amateur Rugby League, with more new teams already in the process of playing friendly games before trying their luck in serious competition next term. Following the outstanding success of Shaw, who were formed at the beginning of the current season, and who have achieved promotion from the Pennine League's 5th Division, as well as reaching the Standard Cup semi-finals, there are already, two other new teams who have recently joined the local-league in readiness for next year.

Oldham Passenger Transport, who will be playing in the Wakefield Sunday League next season due to the work commitment of most of their team, have shown their willingness to succeed by having travelled to Wales to play the newly-formed Swansea University side. Another new club to join the Oldham League recently are Tudor House, who although based at New Moston, Manchester - a North West Counties League region - have expressed a desire to play in next season's Pennine League.

Finally, don't forget the Oldham Amateur League's Presentation Dance, at the Sports and Social Club, Featherstall Road, Oldham, on Friday, June 8(8pm).



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