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Referee: Mr. G. F. LINDOP (Wakefield)
Touch Judges: Mr. J. S. Regan (York) and Mr. A. T. Parker Hull)

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News and Views

A disastrous start to this season, followed by a period of great promise but finishing in an appalling manner, all adds up to our worst season for a long, long time. During mid-season, we seemed to have achieved a settled format, but a spate of injuries, several postponed fixtures due to the bad weather at the turn of the year, have upset the rhythm badly.

Long term injuries, particularly those to Stuart Johnston, Kevin Olbison, Warren Ayres and Geoff Tennant are the ones which have had most effect, add to these other injuries to 'Bunny' Ackroyd, Barry Langton, Billy Woolford, Ian Sampson, Chris Roberts and Tommy Higginbottom and a part of our problem for this appalling season becomes evident.

However, a 51-0 thrashing at Featherstone is shameful, whilst other away defeats recently at Huyton and Swinton should never have happened. Our playing season ends today, but rest assured that the Directors' of the Club will be working harder than ever during the close season to ensure a much improved situation as from now.

In this 1979/80 season the real encouragement to the club has been the performances of our newly formed Colts Team, and because of a poor showing also by the 'A' Team, promotion for some of our Colts to the First Team has been hastened. Hooker, Russ Sowden has come through particularly strongly, and if he continues to work hard at his game, then he will progress far. Other youngsters recently introduced are John Shipley (centre) Shaun Kilner (utility player) and Steve Carroll (half-back). Prop forward Steve Cooper was 16th man for a couple of games earlier this season, so things immediately look better for next term.

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TODAY'S VISITORS — OLDHAM

Congratulations to Oldham on achieving promotion to next season's First Division. Manager Graham Starkey and Player/Coach Bill Francis have done a fine job, ably supported by a forward thinking Board of Directors.

Young players like Ashton and Flanagan have come through well this season, and intriguing Rugby Union signings, Alexander and Mordell from Harlequins are settling into the code. Time will tell whether the side is good enough for the higher grade, but we wish them well.

The Directors, Secretary and Playing Staff wish to thank all Bramley fans for their support throughout the season.

We look forward to meeting you and your friends during the 1980-81-SEASON.

- WE WILL DO BETTER!

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PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 1980

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BRIAN BATTY - DAILY MAIL

Wembley has been the perfect show-piece for Rugby League for many years — and long may it remain so after this season. There are fears that the game's image may be sadly tarnished on May 3rd when Hull KR meet neighbours Hull in an historic final. There are fears for the safety of those fans who like to make the London trip a real family outing.

In the past Soccer has looked on more than a little enviously at the relaxed, carefree approach that Rugby League has been able to enjoy for a Cup Final. However, with the great and welcome revival in Hull over the past seasons has come the worrying undertones of the trouble and damage caused by a small percentage of hooligans among the genuine followers of the two clubs.

You have to admire the fervent loyalty of supporters who travel to every corner where the code is played, clocking up thousands of miles at no little cost. This is the sort of thing we want and hope for with every club as long as it does not overstep the mark.

Manchester United have attracted one of the greatest followings in the history of Soccer over the last couple of decades, but there has also been some grim days with trouble on and off the terraces. A part of this trouble element has crept into Rugby League, and not just at games with the Hull clubs. To be fair we have had our headaches in previous seasons, particularly around Cup time, but fortunately they never seem to have spilled over to Wembley. This time the State Express Challenge Cup Final is a unique occasion and one where the road to Wembley has really divided a City.

The build up for this final is going to be tremendous with so many fans preparing to leave this City behind for the big day. Let us hope they have the good sense to leave behind any grudges they have had and thoughts of physical aggression. Let us hope that they restrict their intense rivalry to the exchange of good natured clashes of a verbal note.

We want to set out a sporting dish fit for the Queen Mother to enjoy and remember, as well as all the neutral fans who pay out plenty of hard earned cash to enjoy the weekend.

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Supporters Club Notes

BRAMLEY v OLDHAM — SUNDAY APRIL 20th 1980

Welcome today to Oldham RLFC, for this our final game of the season. Though this season has not been one of the best for Bramley, Oldham on the other hand have really taken the league by storm, and have deservedly gained promotion, and we congratulate them on this achievement and hope they can produce the same form again next season and stay in the top flight.

Player/Coach Bill Francis has been one of the many stars in the Oldham team this season and he was instrumental in the victory over Bramley last October. Other names to look out for are: Ray Ashton, Martin Murphy, the league's leading try scorer Geoff Munro, who has scored a hat-trick in each of the last three games. Also in the forwards are top RU signings Bob Mordell and Adrian Alexander.

In the Yorkshire Federation of Supporters Club's Queen Dance, Miss Bramley, Kate Robinson did the club proud finishing 3rd out of a very tough line-up. The winner was Miss Hull and runner-up Miss Widnes. We would like to thank on behalf of Kate everyone who turned out to support on that night. Well done Kate.

A date to remember, for every Bramley supporter is the supporters player of the year presentation night on Friday May 9th at 7.30 pm. Awards will be made to the 1st team player of the year, and also awards will be made to the 'A' team and Colts players of the year. Two top class acts provide the nights entertainment and a bar extension has been granted.

We would like to thank you for your support all season and also special thanks to the loyal fans who have travelled to our away matches by coach and we hope to see you all next season.

Steven Gerraghty and Stuart Hanson



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