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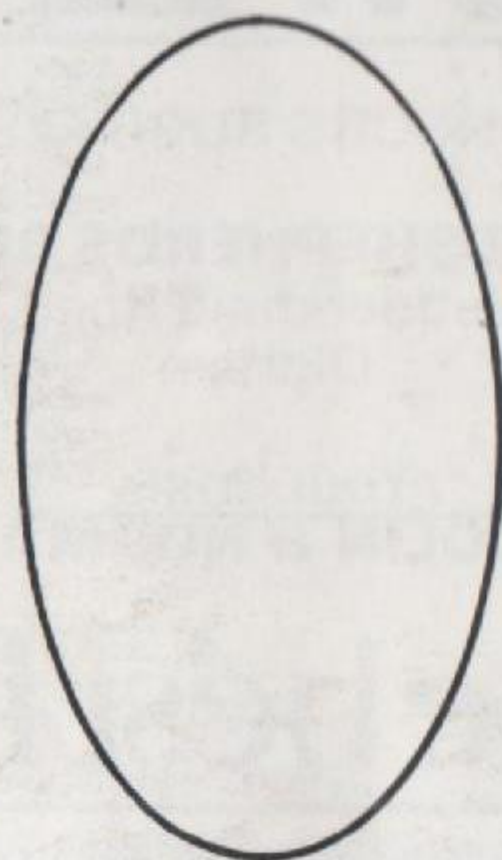
OLDHAM

Red, White Hooped Jerseys
with Red Sleeves
Navy Shorts

1. M. Murphy
2. Dennis O'Neill
3. A. McEwen
4. M. Parrish
5. B. Caffrey
6. A. Taylor
7. P. Kirwan
8. A. Alexander
9. R. O'Mahoney
10. B. Harris
11. P. Nicholson
12. A. Goodway
13. T. Flanagan

Subs.

14. T.B.A.
15. T.B.A.



Referee:

Mr. S. Haigh

Touch Judges:

Mr. R. Carter - Mr. J. A. Drake

DONCASTER

White Jerseys with
Blue and Gold Bands
White Shorts

1. D. Wright
2. I. Millett
3. D. Noble
4. R. Wilson
5. K. Millett
6. J. Buckton
7. D. Finnerty
8. G. Perigo
9. K. Knott
10. K. Ellis
11. S. Masson
12. S. Matthews
13. A. Rhodes

Subs.

14. T.B.A.
15. T.B.A.

SCRUMS					PENALTIES					SCRUMS					PENALTIES				
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25

NEXT MATCHES AT WATERSHEDDINGS

1st Team v Carlisle, Sunday, November 8th, kick-off 3 p.m.

John Player Trophy



First Round

OLDHAM VERSUS DONCASTER

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 18th
1981

AT
WATERSHEDDINGS

Kick-off 3 p.m.



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Vice-Chairman: J. Bowden
Treasurer: K. Broadbent

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Hon. Architects: Hall, Needham Associates
Hon. Club Solicitor: A. J. Adler
Secretary: Paul Lovett

Coaching Staff: Frank Myler (Coach), Peter Smethurst (Ass. Coach),
Brian Gartland (Colts Coach)

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Pasquale D'Adamo - Stephen Dobb - Terry Flanagan - Andrew Goodway - Colin Hawkyard -
Steve Herbert - Clive Hunter - Paddy Kirwan - Steve Littler - Paul Lowndes - Bob Mordell -
Geoff Munro - Martin Murphy - David Nicholson - Tony Ogden - Roger O'Mahoney -
Denis O'Neill - Mike O'Rourke - Gareth Owen - Johnny Paterson - Alan Platt - Gordon Pollard -
Alan Taylor - Gary Walczak - Joe Warburton - Phil Ward - Mike Worrall - Billy Harris

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Hon. Consultant Surgeon: Mr. M. Shafiq

Hon. Consultant Dental Surgeon: Mr. W. C. Mellor. **Club Doctor:** Dr. D. Walton

Physiotherapist: Mr. A. Bonnelle. **Asst. Physiotherapist:** Mr. J. Watkins

Financial & Admin. Manager: Mr. John Howard Tel: 061-620 4870

Commercial Manager: Franny Ward Tel: 061-620 4870 & 061-620 4835

Social Club Manager: Kevin Wilkinson Tel: 061-624 0386 **Groundsman:** J. Walker

Asst. Groundsman: W. Caine. **Official Time Keeper:** J. Roscoe.

CLUB RECORDS

Record Victory	67-6 against Liverpool City April 59
Record defeat	11-67 by Hull K.R. Sept. 78
Record attendance	28,000 v Huddersfield Feb 24th 1912
Record receipts	£9,100 v Wakefield 24th Feb. 1980
Record transfer fee paid	£18,500 to Hunslet for Mick Parrish Sept. 1980
Record transfer fee received	£11,002 10s. from Workington for Ike Southward Jan. 62
Record try scorer	Reg Farrar 49 tries 1921/22 season
Record goal scorer	Bernard Ganley 224 goals 1957/58 season
Record point scorer	Bernard Ganley 28 points v Liverpool City April 59
First game	October 21st, 1876 v Stalybridge
Highest number of points scored	Bernard Ganley 2,881
Most appearances	Joe Ferguson 685
Most tries	Pre 1900 Jack Hirst 233. Since 1900 Alan Davies 182

CLUB HONOURS

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 and 1979-80
Colts Premiership Trophy:	1979-80

WATERSHEDDINGS SURVEY

IT was gratifying to go back to the top of the Second Division last weekend when our 21-12 win over Keighley, on a day when title rivals Salford had no game, gave us a clear two-point lead.

Salford now have a game in hand, of course, and Halifax are also bidding for top spot as Workington's aspirations have nosedived with defeats at Salford and Swinton which mean the Cumbrians have now lost a total of three matches.

Halifax, mark you, are doing it the hard way after an inauspicious start. Having previously won at Workington — and not many sides will do that — they inflicted our only defeat so far and then followed up with a high-scoring win at Cardiff last week-end.

Oldham's testing time will come next month when, in the league, we play Carlisle and Halifax at Watersheddings (which will hopefully produce two of our best gates of the season) and Cardiff and Hunslet away from home.

Last week-end we scored five tries in beating Keighley. They came from Andy Goodway, Terry Flanagan, Dave Nicholson, Martin Murphy and Ashley McEwen, with Mick Parrish landing three goals from five shots.

Alan Taylor played at stand-off in place of Ray Ashton, who was injured, and Dennis O'Neill played his first senior game of the season on the wing after breaking his jaw in a practice match at the end of July.

Two nights earlier the "A" team enjoyed a victory at Rochdale in atrocious conditions, caused by gale-force winds and monsoon-like rainfall. Tries were scored by Ian Ogden — after a smart break by Bob Mordell — and Mick O'Rourke while Alan Platt landed four goals in a 14-8 win.

The Colts suffered a 29-15 home defeat by Hull K.R. on Saturday with Oldham's tries coming from loose-forward Jimmy Swain, winger Marcus Pollitt and prop Paul Lowndes. Les Chadwick kicked three goals.

Today our attentions are turned to the Players Trophy competition and the first-round clash here at Watersheddings with Doncaster.

We are certainly due for some success in this competition and one can only hope that we will start today with a win and thus go into the hat for the second-round draw.

In the ten years of the Player's competitions we have been knocked out in the first round on no fewer than six occasions and it is a sobering thought to realise that never once have we progressed beyond round two.

In the first three seasons of the tournament we went out at the first hurdle at Whitehaven (0-5), Hull (10-17) and Warrington (14-31).

For the four seasons after that we reached round two, losing at home to Bradford (3-12), away at Salford (3-46), at home to Leigh (13-28) and away at Huddersfield (11-21).

In the last three seasons we have also taken a first-round tumble, 11-67 at Hull K.R., 7-31 at home to Leeds and 9-11 at York last season.

The 67-11 defeat on Humberside provided a humiliation all round and was, in fact, the Oldham club's biggest ever defeat in a history stretching back well over 100 years.

Last year's defeat at York, who were then the Second Division leaders, was not such a happy day for Oldham, either, as our Player's hoodoo struck once more.

Mick Parrish kicked three goals and Ashley McEwen, playing as A. N. Other, got a try in the corner but in a close game York just edged home by two points.

The Oldham team that day was: Murphy; Munro, McEwen, Parrish, Caffery; Francis, Gwilliam; Alexander, Handforth, Owen, Clarkson, Mordell, Flanagan. Subs: Littler, Hawkyard.

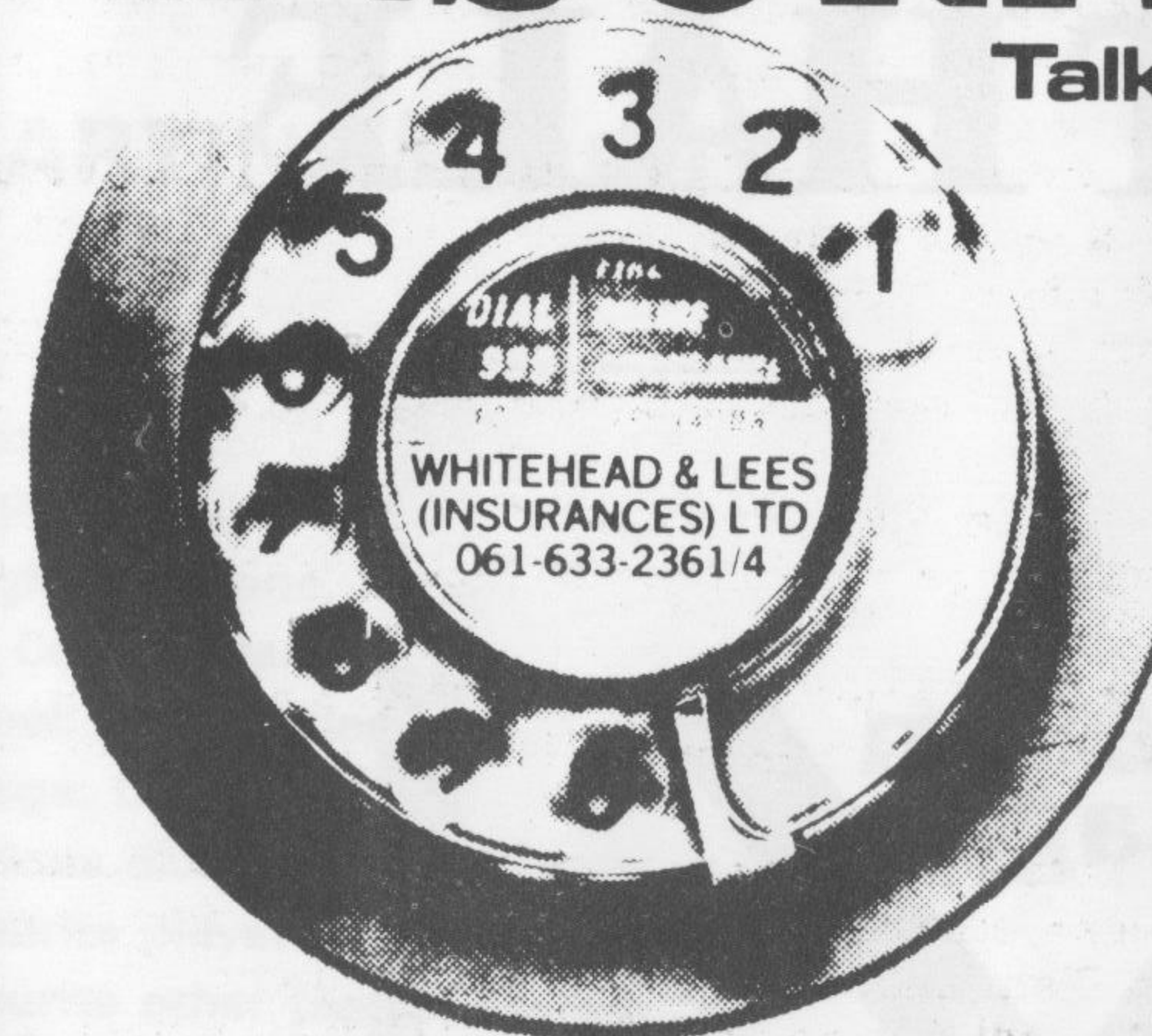
Our only wins in the competition were first-round triumphs against Workington at home (21-14) in 1974-75; Huyton away (20-14) in 1975-76; Batley at home (17-9) in 1976-77; Barrow at home (16-8) in 1977-78.

We are certainly due for a taste of the prizemoney Player's have to offer — and let's hope we start off on the right foot today!

Next Sunday we resume our title challenge with another trip into Yorkshire to take on Dewsbury at Crown Flatt. The following Sunday is reserved for the second round of the Player's competition and then we are at home to Carlisle on November 8th in what will be a history-making first visit to Watersheddings by the Cumbrian newcomers in their first season in the League.

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Matthew Brown 

PERSONALITY PROFILE

MARTIN MURPHY

Age: 31.

Born: Leigh.

Height: 5ft 9in.

Weight: 11 stone, 7 lb.

Car: Cortina Mark 4.

School: XII Apostles.

College: Leigh Tech.

Previous club: Wigan Colts.

Favourite players: Cliff Hill, Frank Foster.

Favourite other teams: Eastern Suburb/Leigh.

Most difficult opponent: Des Drummond.

Most memorable match: France v England, 1975, Perpignon.

Most memorable moment: Scoring the winning try in the France v England 1975, Perpignon.

Biggest disappointment: Not being selected for England more than once.

Best country visited: Australia.

Favourite captain: Cook.

Miscellaneous likes: Travelling abroad.

Miscellaneous dislikes: Losing at all.

Favourite T.V. shows: Benny Hill, R.L. Action, Not The Nine O'clock News.

Favourite singers: Rod Stewart, Bob Dylan, Oldham Tinkers.

Favourite actor/actress: Clint Eastwood, Barry Kear.

Favourite film: "Last Tango in Paris", "Godfather".

Favourite comedian: Frank Dickin.

Favourite L.P.: "Atlantic Crossing" by Rod Stewart.

Favourite single: "Annie's Song" John Denver.

Favourite group: Beatles.

Favourite food: Gammon and pineapple.



Best friend: My wife Ann.

Biggest influence on career: Bryn Day, Ken Wilson.

Biggest drag in rugby: Losing in semi-finals.

International debut: France v England, Perpignon, 1975.

Personal ambition: Happy family life, to better the Tax and V.A.T.

Rugby ambition: To finish on a happy note, i.e. winning at Wembley.

Who would I most like to meet: Jesus Christ.

TODAY'S VISITORS

DONCASTER R.L.F.C.

Founded 1951. Joined the Northern Rugby League 1951.

Ground: Tatters Field.

Colours: White Jerseys with Blue and Gold Bands, White Shorts.

Doncaster have won no major honours.

CLUB RECORDS

Attendance: 4,793 v Wakefield (League) 7th April, 1962.

Goals: 89 by T. Griffiths 1951-52.

Tries: 17 by Brian Wigglesworth 1957-58.

Points: 187 by T. Griffiths 1951-52.

RETURN TRIP FOR THE DONS

DONCASTER make their second visit of the season to Watersheddings today for a first-round game in the Player's Trophy and judging by their performance here in the Second Division three weeks ago it would be foolish for anyone in the Oldham camp to take them too lightly.

Though we won 38-10 in the end the score did not truly reflect the pattern of play, 20 of our points coming in the last 15 minutes after the Yorkshiremen had pulled back to 18-10 – and very nearly took it to 18-15.

They missed a glorious chance midway through the second-half when stand-off John Buckton went scorching through a midfield gap only to see loose-forward Alan Rhodes taken under the posts by Alan Taylor.

Oldham fans will recall that Doncaster played some constructive and entertaining football that day and they did it although the home side won the scrums and despite the absence of the injured Dave Finnerty and the suspended George Pflaster.

It will be interesting to compare the Doncaster team today with that which played here in the last match when the Dons lined up like this: Wright; Williams, Wilson, Noble, K. Millett; Buckton, Russell; Perigo, Knott, Ellis, Masson, Trialist, Rhodes. Subs: I. Millett, Matthews.

Perigo, Ellis and Rhodes were sound forwards while Buckton was a lively stand-off half and with his second-half break that ought to have produced a try for Rhodes, showed why he is making several other clubs sit up and take note.

Buckton was a target for Wakefield after the Dons last played here and there was talk of him going to Belle Vue for a fee of around £15,000 though nothing seems to have materialised in that direction.

In their last two games the Dons have suffered a home defeat by Cardiff and an away defeat at Bramley last week-end.

The two wins they have picked up this season were both at home – against Rochdale on the opening day of the Second Division season and against Batley.

They beat Rochdale 28-11 when Buckton scored four tries and then, in their next home game, beat Batley 15-13.

Buckton's failure to score against Workington ended his try-scoring run of nine consecutive matches, only one short of the League record since the reintroduction of two divisions in 1973.

Winger Stewart Piper is soon to start a benefit year at Tatters Field and he surely deserves all the support he can get. Players who are loyal to the Doncasters of the Rugby League world are the bread-and-butter of the game.

Alan Rhodes, the former Featherstone and York forward, took over as player-coach at Tatters Field at the start of the current season and he appears to be doing a fine job.

Last season the Dons picked up five Second Division wins – and they have already landed two this season, which seems to augur well for the rest of the season.

Another long-serving player for the South Yorkshire club is George Pflaster, who has produced many sterling displays for Doncaster over the years, whether playing at centre or in the second-row.

Oldham, who do not have a good record in the Player's Trophy, will certainly have to be on their mettle today.

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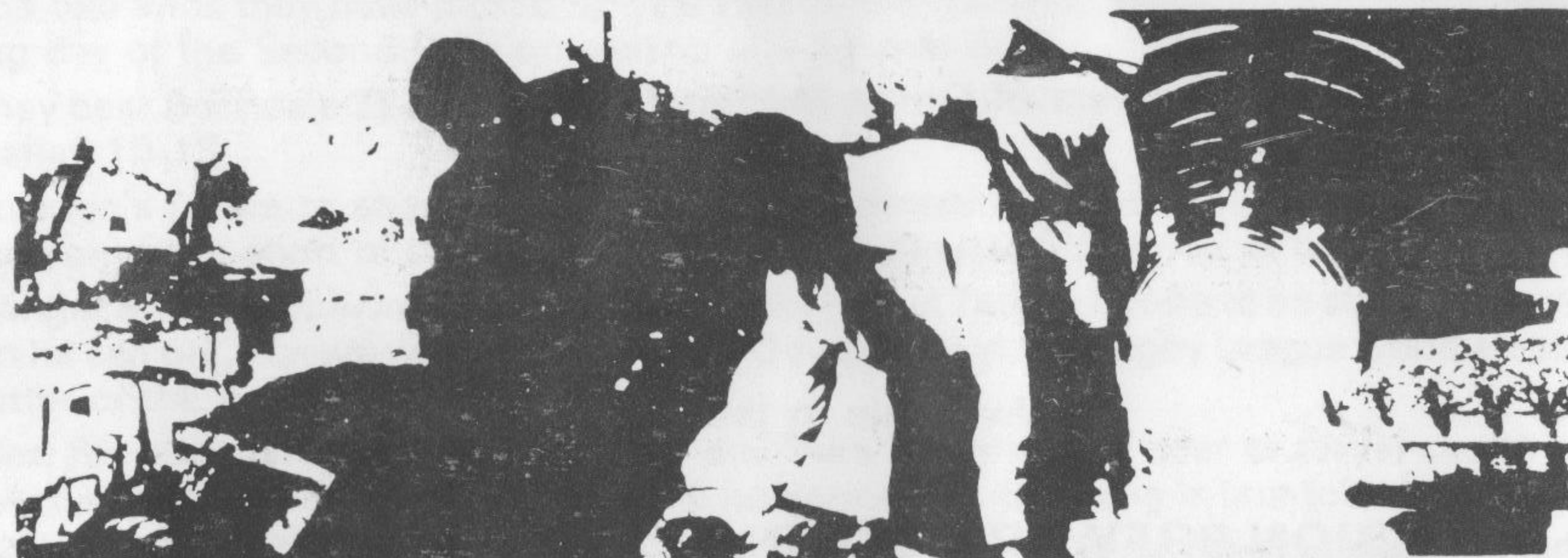
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TRAIN TO CARDIFF

THE club are hoping to book a special train for our game against newcomers Cardiff City R.L.F.C. on Sunday, November 15th. It is important that we know the numbers of supporters who would like to travel with the team and officials for this historic game in the club's history.

As you have no doubt seen in the local Press the club will have to decide within the next few days whether they are running the train to Cardiff. It is therefore most important that any supporter interested in travelling by train gives their name to the Secretary as soon as possible. The cost will be £7.50 for adults and £3.75 for children 12 and under and O.A.Ps.

O.B.

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TETLEY

O.B. ALES

DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWS

with Franny Ward at Watersheddings



Terry Flanagan presents Miss A. Brennan with her £3,000 draw ticket winning cheque. The other lucky lady is Mrs. Doreen Burke who received £300 for selling the winning ticket. Looking on to make sure the proceedings are carried out correctly is Franny Ward.

MATCHDAY LOTTERY TICKET SELLERS

you will by now be familiar with our two girls, Beverley and Sheena, in red bibs, who walk round the ground before kick-off and at half-time selling our lottery tickets. We still require additional people, male/female, who would like to sell tickets on match days. If you would like to try it out please contact me and I will make the necessary arrangements.

LOTTERY AGENTS REQUIRED

If you can sell around 25 tickets per week you can become one of our fast growing band of agents. Agents receive a very good rate of commission on sales and winners of £10 and over, so come on it does not take much to sell 25 tickets a week, grab a phone, dial 620-4835 and we will start you off today – easy isn't it.

LOTTERY AGENTS' NIGHT

The first of our Agents' Nights Out will take place prior to Christmas on Friday, 4th December, starting at 7.30 p.m. The night will consist of cabaret, disco, raffle and a special agents Christmas Draw.

SPECIAL NIGHT OUT

On Saturday, 7th November, we are organising along with the Supporters' Club a Night Out for all the family. The fun starts at 6.30 p.m. with a small fireworks display on the car-park. From 7.15 until 8 p.m. there will be games for the children. After a short interval the 1981-82 Miss O.R.L.F.C. Supporters' Club Queen competition will take place. Singapore, the top Manchester cabaret band have been booked, and this will be followed by a mixed disco. The night promises to be a very special night and demand for tickets will exceed availability, so please be sure of obtaining your tickets as soon as possible. Tickets can be obtained from Secretary's Office, Development Office, and from the Supporters' Club.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NEWS

President: Mr. D. Blackburn
Chairman: D. Pilkington
Vice-chairman: Miss A. Collinge
Treasurer: Mrs. A. Doleman
Secretary: T. Heywood.

Committee: Mrs. H. Heywood, Mrs. J. Pilkington, Mr. I. Pilkington, Mrs. L. Wolstencroft, Mrs. E. Crowther, Mr. C. Clarke, Mr. S. Chadderton, Mrs. L. Chadderton, Mr. B. Doleman.

Anyone wishing to become a member of the Supporters' Club should contact any of the above named persons. Membership only £1 which includes a fabulous Supporters' Club diary.

HALLOWE'EN AND FANCY DRESS DANCE

A Halloween and Fancy Dress Dance will be held on Saturday, October 31st, in the Social Club, from 8 p.m. to midnight. Admission £1.00; if in Fancy Dress 50p. Supper will be on sale at a small charge.

SPECIAL NIGHT OUT

Agents and Supporters' Club, Social Night, Saturday, 7th November, 1981, at the O.R.L.F.C. Social Club, to commence at 6.30 p.m. with a firework display on the car park, followed by a short interval whereby crazy games will be organised for both young and old. At 8.45 p.m. the 1981-82 Miss O.R.L.F.C. Supporters' Club Queen competition followed by a disco with music for all ages, dancing until midnight. Pie and peas on sale. Tickets £1.00. Free raffle.

COMPETITION

This week's competition is a little different. We want you to pick a full side, from full back to loose forward, of ex-Oldham players who have appeared at Wembley in R.L. Challenge Cup Finals since 1955, either before or after they wore the Oldham jersey. Just two points though, firstly, we want each player in the position he played at Wembley, i.e. Right Centre or Openside Prop, etc., and secondly he must have been chosen in that position at the kick-off and NOT substituted.

Have a try, there are numerous players to choose from.

The first all correct (or nearest correct) entry drawn will receive free admittance to the next home match. All entries to be sent to the Social Club by Monday, October 26th.

MISS O.R.L.F.C. SUPPORTERS' CLUB QUEEN COMPETITION

Any young lady wishing to enter the above competition should contact any member of the Supporters Club Committee. The competition will be held on Saturday, November 7th, 1981, in the Social Club.

COACH TO DEWSBURY

Sunday, October 25th, coach to leave at 2 p.m. Prices: Member £1.50; junior member £1.00; non-member £1.70; junior non-member £1.20.

DETAILS OF DEWSBURY AWAY MATCH

Kick-off 3.30 p.m. Ground: Crown Flatt. Railway Station: Wellington Road, Dewsbury. Bus Routes: From bus station - Dewsbury to Leeds, Pudsey, Morley and Shaw Cross. Facilities: Two licensed bars open before and after match. Catering facilities on match days.

PHOTOGRAPHIC ACTION FROM THE KEIGHLEY GAME



Our young forward Andy Goodway on the break in the Keighley match.



TRY! Referee John Holdsworth points to award Terry Flanagan's touchdown against Keighley.



A good action shot of our skipper Terry Flanagan driving for the line as Oldham returned to the top of Division Two with last Sunday's home win against Keighley.

*Photographs by courtesy of
Oldham Evening Chronicle*

HUMBERSIDE MAGIC

THE decision to play the Wales v England game at Ninian Park on Sunday, November 8th, has not been a unanimous one among the games top brass.

There are those who feel it is time to test the temperature for Rugby League at international level once again in South Wales.

They feel than an international now will help the cause of establishing new club Cardiff City and they will be highly satisfied with a gate in the region of the 10,000 fans who came along for Cardiff's Second Division baptism.

These hopes do not convince another section of officials that to play the game at this particular time is a wise step. They believe that a big flow could do the game far more harm than good in the long run.

The greatest fear is that a Welsh League team still does not appeal to the Union diehards at the moment. That Cardiff still have a lot of ground work to do to pull in a regular following to guarantee them a healthy future is difficult to dispute with gates averaging at around 3,000.

There is the worry that if England were to inflict a humiliating defeat on the Welsh it would do added harm. I hope all these fears prove empty ones and that the game is a great success, watched by a big crowd.

I still believe that with the right success Cardiff could take off and that League would establish itself in South Wales, but only time is going to tell and November 8th is going to come up with a lot more answers.

Brian Batty

TRY THIS QUIZ

1. In what year did Salford sign David Watkins from Welsh Rugby Union and what was the reputed fee?
2. Who won the Lance Todd Trophy in the 1979 Challenge Cup Final between Wakefield Trinity and Widnes?
3. Which five Oldham players appeared for Lancashire against Yorkshire in the Colts county match in November 1979?
4. What is the nickname of Barrow?
5. Which two amateur Rugby League clubs played in the 1st round proper of the Challenge Cup in 1978?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 26

A SHORT HISTORY OF DONCASTER

by Tom Webb

ON the occasion of Doncaster's visit to Oldham in the league recently I gave an account of the Doncaster club's history. For the programme for this match in the John Player Trophy competition, some additional information is given.

Len Tattersfield was chairman of the club for some years and he designed the stand at the ground which bears his name, Tattersfield. The stand was to accommodate 700 people under cover. Since then Trevor Forkes and John Barron have added dignity to the role of club chairman, and another Ralph Lewis was active in securing the ground at Bentley after the club spent two years at the York Road Greyhound Stadium.

When the ground was obtained at Bentley one great enthusiast did a great deal of work. David Bent, a printer, about 1958 started work on a stretch of terracing with a few other supporters. As these could not work regularly on the project, David battled on alone, digging in railway sleepers, moving blocks of concrete and building and levelling.

After two years of work, in the evenings or at the week-end, the 50 yard, 14 tier-high stretch of terracing was almost complete. It was capable of accommodating 450 spectators. On the Thursday before the Doncaster versus Rochdale Hornets cup-tie in early February 1960 he was working by torchlight.

The then chairman, Teddy Smith said that something like 20,000 tons of rubble and materials had been moved, and if a contractor had been employed to do the work, it would have cost at least £2,000.

Tyssul Griffiths in 1951-52 which was the club's first season, scored 88 goals and 13 tries and Irvin Barraclough, no stranger to Oldhamers scored 80 goals and 1 try in 1954-55. Griffiths on three occasions in the first season and once in the following one kicked six goals for the Dons. Barraclough and Ron Swales were able to equal the record once each.

Brian Wigglesworth with 17 tries in 1957-58 beat Vernon Grace's record of 15 tries in 1952-53 which was one more than George Norbury scored in the 1951-52 season.

Tommy Askins, who hailed from Featherstone where he played for the Rovers, later joined the shortlived Newcastle club, became a director of the Dons. Tommy had toured Australia and New Zealand with the Great Britain side and his death was a sad loss to the club.

Among the early directors, Sid Woodward, who had Oldham connections, and Norman Pacey were very active. The board at Doncaster has always had to dig deep into their pockets to keep the game alive.

The club has had some long serving players over the years, and the names of Graham Arrand, Ted Strawbridge, Tony Banham, Trevor Denton, George Goodyear, Peter Astbury, Malcolm Battye, Roy Hawksley, Malcolm Yates, Joe Holt and Mick McCone, who joined Oldham, spring to mind.

Doncaster has survived thirty years without adequate support but as the amateur game develops in the area, the future will become more and more assured.

FLASHBACK

by courtesy of Tom Webb

How many of our supporters remember the corresponding day 5, 10, 15 years ago.

FIVE YEARS AGO

OLDHAM 4-3-17 BATLEY 2-2-1-9 (John Player Trophy)

OLDHAM: Murphy; Elliott, Barton, Wainwright (try), Lund; Blair (2 goals), Treasure; Owen, K. Taylor, I. Taylor, Welding, Herbert (try), Reynolds. Munro (try) for Blair, Pollard (2 goals) for K. Taylor.

BATLEY: Keegan; Richardson, Jameson, Rippon, Whitham; North (2 goals), Dean (2 drop goals); Grinhaff, Eyre, Taylor, Brooke (try), Meillam, Watts. Hepworth for Dean and Hudson for Meillam. Referee: G. F. Lindop. Attendance 2,049.

TEN YEARS AGO

ST. HELENS 10-10-50, OLDHAM 1-0-2

ST. HELENS: Pimblett (2 tries); Jones (1 try), Benyon (2 tries), Whittle (try), Wills; Kelly (2 tries), Heaton; Stephens, Karalius, Halliwell, Chisnall (try), Coslett (10 goals), Prescott (try). Rees for Karalius.

OLDHAM: Murphy; Elliott, Larder (goal), Buckley, Hodgkinson; Hill, Sayer; Wilson, K. Taylor, Walker, Bonser, Alchin, Clark. Davies for Larder and Reynolds for Alchin.

Referee: R. Appleyard. Attendance 3,500.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

WHITEHAVEN 3-2-12, OLDHAM 0-0-0

WHITEHAVEN: Shepherd; Coupe (try), Barnes, Powe, Buchanan; Cassie (3 goals), Maddison; Moore, McFarlane, Smith, Williamson, Bowman (try), McLeod.

OLDHAM: Curry; Dolly, McCormack, Holroyd, Elliott; McLeod, Broomhead; Wilson, K. Taylor, Fletcher, Smethurst, Irving, Mooney. Canning for Curry.

Referee: H. Pearce. Attendance: 2,100.

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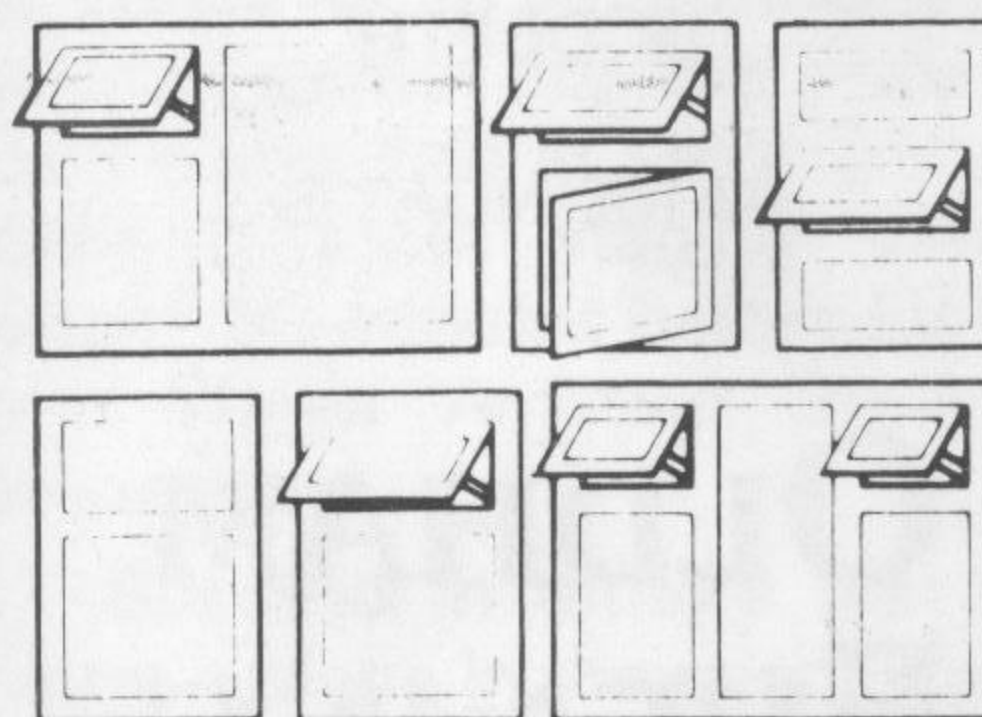
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THE 1981-82 JOHN PLAYER TROPHY COMPETITION

TODAY we start our John Player Trophy campaign. This will be the 11th season of this popular tournament which is the Rugby League's longest running sponsored event.

This season the competition is worth £50,000. It is the first year in a new three-year contract just signed between the League and John Player and Sons and worth a total of £165,000. There is a record £9,000 for this season's eventual winner from a total prize pool of £43,000 with £7,000 being allocated to the League's Fund for ground developments.

Once again the tournament offers a big bonus for all supporters by providing two cup games for the price of one in every round and at every game with the amateurs again staging their "curtain raisers" 30 minutes before kick-off in the John Player Amateur Sevens Trophy competition.

Success in today's first round will ensure a place in the second round to be played in a fortnight's time. The draw for the second round will take place "live" next Monday, 19th October, at the early "breakfast hour" of 7.50 a.m. in the studios of BBC Radio Leeds. It will be broadcast on local radio stations throughout the North during the day. The draw for the amateur sevens competition will take place later the same day.



JOHN PLAYER AMATEUR TROPHY

First Round St. Anne's (Oldham) v Eastmoor (Wakefield)

This curtain raiser will be played before today's game.

In the event of bad ground conditions the game will be played immediately after today's game.

SO FAR . . . SO GOOD

by Alan Burke,
Public Relations Officer, Oldham Amateur Rugby League

THE 1981-82 season has so far proved successful for the majority of local amateur Rugby League clubs, with Oldham sides already among the challengers for the various divisions in the Pennine League, local representatives having won through to the quarter-finals of the BARLA County Cup tournaments, and with the open-age town-team having opened with a victory in their attempt for the BARLA Inter-League title.

Due to County cup and Town-team commitments, the Pennine League's Premier Division has so far been restricted to just a handful of matches, although the trio of Lancastrian sides, Saddleworth Rangers, Mayfield and Waterhead, currently occupy the top places. Division One sees local side Fitton Hill on top with an unbeaten record, while Saint Anne's lie third. Shaw and Saddleworth 'A' have mid-table placings in the Second Division, although Higginshaw have yet to produce their recognised form and are in bottom position. Chadderton have exactly the same problems in Division Three, where top spot is occupied by Waterhead 'A' who themselves took the Fourth Division Championship last season. That title could again be Oldham bound this term, as the leading places are held by Salem Hornets, with a 100 per cent record from five matches, and Saint Anne's 'A'. There are no Oldham-based sides in the Fifth Division, although Hollinwood are making a determined effort to resolve that situation by currently taking joint leadership of Division Six, having gone four games without dropping a point. The Fitton Hill reserves are midway in the division, while Moston Rangers and the Salem Hornets' second-string have yet to gain their first points. After only four matches, Shaw's newly-formed 'A' team are the only unbeaten Division Seven outfit, while Abbeyhills and Higginshaw 'A' have both shown plenty of promise in their opening encounters.

Saddleworth Rangers are the sole Oldham club still to have an interest in the open-age BARLA Forshaw's Lancashire-Cumbria Cup, although Waterhead were unfortunate to not appear in the quarter finals when a last minute try from Rochdale side Mayfield gave then a 5-4 success. The County Cups continue next weekend with Saddleworth having to overcome the challenge of Wigan Saint Patrick's at Greenfield if they are to enter the semi-finals. Three local sides were involved in the draw for the quarter-finals of the under-19s County Cup, although Saddleworth will today be entertaining trophy holders Rose Bridge in a replay after the teams drew 7-7 in Wigan last Sunday. Victory for Rangers would give them an away tie next week against Seaton (Cumbria), while Saint Anne's and Waterhead also face Cumbrian opposition. The Saints make the long trip to play Twinames, while Waterhead take on Egremont at Waterhead Park.

Oldham's open-age town-team, last season's runners-up in the BARLA Inter-League event, began their challenge for this season's title with a fine 21-6 away victory at Rochdale, and yesterday were due to entertain Manchester in the second of their qualifying group matches. A win yesterday for the local side would give them a good chance of a place in the quarter-finals, although a hard game still awaits Oldham at Leigh on October 31st.

Today's curtain-raiser features local seven-a-side Champions Saint Anne's against Eastmoor (Wakefield) in the First Round of the John Player Amateur Sevens trophy. This is the competition's third season, and, as usual, an amateur game will precede each Player's No. 6 senior match, including the Final. West Hull are the holders of the amateur trophy while the first ever winners were local side Waterhead. The seven-a-side games are of 7½ minutes each way duration, and kick-off thirty minutes prior to the professional match.

FOR ALL THE LOCAL RUGBY LEAGUE NEWS
BBC RADIO MANCHESTER (206 medium wave, 95.1 VHF)

BARLA REPORTS – every Friday 6.15 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. RUGBY LEAGUE SPECIAL – every Sunday 3.30 p.m. - 5.15 p.m. RUGBY LEAGUE ROUND-UP – every Sunday 6.15 p.m. - 7 p.m.

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- RUGBY LEAGUE - Second Division									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt		
Oldham	8	7	0	1	174	75	14		
Salford	7	6	0	1	189	72	12		
Halifax	7	6	0	1	115	79	12		
Workington	8	5	0	3	171	64	10		
Carlisle	7	5	0	2	131	61	10		
Keighley	8	5	0	3	124	93	10		
Swinton	8	4	0	4	109	86	8		
Hunslet	7	4	0	4	151	146	8		
Cardiff	7	4	0	3	138	135	8		
Huddersfield	8	4	0	4	85	118	8		
Blackpool	8	3	0	5	74	91	6		
Rochdale	9	3	0	5	73	111	6		
Bramley	8	3	0	5	90	156	6		
Batley	7	2	0	5	66	110	4		
Dewsbury	8	2	0	6	52	145	4		
Doncaster	8	2	0	6	106	216	4		
Huyton	6	0	0	6	39	129	0		

Up to and including
Sunday, 11th October, 1981

COLTS AND "A" TEAM FIXTURES AND RESULTS

COLTS LEAGUE

H	Aug. 29 Sat.	Hull KR	3.00pm	Post
A	Sept. 2 Wed.	Halifax		Post
H	Sept. 5 Sat.	Leeds	3.00pm	17-38
A	Sept. 12 Sat.	Wakefield T.	3.00pm	29-21
H	Sept. 19 Sat.	York	3.00pm	27- 0
A	Sept. 26th Sat.	Bramley	3.00pm	4- 4
H	Oct. 3 Sat.	Barrow	3.00pm	42-14
A	Oct. 10 Sat.	Hull KR	3.00pm	15-29
H	Oct. 17 Sat.	Leigh	3.00pm	
H	Oct. 24 Sat.	Hunslet	3.00pm	
A	Oct. 31 Sat.	St. Helens	3.00pm	
H	Nov. 7 Sat.	Castleford	3.00pm	
A	Nov. 14 Sat.	Bradford N.	2.30pm	
H	Nov. 21 Sat.	Featherstone	2.30pm	
A	Nov. 28 Sat.	Salford	2.30pm	
H	Dec. 5 Sat.	Bradford N.	2.30pm	
A	Dec. 12 Sat.	Hunslet	2.30pm	
H	Dec. 19 Sat.	Salford	2.30pm	
A	Jan. 2 Sat.	Featherstone R.	2.30pm	
H	Jan. 9 Sat.	Bramley	2.30pm	
A	Jan. 16 Sat.	Leigh	2.30pm	
H	Jan. 23 Sat.	Hull	3.00pm	
A	Jan. 30 Sat.	Leeds	3.00pm	
H	Feb. 6 Sat.	Wakefield T.	3.00pm	
	Feb. 13 Sat.	Colts Challenge Cup		
H	Feb. 20 Sat.	St. Helens	3.00pm	
	Feb. 27 Sat.	Colts Challenge Cup		
A	Mar. 6 Sat.	York	3.00pm	
A	Mar. 13 Sat.	Castleford	3.00pm	
H	Mar. 20 Sat.	Halifax	3.00pm	
A	Mar. 27 Sat.	Barrow	3.00pm	
A	Apr. 10 Sat.	Hull	3.00pm	

"A" TEAM

H	Aug. 6 Thurs	Wigan	7.30pm	17-11
H	Aug. 13 Thurs.	Oldham A.	7.30pm	0- 4
A	Aug. 20 Thurs.	Swinton	7.30pm	15-25
H	Aug. 29 Sat.	Workington	3.00pm	43-16
H	Sept. 3 Thurs	Blackpool	7.30pm	24- 9
A	Sept. 19 Sat.	Barrow	2.30pm	6-24
H	Sept. 24 Thurs	Warrington	7.30pm	16- 8
H	Oct. 3 Sat.	Whitehaven	3.00pm	22-10
A	Oct. 9 Fri.	Rochdale H.	7.30pm	14- 8
A	Oct. 24 Sat.	Lancs. Shield	2.30pm	
A	Oct. 29 Thurs.	Leigh	7.30pm	
A	Nov. 4 Wed.	Wigan	7.30pm	
A	Nov. 13 Fri.	Widnes	7.30pm	
A	Nov. 18 Wed.	Salford	7.30pm	
H	Nov. 26 Thurs	St. Helens	7.30pm	
H	Dec. 3 Thurs.	Widnes	7.30pm	
A	Dec. 19 Sat.	Workington	2.30pm	
A	Jan. 8 Fri.	Warrington	7.30pm	
H	Jan. 14 Thurs	Swinton	7.30pm	
A	Jan. 23 Sat.	St. Helens	7.30pm	
H	Feb. 13 Sat.	Barrow	3.00pm	
H	Feb. 18 Thurs.	Salford	7.30pm	
A	Feb. 27 Sat.	Whitehaven	3.00pm	
H	Mar. 4 Thurs.	Leigh	7.30pm	
H	Mar. 13 Sat.	Rochdale H.	7.30pm	
A	Mar. 27 Sat.	Blackpool	3.00pm	

WERE YOU RIGHT?

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS SET ON PAGE 16

1. 1967 for a reputed £16,000.
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3. Steve Littler, Ray Ashton, Paddy Kirwan, Pasquale D'Adamo and Terry Flanagan.
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KEIGHLEY			WAKEFIELD T.
LEEDS			WIGAN
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