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Today we welcome.

Oldham arrive at Headingley for the second time this season, appearing in the Premiership Play-Offs for only the second occasion. The men from the Watersheddings will be seeking to repeat their victory here last September, when tries by Des Foy, Green Vigo and Mick Taylor, plus three goals from Mick Parrish, gave them an 18-14 success — their impressive victory was one of a six match winning run which sent the "Roughyeds" to the Division One summit in the season's opening weeks but they lacked the consistency to maintain a realistic title challenge, even though they took points off two of the four clubs which finished the campaign above them.

In those exciting opening weeks of the 1984-85 season Frank Myler's men produced some scintillating football, incorporating the pace of the likes of Foy, Vigo and Taylor, plus the power of new Great Britain skipper Andy Goodway, the under-rated workhorse Wally Jones and Alan McCurrie. With the squad depleted by injuries to tourists Mick Worrall and Ray Ashton, it was no surprise that Oldham lacked the depth of talent to sustain a title bid, although the arrival of Parramatta's Paul Taylor and Chris Phelan gave the former Great Britain coach much more options. Taylor is one of the

gutsiest, most under-rated players in Sydney, while Phelan, a Queensland tourist in 1983, has operated in a variety of pack positions. Ex-Hunslet centre Mick Parrish has enjoyed another prolific season with the boot, failing to score in only one of Oldham's matches, evergreen Mick Morgan, due a richly deserved second testimonial for 20 years in Rugby League shortly, ex-Castleford half back Ian Birkby and, yet another tourist, Terry Flanagan have shown fine form as Oldham finished in their highest Division One placing. Like Leeds, Oldham's downfall this season has been disappointing home form which has seen points conceded to half a dozen clubs, with two surprise Cup defeats intensifying the club's feeling of being "so near and yet so far away". There was no disgrace in losing to Hull at the Boulevard, in the second round of the John Player Trophy, after gaining a merited victory at York in the first round, but home defeats in the Lancashire Cup and Silk Cut Challenge Cup, to Blackpool Borough and Castleford respectively, merely maintained Oldham's sad recent tradition for such upsets. After finishing tenth in Division One in 1983-84, Oldham can feel highly satisfied with their development of the past 12 months, and now embark on a bid to add some silverware to their trophy cabinet. Their only previous appearance in the Premiership Play-Offs, was in 1983 when, as eighth placed club, they visited

champions Hull and gave them a real fright at the Boulevard before going down 24-21. Almost 30 years ago, however, Oldham were very much the team to beat in the old "Top Four" Championship Play-Offs, as possibly the finest team in their history, containing Derek Turner, Bernard Ganley, Ike Southward, Alan Davies, Sid Little and Charlie Winslade, swept the club to its only Championship success since 1911, and finished on top of the League table in 1956-57 and 1957-58. During that era they twice accounted for Leeds at the Championship semi-final stage, but Leeds took revenge in 1969 winning a first round play-off match in the top 16 play-offs, on their way to lifting the trophy for only the second time in their history.

OLDHAM'S RESULTS 1984-85

Division One (Home game first)		
BARROW	44-8	34-12
BRADFORD N.	16-14	23-14
CASTLEFORD	15-18	12-10
FEATHERSTONE	26-8	13-6
HALIFAX	24-12	6-12
HULL	10-22	8-30
HULL K.R.	5-31	0-14
HUNSLET	32-10	46-18
LEEDS	8-8	18-14
LEIGH	12-8	16-12
ST. HELENS	20-18	5-32
WARRINGTON	15-16	18-12
WIDNES	18-2	10-14
WIGAN	19-28	2-28
WORKINGTON	44-6	44-2

Lancashire Cup	(1) BLACKPOOL (H) 26-32
John Player Trophy	(1) YORK (A) 22-6
	(2) HULL (A) 14-26
Challenge Cup (Broughton Park)	(1) CASTLEFORD (H) 8-14

OLDHAM



Gary Moorby in possession, seeks to evade Mick Parrish in the last match at Headingley between Leeds and Oldham last September.

Previous Meetings

PLAY-OFFS — LEEDS V OLDHAM

1955 Semi-final 23rd April, 1955
OLDHAM 25-6 LEEDS

Oldham: Stirrup, Barrow, Cracknell, Davies, O'Grady, Daley, Pitchford, Ogden, Keith, Jackson, Winslade, Little, Goldsmith.

Tries — Ogden, Davies, Barrow, Jackson, Cracknell.

Goals — Goldswain (4), Cracknell.

Leeds: Dunn, Turnbull, McLellan, Lendill, Scholes, Brown, Pratt, Anderson, Wood, Skelton, Poole, Hanson, Last.
Goals — Dunn (3).

1957 Semi-final 4th May, 1957

OLDHAM 22-12 LEEDS

Oldham: Ganley, Cracknell, Davies, Ayres, Eddy, Daley, Pitchford, Jackson, Keith, Vines, Little, Winslade, Turner.

Tries — Davies (2), Cracknell, Ayres.

Goals — Ganley (5).

Leeds: Jones, Quinn, McLellan, Lendill, Broughton, Brown, Stevenson, Skelton, Prior, Hopper, Poole, Robinson, Street.

Tries — McLellan, Stevenson. **Goals —** Jones (3).

1969 First Round 25th April, 1969

LEEDS 32-12 OLDHAM

Leeds: Risman, Cowan, Hynes, Langley, Atkinson, Watson, Fawdington, Clark, Crosby, K. Eyre, Joyce, Ramsey, Batten.

Tries — Langley, Hynes, Crosby, Batten, Ramsey, Cowan.

Goals — Risman (6), Watson.

Oldham: Whitehead, Elliott, Crellin, McCormack, Buckley, Briggs, Canning, Wilson, Taylor, Ogden, Irving, McCourt (Payne), Clark.

Tries — Briggs, Canning. **Goals —** Whitehead (3).

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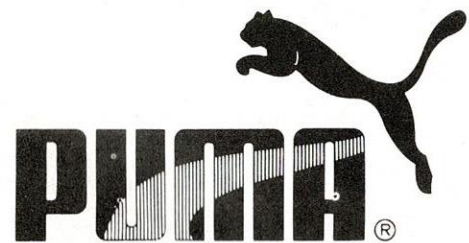
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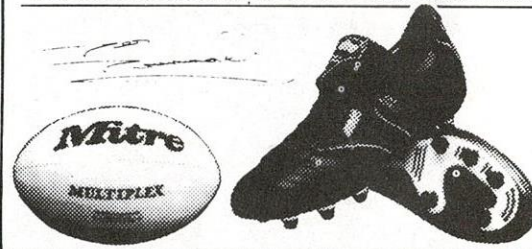


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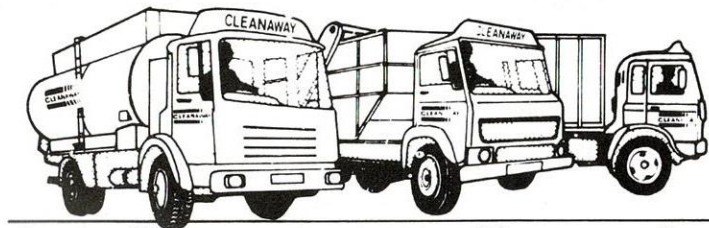
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FIRST TEAM

MATCH REPORT

Leeds completed their League programme with three away matches, all to be played under the handicap of injuries to key backs. Thus at Odsal on Easter Tuesday, Terry Webb had to be pressed into service at stand off half as Leeds attempted to avenge their sixth home defeat, inflicted by Bradford Northern at Headingley on Good Friday.

The surface on a chilly evening was very heavy and passing movements from both teams were at a premium. Northern took the lead with a fine try from Hanley who collected an inside pass from Redfearn, a player who was given far too much room to operate on the right wing. Leeds hit back however with two tries before half-time. First Maskill gained reward for following up a break by Heron and then Fullerton-Smith plunged over in the corner after a Leeds player had picked up a wild pass from a home defender in his own 25. A goal from Paul Gill, together with a further penalty early in the second half, extended the Leeds lead but Northern came back with a drop goal, and a try by Redfearn under the posts following up his own cross kick. Leeds however hung on under late Northern pressure to record a worthy 12-11 win.

At Halifax, Leeds earned their 11th away win in the League despite self-imposed handicaps. Their tackling was laboured in the early stages, they gave away some unnecessary penalties, and once again they failed to use the power of Grothe on the wing. Grothe had shown his ability with a fine second minute try. Having conceded a try to a desperately slow Halifax with soft tackling, Leeds took the lead with a good try created by Hunt, followed up by Webb and finished off by Heron. Webb was flattened after parting and this set the tone for a truly unpleasant period of play which culminated with the dismissal of Fullerton-Smith and Beevers.

Neil Hunt, putting in another brilliant performance at full back, scored the third Leeds try following a clean scrum heel. Taking Dick's pass he ran through the whole of the Halifax back division to score a brilliant try under the posts. Dick added the goal having been unable to kick any with the strong wind behind him in the first half.

The fourth Leeds try was an amazing affair. David Healy, playing a sound game on the left wing, intercepted an ambitious long pass from Chris Anderson almost on the Leeds try line to run the length of the field. Although Healy is hardly a speed merchant, he left the Halifax defenders in vain pursuit. Tony Anderson scored a late try for Halifax in the right hand corner but it was too late to affect the result. Leeds won comfortably, 20-10, and had once again managed to bring the worst out of a home team.

Last Sunday at Wilderspool it was a different story as "the Wires" put in a performance which gave the lie to their lowly League position. In the first half Leeds were not impressive and fell behind to three goals by Hesford and a try created by him for Carbert with two kicks. Hunt failed to catch the first and Healy made a similar mistake with the second. Leeds began to improve when Brendan Hill, initially a substitute, with Powell at open side prop, came on for Medley. The burly young prop immediately began to punch holes in the Warrington defences and Leeds looked altogether better. Here is surely a man with a real future at First Team level.

In the first half Gregory was leading the way for Warrington but when he failed to return after half-time Leeds began to take control, without threatening to score a try until the last quarter. At that stage Hunt began to run dangerously and scored a try which was a replica of his fine effort at Halifax. Creasser had landed two penalties previously but now missed the fairly easy conversion and Leeds went down to a deserved 10-8 defeat. One magnificent run by Grothe after collecting a kick behind his own line was the only highlight of an ordinary Leeds performance.

The game was again a bad tempered affair and Fullerton-Smith was unluckily sent off for the second successive week, a most unfortunate way to end his spell with Leeds. The men from Headingley suffered in this game from a lack of speed at half back and made their own task far more difficult by conceding a string of penalties for needless technical offences and fouls.

LEEDS SUMMARY 1984-85

(At 27th April, 1985)

	App	Sub	T	G	DG	Pts		App	Sub	T	G	DG	Pts
STEVE BLEAKLEY	8	1	2	-	-	8	GARETH INGHAM	-	1	-	-	-	-
COLIN COOPER	1	-	-	-	-	-	GAVIN JONES	15	4	2	-	-	8
MARK CONWAY	18	6	10	19	-	78	RICK LULHAM	15	4	5	-	-	20
DAVID CREASSER	28	1	10	75	-	190	PAT MITCHELL	3	-	-	-	-	-
TREVOR CLARK	11	5	1	-	-	4	GARY MOORBY	12	-	4	-	-	16
TONY CURRIE	31	1	17	-	-	68	COLIN MASKILL	5	1	1	-	-	4
LES DYL	2	1	2	-	-	8	PAUL MEDLEY	4	1	2	-	-	8
KEVIN DICK	20	5	8	21	1	75	PHIL OWEN	1	1	-	-	-	-
ROY DICKINSON	18	-	1	-	-	4	TREVOR PATERSON	30	-	7	-	-	28
W. FULLERTON-SMITH	23	2	7	-	-	28	ROY POWELL	21	3	1	-	-	4
PAUL GILL	17	2	5	15	-	50	KEITH RAYNE	-	2	-	-	-	-
ERIC GROTHE	14	-	12	-	-	48	KEVIN RAYNE	6	5	2	-	-	8
NEIL HAGUE	35	1	11	-	1	45	ANDY SMITH	6	-	-	-	-	-
DAVID HEALY	4	1	1	-	-	4	KEVIN SQUIRE	2	-	-	-	-	-
DAVID HESELWOOD	5	1	3	-	-	12	DAVID WARD	22	-	-	-	2	2
DAVID HERON	30	4	5	-	-	20	TERRY WEBB	30	1	6	-	2	26
JOHN HOLMES	24	2	1	-	1	5	IAN WILKINSON	12	1	3	-	-	12
BRENDAN HILL	5	5	1	-	-	4	MARK WILSON	-	1	-	-	-	-
NEIL HUNT	30	-	10	-	-	40							

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club scene

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

Our final League match, at Warrington last Sunday, was another of several away games this season which provided little open rugby, due to some rugged defensive work by both sides. Neil Hunt's fine opportunist try added a dash of sparkle to a lack-lustre second half, but the eventual outcome was a disappointing defeat for Leeds in a match which we could have expected to win, on current League form. Still, it was only our third defeat of the entire season in Slalom Lager Championship away games, and compliments are due to all our players who have helped achieve a fine record of 11 wins and a draw from 15 away matches, including impressive successes at such places — where it is hard to win — as Widnes, Hull, Bradford and Hull Kingston Rovers. Unfortunately, important Championship points have been lost at home, especially in the early part of the season, and this factor was constantly making our task of winning the Championship title so much more difficult. Kingston Rovers, meanwhile, have been marching onwards and picking up valuable points all the time during their recent period when they have been playing previously postponed outstanding fixtures, and once again Rovers have become deserving Champions, whom we congratulate. They may well prove just as hard to defeat in the Premiership games.

OUR AUSTRALIANS

The time is fast approaching when all our Australian players will be going home. Some will be returning next season and others will not, but in whichever direction they go we wish them all every success, both on and off the field, in the years ahead. They take with them our sincere thanks for their services to Leeds in the 1984-85 season, and we hope that all of them, and their wives and girlfriends will have happy memories of their stay in Leeds. In particular we thank our coach Malcolm Clift for the tremendous amount of hard work he has put in and the success he has achieved since joining us in March, and our special good wishes go to Malcolm and his wife Lorna.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go to our Colts Coach, Ray Abbey, who has graduated through the Rugby League National Coaching Scheme to the status of Rugby League Grade One Coach, and has been appointed District Coach in Yorkshire.

ALLIANCE LEAGUE

Some well earned away victories over the past few weeks, including two at Bradford and York, have taken our Alliance League side into sixth place from the top of the League with 16 wins from 24 games after last

week's matches. The Alliance League team has one more home fixture to play, a previously postponed match against Featherstone Rovers, and the date of this match will be announced in the local press as soon as it is arranged.

NEW SIGNING

We welcome to Headingley our latest recruit from Amateur Rugby League, second row forward Martin Wilson, from the Dewsbury Moor Club. A well-built young player, Martin has a long list of representative honours to his credit already, including West Yorkshire and Yorkshire Schoolboys Under-13 and Under-16 honours, and Yorkshire Under-17 B.A.R.L.A. honours. He played for England Schools against France in 1984 and was also a member of the B.U.S.C.A.R.L.A. Under-19 team which toured Australia last year. We wish Martin a long and happy career in Leeds colours.

ALLIANCE AND COLTS TEAMS

One of the best young prospects in Rugby League, second row forward Paul Medley, has been chosen as Player of the Season for both the Leeds Alliance and Leeds Colts teams. We congratulate Paul on this double honour and the presentations will be made to him before this afternoon's match.

SLALOM LAGER CHAMPIONSHIP

TOP EIGHT

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull K.R.	30	24	0	6	778	391	48
St. Helens	30	22	1	7	920	503	45
Wigan	30	21	1	8	720	439	43
Leeds	30	20	1	9	650	377	41
Oldham	30	18	1	11	563	439	37
Hull	30	17	1	12	733	550	35
Widnes	30	17	0	13	580	507	34
Bradford N.	30	16	1	13	600	500	33

SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

Today we welcome the officials and members of Oldham Supporters Club and trust they have an enjoyable afternoon but not at our expense. By the time these notes are published the Leeds Rugby League Supporters Club "Player of the Year" will be known. Who will follow last year's popular winner Ian Wilkinson? Will the honour go to a player from down under for only the second time, Ken Thornett being the winner in 1963-64. It is hoped the presentation of the Falkingham Trophy to the lucky winner will take place prior to today's game.

A further presentation today will be of a new award, the "Tackle" award, arranged by Maurice Bamford and kindly sponsored by the Junior Supporters Club thanks to Mr. Derek Kennedy, Junior Supporters Secretary. Congratulations go to the winners for most tackles (back) David Creasser and most tackles (forward) Terry Webb. The tackle count has been recorded over the whole season. Mr. Derek Kennedy would like to remind all junior supporters booked for the Wembley trip that all outstanding monies must be paid in today at the Supporters Shop.

In closing these notes may we thank Maurice Bamford for his interesting and informal talk to our delegates at the meeting on Wednesday last, our officials and members wish you well, Maurice, in your efforts to put Great Britain back at the top. You will always be welcome in our Supporters Club.

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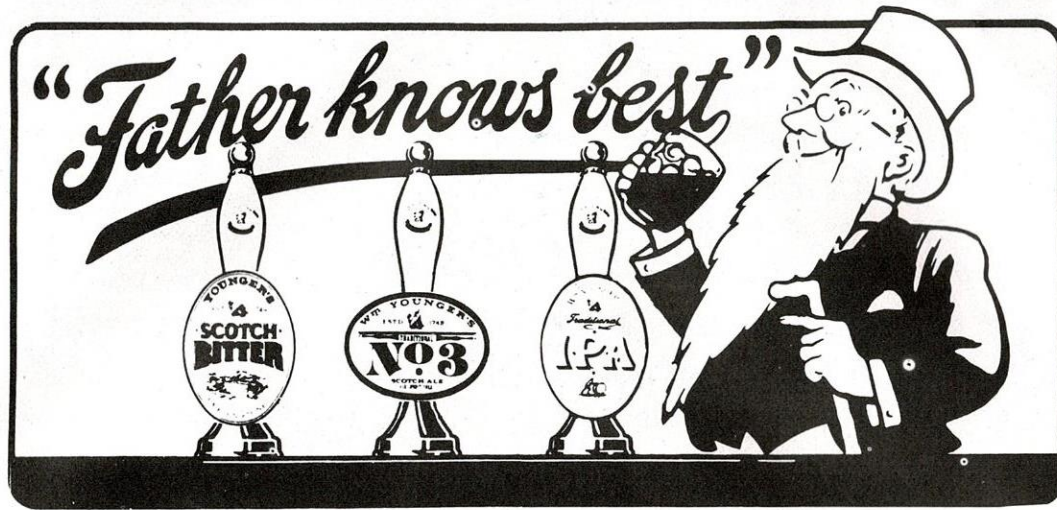
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Tee Shirt (Child)	3.99	70
Bar Scarves	2.00	40
Printed Scarves	2.00	40
Bob Hat	2.00	40
Children's Jogging Suits	11.99	1.00
Children's Gloves	1.50	40
Printed Gloves	2.00	40
Official Club Tie	5.00	
Pens	20	20
Enamel Lapel Badges	1.00	30
Supporters' Flat Caps	1.70	40
Rosettes	50	30
Wristbands	99	30
Ladies Fun Briefs	1.25	30
Bomber Jackets	8.99	80
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Leeds R.L.F.C. Directors, Officials and Players were guests of William Younger Ltd, at Garforth, last Monday, on the occasion of a Social Evening arranged by Mr. David Johnson, Regional Sales Manager, in recognition of the long time friendship between William Younger Ltd and the club.



PRIZE QUIZ

1. Name the only team to complete a League "double" over Leeds in 1984-85.
2. Gary Prohm equalled the Hull K.R. tries-in-a-season record with his 42nd touchdown at Barrow last Sunday. Who previously held the record ?
3. Who scored his first try for Leeds in the 20-10 victory at Halifax a fortnight ago.
4. When Wigan met Hull at Wembley in 1959, who was the Lance Todd Trophy winner.
5. In winning the Second Division title Swinton earned their first trophy for 16 years. What was the last competition "The Lions" won, and when were they last in Division One ?
6. Which Leeds players have spent loan periods at the following clubs during 1984-85 ?
(a) Rochdale (b) Oldham (c) Featherstone Rovers

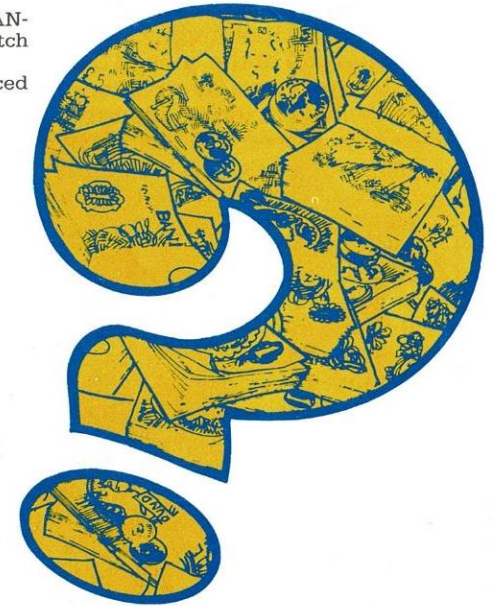
Answers at the bottom of this page

McEwan-Younger, Leeds Rugby League Football Club sponsors would like to thank all the supporters who have taken part in the quiz over the last season.

Prior to today's game the Mr. John Sarginson will present the "McEWAN-YOUNGER" Man of the Match award for the Leeds v Bradford Northern match to Neil Hunt.
Today's "McEWAN-YOUNGER" Man of the Match will be announced shortly before the final hooter.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

1. St. Helens.
2. Ged Dunn.
3. David Healy.
4. Rees Thomas.
5. They won the Lancashire Cup in 1969, and were last in the First Division in 1975-76.
6. (a) Mark Massa (b) Pat Mitchell (c) Andy Mackintosh.



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Player Profile

JOHN HOLMES

Ageless play-maker John Holmes has made less appearances in 1984-85 than in any season since he broke into the First Team as a precocious 16 year old in 1968, yet his influence on the team is still as great as ever, and most supporters will be hopeful that he has recovered from the shoulder injury received in scoring his first try of the season against Wigan four weeks ago.

Leeds' record appearance maker, with over 560 to his name, was conspicuous by his absence when the season began in September, due to a nasty finger injury in a work accident, but he made his presence felt within minutes of his comeback in the Yorkshire Cup-Tie at Bradford. Holmes' slick pass sent Gary Moorby through for the try which gave Leeds a 10-4 victory, and the club's finest ever servant repeated the trick in John Player football against Wigan, at Headingley, when his defence splitting run, and perfectly timed pass gave Tony Currie one of the tries of the season.

Unquestionably a player of Holmes' calibre and consistency is only appreciated when he is absent, as in the Challenge Cup defeat by Widnes, and his exquisite handling skills have been sorely missed during the past four weeks. Fortunately for Leeds, Holmes' absences in 16 glorious years have been few and far between.

As a 16 year old John made one of the most sensational debuts in Rugby League history, claiming a try and ten goals in a Lazenby Cup Tie at Hunslet's old Parkside ground in August 1968, and showed himself to be equal to the occasion when making his League baptism, at Hull K.R. a fortnight later. The young full back was assured under the high ball in tricky conditions, and learned his trade efficiently as understudy to Bev Risman. When the former Rugby Union star was forced to retire with a knee injury, in February 1970, the 18 year old Holmes took over efficiently and appeared in the 1970 Championship Final, when St. Helens defeated Leeds with a memorable show. In 1970-71 John enjoyed his most prolific season for Leeds, scoring over 300 points, with a series of outstanding goalkicking displays underlining his nerveless feel for the big occasion. He starred in Leeds' victories in the Yorkshire Cup and Floodlit Trophy, making his Wembley debut in the ill-fated clash against Leigh, in May 1971. When Leeds returned to Wembley in 1972, Holmes was a fully fledged Test player, earning a debut in the centre position against Roy Christian's Kiwi tourists, and facing France in two Tests in 1972.

After tasting Wembley defeat for a second time, John Holmes played a huge role in Leeds' Championship Final victory over St. Helens at Swinton, bravely fielding a succession of "bombs" under extreme pressure and ending the game a battered, heroic figure. This show of bravery, allied to his skill and natural ability, made him one of four Leeds members of Britain's 1972 World Cup winning team in France. After missing the opening two games of the series, he exploded onto the scene with his record 26 points haul in a 53-19 defeat of New Zealand (how times change!), before keeping tabs on Bobby Fulton, one of the players he most admired, in the Final against Australia.

It was a tribute to Holmes' unique ability and versatility that he was able to alternate between centre, full back and stand off, for Leeds and Great Britain, without reducing his effectiveness. In the 1972 Yorkshire Cup Final against Dewsbury, Holmes' majestic three try display from full back lives in the memory as does the "shot-putt" pass to John Atkinson which effectively won the 1973 John Player Trophy Final against St. Helens.

It was particularly ironic that Holmes, who rarely missed a match, should receive his first serious injury at the climax of the 1973-74 season. A knee ligament injury costing him a certain place in Great Britain's 1974 tour party. He was surprisingly overlooked too for the 1975 World Cup trip to Australasia, with England, returning to cause a few embarrassed faces among the selectors in the European section of the tournament. John was outstanding in the centre as England rattled up the points in four successive victories over Wales, France, New Zealand and Australia, scoring tries against the Welsh at Wilderspool, two in Bordeaux, and the match winner in a 16-13 defeat of Australia at Central Park.

At club level Holmes, who had relinquished the goalkicking duties long ago, moved permanently into the stand off role when Syd Hynes took command, and proceeded to enjoy the finest moments of a brilliant career. As Leeds took the Challenge Cup in 1977, the wizardry of Holmes proved vital as his sleight of hand created the gap for Les Dyl to score the crucial try, and 12 months later he was the most influential figure on the field, setting up Phil Cookson's breathtaking try, with his reverse pass, and coolly dropping the goal which gave Leeds the lead with little time remaining. It was his finest moment, in an exemplary career, and should have earned him the coveted Lance Todd Trophy.

There has been no better clubman anywhere in the game than the modest Leeds genius and Headingley fans paid tribute to him in 1978 when he shared a deserved testimonial with Graham Eccles. Holmes has worn the Leeds shirt with distinction and has never grumbled when switched from position to position, even appearing in the second row in 1981.

His 20 Great Britain appearances spanned 11 years, making his final appearance when he was recalled after three years in the wilderness, in 1982, to face Australia in the second Test. John toured down under in 1977 and 1979, appeared seven times for England and wore the Yorkshire colours with pride on eight occasions.

It would be more than appropriate if John Holmes scored his 150th Leeds try in the Premiership Play-Offs — preferably in the Final — 15 years after appearing in his first Final.



PLAYING RECORD

Year	App	T	G	DG	Pts
1968-69	3	-	9	-	18
1969-70	17(4)	4	57	-	114
1970-71	47	4	159	-	330
1971-72	48	20	88	-	236
1972-73	50	16	58	-	164
1973-74	27(3)	6	44	-	106
1974-75	38(2)	18	35	-	124
1975-76	39(1)	16	52	3	155
1976-77	37	13	20	5	84
1977-78	31	7	2	5	30
1978-79	37(1)	9	-	1	28
1979-80	35(1)	4	-	3	15
1980-81	27(1)	5	1	2	19
1981-82	35	12	-	5	41
1982-83	38	6	-	2	20
1983-84	36	12	-	-	48
1984-85	24(2)	1	-	-	4
TOTALS	569 (15)	149	525	26	1536



Photo by courtesy of Ian Hardie of Scarborough

Eric Grothe in stylish action.



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SLALOM LAGER DIVISION ONE

DIVISION TWO

Although all four promotion places have been settled in Division Two there are a number of individual records which may be broken on the final Sunday of the season. Can Runcorn's Peter Wood, of all people, become the only player to play and score in each of his team's matches in 1984-85? Will Batley's Carl Gibson score four tries against Keighley, at Mount Pleasant, which would equal a 72 year old club record set by Jack Tindall? Will Gary Peacham score the two tries which would allow him to pass Mick Morgan's 25 for Carlisle in 1981-82?

In view of Keighley's abysmal form of late, Gibson's "impossible" task may not seem so outrageous, and defences have tended to be showing great leniency at this stage of the season. Peacham too seems likely to add to his 24 tries this term at the expense of wooden-spoonists Bridgend at Brunton Park. No doubt the former Hull centre would have chosen the luckless Welshmen to finish the season against. Certainly Peacham's record bid maintains some interest for the Cumbrian fans, now that promotion dreams have faded. Having broken the Runcorn points in a season record, surpassing the 211 scored by Jack Wood in the club's Liverpool City days, Peter Wood attempts to land four drop-goals which would equal Lyn Hallett's year old record (29), in a team which enjoyed its biggest win for many years at the expense of Keighley last Sunday. The pick of the

Division Two fixture list is the Wiggington Road clash between York and Dewsbury, who will be playing at a higher level next season. The contest will be decided on the outcome of Dewsbury's magnificent defence when faced with York's free scoring backs. Graham Steadman last week broke Vic Yorke's 28 year old club points record of 301, recording his 116th goal, and his duel with Chris Vasey will be well worth seeing. Both players will improve in the First Division in 1985-86. Promoted Salford travel to Arena '84 for a meeting with improving Huddersfield who enjoyed such a good result at Mansfield a week ago. The "Reds" possess three of the best finishers in the lower grade, in Bloor, Byrne and Marsh, and should have too much for Chris Forster's men. Bramley's inconsistent season ends at Fulham, where the "Londoners" continue their globe-trotting exploits by appearing, this

PREVIEW

time, at Wealdstone soccer ground. In extremely difficult circumstances Roy Lester has done well this term, and the Aussies Davis, Duffy and Rochford have been absolutely priceless for a club with a thin squad. Mansfield and Sheffield have both had difficult debut seasons, not least at the turnstiles where gates have been much lower than anticipated, yet will benefit from a season's experience. Both are at home today, to Rochdale and Whitehaven respectively, while Blackpool entertain fellow seashiders, Southend, whose future is in grave doubt if recent "attendances" are a guide. Invicta could be appearing for the last time at Borough Park.

DIVISION ONE

CLUB GUIDE TO 1984-85

BARROW

First Division survival was always going to be the name of the game for last season's Second Division champions, but the Furnessmen simply could not come to terms with life at the top. Tommy Dawes, "Coach of the Year" in 1984, departed to be replaced by Tommy Bishop, but relegation was a formality at that stage. Barrow never captured the flair which brought a glut of points, and the Lancashire Cup, in 1983-84 and a brittle defence leaked far too many points for survival hopes to be realistic.

BRADFORD NORTHERN

The end of an era came with the ill-timed sacking of Peter Fox who had steered Northern out of the trophy wilderness during his eight year Odsal stint. If Bradford lacked their famed consistency, their long-suffering fans (watching their football in appalling surroundings during 1984-85) were treated to the magical skills of 50 try Ellery Hanley. The man was absolutely breathtaking, and there is also the promise of McGowan, Davies and Sheldon for Barry Seabourne to work with next time.

CASTLEFORD

It is difficult not to feel sympathy for the Wheldon Roaders after their Cup semi-final defeat, their third in four years. They offset a poor League campaign by producing characteristic Cup form and really should have won the drawn encounter, before losing a memorable replay. Mal Reilly may decide that his future is to be elsewhere after over a decade of taking Cas close to silverware.

FEATHERSTONE ROVERS

Not the happiest of seasons with the miners' strike and the fire which burned down their stand, yet Allan Agar did an outstanding job with a modest squad. Just failed to qualify for the Premiership Play-offs, which they deserved for some battling home performances. The sale of David Hobbs keeps the wolf from the door, while the emergence of Paul Lyman illustrates that the supply line is still there.

HALIFAX

The Thrum Hall "Aussie invasion" paid off as they became the only promoted outfit to retain First Division status, enjoying the bonus of a brave John Player Trophy run accounting for St. Helens along the way. The class of Langmack, Ryan and Hagan, plus the power up front of Bella, Neller and Arnold gave Halifax fans their happiest moments for years, with the promise of better times ahead.

HULL

Another memorable season for the black and whites with the real possibility of their finally ending their Wembley hoodoo next week. There was quality throughout the side, with Sterling, Crooks, Kemble and Norton as sound as ever, yet Arthur Bunting sits on a volcano of young talent with Pickering, Patrick, Vass, Eastwood, Collinson, Dannatt and Proctor set to follow in the footsteps of Crooks, Schofield and Divorty. And on they march...

HULL KINGSTON ROVERS

Champions once again, John Player Trophy winners and near in the Yorkshire Cup and Challenge Cup, Rovers are clearly the game's most consistent outfit, with Aussie Gavin Miller giving their formidable pack an added touch of steel. The only blot on a majestic season was the Challenge Cup semi-final defeat when they appeared to have Wigan on the ropes.

HUNSLET

Although Hunslet return to Division Two, their young squad must be a wiser set after some memorable performances against the game's elite. A succession of home victories gave brief hopes

of survival, after a feeble start, but it was not to be, although there was end of season glory with an unlikely win at Central Park. In Graham King and Mal Graham, Hunslet possessed two players the equal of any in their respective positions.

LEEDS

Relegation-style home form cost Leeds the Championship as they uncharacteristically found their best form on their travels. A good John Player Trophy run ended in the snow and ice of Boothferry Park and Widnes won at Headingley in similar conditions, yet Leeds finished in their highest Division One placing in a decade — without thrilling their fans in the anticipated manner.

LEIGH

A season ravaged by the injuries to John Woods and Des Drummond cost Leigh their First Division status, while a redeeming Cup run was amazingly thrown away in an unforgettable tie against Hunslet. Woods' reign as player-coach was short lived with Alex Murphy returning to Hilton Park for a third occasion. A.J.M. could not stave off inevitable relegation, but restored a little pride with last Sunday's fine win over Saints — ominously for Second Division defences next term, if Drummond, Woods and Co. can be persuaded to parade world class skills at such a mediocre level.

ST. HELENS

The "points machine" of Division One, rattling up some huge scores to surpass Hull's efforts of 12 months ago. Billy Benyon's side were a joy to watch (not least against Leeds in December), and after winning the Lancashire Cup for the first time since 1968 set sail for their first championship for a decade, but were unable to overhaul Hull K.R. with such free scoring talents as Ledger, Meninga, an unqualified success, Platt, and the outstanding newcomer Sean Day, Saints may prove the team to beat in the Premiership.

WARRINGTON

A difficult season for new coach Reg Bowden, who brightened Wilderspool by signing his Widnes scrum half successor Andy Gregory in a record deal. The signing of three "free agents" from Fulham was not so widely acclaimed — even if M'Barki, Allen and Diamond failed to find the form, which earned praise by the Thames. With so many good youngsters it was a surprise to see the "Wires" struggling to avoid relegation, yet they should improve next time.

WIDNES

A difficult baptism for new coach Eric Hughes, particularly with the loss of Gorley, Gregory, Adams and Elwell. In the circumstances Widnes have coped well, producing characteristic form in the Challenge Cup, but the old "professionalism" was lacking, and a season without silverware is as rare at Naughton Park as it is at Anfield — they even go into decline simultaneously!

WIGAN

The success story of 1984-85, with Colin Clarke and Alan McInnes continuing the revival in the absence of Alex Murphy. They made one of the overseas signings of all time by bringing John Ferguson to Central Park, and then Brett Kenny completed the jig-saw. A Wembley win is vital, though if they are not to end the season trophy-less. Wigan's magnificent support deserves to be rewarded with a trophy.

WORKINGTON TOWN

Clearly out of their depth, gaining just two wins, Town are the proof of the absolute folly of a four up, four down promotion system. When Hull's "reserve" team are capable of scoring 64 points at Derwent Park it underlines the gulf between the leading teams in the country and those from the Second Division.

IAN PROCTOR

LEEDS R.L.

FIXTURES

APPEARANCES
SCORERS
RESULTS
FIXTURES

RESULTS
SCORERS
APPEARANCES

1984	Opponents and Venue	Att.	Result F A	1	2	3	4	5
Sept. 2	Leigh (A)	4,500	34-22	Gill 1T	Mitchell	Heselwood 2T	Hague	Smith
9	ST. HELENS (H)	6,677	2-21	Wilkinson	Mitchell	Heselwood	Hague	Smith
16	Castleford (A), Yorkshire Cup, Round 1	4,701	16-14	Wilkinson	Mitchell	Heselwood 1T	Creasser 4G	Smith
19	Featherstone Rovers (A)	3,082	14-0	Wilkinson	Lulham	Heselwood	Creasser 1T 2G	Smith
23	OLDHAM (H)	7,249	14-18	Wilkinson	Lulham	Heselwood	Creasser 3G	Currie 2T
26	Bradford N. (A), Yorkshire Cup, Round 2	7,502	10-4	Wilkinson	Lulham	Hague	Creasser 2G	Smith
30	Wigan (A)	9,106	14-30	Wilkinson	Lulham	Currie	Creasser 1G	Hague 1T
Oct. 7	WIDNES (H)	6,800	43-10	Wilkinson 2T	Hague	Currie 1T	Holmes	Cooper
16	Hull (A), Yorkshire Cup, Semi-final	10,542	1-24	Wilkinson	Hague	Creasser	Bleakley	Conway
21	Hunslet (A)	6,264	29-2	Gill	Hague 2T	Currie 2T	Holmes 1DG	Creasser 4G
28	BARROW (H)	5,759	38-12	Gill 2T	Hague	Currie	Holmes	Hunt
Nov. 4	Hull Kingston Rovers (A)	6,761	14-5	Gill	Hague 1T	Currie	Holmes	Hunt
11	FEATHERSTONE ROVERS (H)	6,619	4-8	Gill	Hague	Currie	Holmes	Hunt
18	SHEFFIELD, J.P. Spec. Trophy, 1 (H)	4,850	50-2	Gill	Hague 2T	Creasser 5G	Currie 1T	Hunt 2T
25	Barrow (A)	2,210	38-12	Wilkinson	Lulham 1T	Hague	Currie 1T	Hunt
Dec. 1	WIGAN, J.P. Special Trophy, 2 (H)	9,248	10-4	Wilkinson	Hague	Creasser 1G	Currie 1T	Hunt
5	Hull (A)	9,026	10-6	Gill	Hague	Creasser 1G	Currie 2T	Hunt
9	St. Helens (A)	9,297	16-48	Gill	Hague 2T	Creasser 2G	Currie	Hunt
16	HULL (H)	7,924	10-24	Wilkinson	Smith	Hague 1T	Currie	Hunt
23	BRAMLEY, J.P. Spec. T., Qtr-Final (H)	6,770	28-14	Wilkinson 1T	Hague	Currie 2T	Lulham	Hunt
26	CASTLEFORD (H)	7,687	20-14	Gill 1T	Hague	Creasser 1T 4G	Lulham	Hunt
1985								
Jan. 1	LEIGH (H)	7,820	38-4	Gill	Grothe 3T	Hague	Creasser 2G	Hunt 2T
5	Hull, J.P. S-Final, at Boothferry Park	13,214	6-18	Currie	Grothe	Hague	Creasser 1T 1G	Hunt
13	WORKINGTON TOWN (H)	4,667	38-0	Gill	Grothe	Creasser 1T 5G	Currie	Hunt 2T
20	HALIFAX (H)	8,832	28-14	Gill 1T	Grothe	Creasser 6G	Currie	Hunt
27	BRIDGEND, S.C. Chal. Cup, Prelim. Rnd (H)	3,567	68-6	Hague 1T	Grothe 3T	Creasser 2T 8G	Dyl 1T	Hunt
Feb. 3	Widnes (A)	4,657	24-6	Gill	Grothe 2T	Creasser 4G	Currie 1T	Hunt 1T
9	WIDNES, Silk Cut Challenge Cup, Rnd 1 (H)	6,778	4-14	Gill	Grothe	Creasser 2G	Currie	Hunt
17	HULL KINGSTON ROVERS (H)	9,045	8-12	Hague	Dyl 1T	Creasser	Currie 1T	Hunt
27	WARRINGTON (H)	5,118	34-2	Hunt	Grothe 1T	Hague	Currie 1T	Bleakley 1T
Mar. 3	Oldham (A)	4,235	8-8	Hunt	Grothe	Creasser 1T 2G	Currie	Hague
17	HUNSLET (H)	6,800	50-8	Hunt 1T	Grothe 1T	Bleakley	Currie	Hague
20	Castleford (A)	4,507	16-6	Hunt	Grothe	Creasser 1T 4G	Currie 1T	Hague
24	Workington Town (A)	938	16-12	Hunt	Gill 4G	Creasser	Currie	Hague
31	WIGAN (H)	10,000	36-18	Hunt	Grothe 1T	Creasser 2T 4G	Currie	Hague
April 5	BRADFORD NORTHERN (H)	8,604	14-24	Hunt	Hague	Healy	Currie 1T	Gill 3G
9	Bradford Northern (A)	6,206	12-11	Hunt	Healy	Bleakley	Currie	Gill 2G
14	Halifax (A)	4,713	20-10	Hunt 1T	Grothe 1T	Bleakley	Currie	Healy 1T
21	Warrington (A)	2,750	8-10	Hunt 1T	Grothe	Creasser 2G	Currie	Healy

FIXTURES RESULTS SCORERS

6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Creasser 4G	Dick 1T	Dickinson	Ward	Kev Rayne	Moorby	Webb	Squire	Conway S/7 1G 2T	Heron S/9
Creasser 1G	Conway	Dickinson	Ward	Kev Rayne	Moorby	Webb	Squire	Dick S/2	Heron S/13
Hague 1T	Conway	Kev Rayne	Ward	Moorby	Powell	Webb	Heron	Healy	Owen S/8
Hague 1DG	Conway	Moorby	Ward 1DG	Webb	Powell	Owen	Heron 1T	Dick	Squire
Hague	Conway	Moorby	Clark	Webb	Powell	Paterson	Heron	Dick S/7	Owen
Holmes	Dick 1DG	Moorby 1T	Ward 1DG	Paterson	Powell	Webb	Heron	Conway S/5	Heselwood S/10
Holmes	Dick	Moorby 1T	Ward	Jones	Powell	Clark	Heron	Conway S/4 2G	Hill S/10
Lulham 1T	Conway 5G	Dickinson	Clark 1T	Moorby	Webb 1T 1DG	Paterson	Heron	Dick S/7 2G	Powell S/10 1T
Holmes	Lulham	Dickinson	Ward	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Webb 1DG	Heron	Dick S/9	Clark S/13
Lulham	Conway 1T	Dickinson	Clark	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Powell	Webb	Bleakley S/11	Heron S/10
Creasser 1T 5G	Conway 2G	Dickinson	Clark	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Webb 2T	Heron	Lulham S/6 1T	Powell S/9
Lulham	Conway 3G	Dickinson	Clark	Paterson	Webb	Fullerton-Smith 1T	Heron	Wilkinson S/8	Jones S/11
Lulham	Conway 2G	Dickinson	Clark	Jones	Powell	Paterson	Heron	Creasser S/6	Hill
Holmes	Lulham 1T	Dickinson	Ward	Paterson 1T	Fullerton-Smith	Webb 2T	Heron	Clark S/13	Jones S/8 1T
Holmes	Dick 1T 5G	Dickinson	Ward	Moorby 2T	Fullerton-Smith 1T	Webb	Heron	Clark S/4	Jones S/11 1T
Holmes	Dick	Dickinson	Ward	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Webb 1T	Heron	Lulham S/7	Moorby
Lulham	Dick	Jones	Clark	Paterson	Moorby	Powell	Webb	Conway S/6	Heron S/11
Holmes	Dick 1T	Dickinson	Webb	Jones	Fullerton-Smith	Powell	Heron	Lulham	Wilkinson
Holmes	Dick 3G	Dickinson	Clark	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Webb	Heron	Lulham S/7	Jones S/11
Holmes	Dick 1G	Dickinson	Clark	Paterson 1T	Webb	Powell	Heron	Conway S/11 1T 3G	Fullerton-Smith S/13
Holmes	Conway 1T	Jones	Ward	Hill	Paterson	Powell	Fullerton-Smith	Clark S/10	Dick
Holmes	Conway 2T 1G	Dickinson	Ward	Jones	Paterson	Powell	Webb	Currie S/4	Fullerton-Smith S/10 1T
Holmes	Conway	Moorby	Clark	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Powell	Webb	Lulham S/6	Hill S/11
Holmes	Conway 2T	Hill	Ward	Moorby	Paterson 1T	Medley 1T	Powell	Hague S/6	Kth Rayne S/10
Hague	Conway 1T	Dickinson 1T	Ward	Hill 1T	Paterson	Powell	Webb	Lulham	Kth Rayne S/13
Lulham 1T	Dick 1T	Dickinson	Ward	Hill	Medley 2T	Paterson 2T	Heron	Holmes S/6	Maskill S/5
Hague	Conway	Dickinson	Ward	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Powell	Heron	Holmes S/2	Hill S/10
Hague	Conway	Hill	Ward	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Powell	Heron	Dyl S/2	Webb S/10
Holmes	Conway	Jones	Ward	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Webb	Heron	Clark S/15	Kev Rayne S/8
Holmes	Dick 1T 1G	Jones	Ward	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Webb	Heron 1T	Gill S/12 6G	Kev. Rayne S/9
Holmes	Dick	Jones	Maskill	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Bleakley	Heron	Gill	Kev. Rayne S/12
Holmes	Dick 3T 7G	Jones	Ward	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith 2T	Webb	Heron 1T	Gill S/6	Kev Rayne S/12 1T
Bleakley	Dick	Jones	Maskill	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Webb	Heron	Gill	Kev Rayne S/9
Holmes	Dick	Jones	Ward	Kev Rayne	Fullerton-Smith 1T	Webb	Heron 1T	Conway S/3	Powell S/13
Holmes 1T	Dick	Jones	Ward	Paterson 2T	Fullerton-Smith	Kev Rayne 1T	Heron	Healy S/6	Powell S/2
Bleakley 1T	Dick	Jones	Maskill	Kev Rayne	Powell	Webb	Heron	Wilson S/2	Ingham S/10
Webb	Dick	Jones	Maskill 1T	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Powell	Heron	Wilson	Medley S/8
Webb	Dick 2G	Powell	Maskill	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Medley	Heron 1T	Gill	Hill S/8
Webb	Dick	Powell	Ward	Paterson	Fullerton-Smith	Medley	Heron	Bleakley	Hill S/12

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