

OLDHAM

SUNDAY, 30th AUGUST, 1998

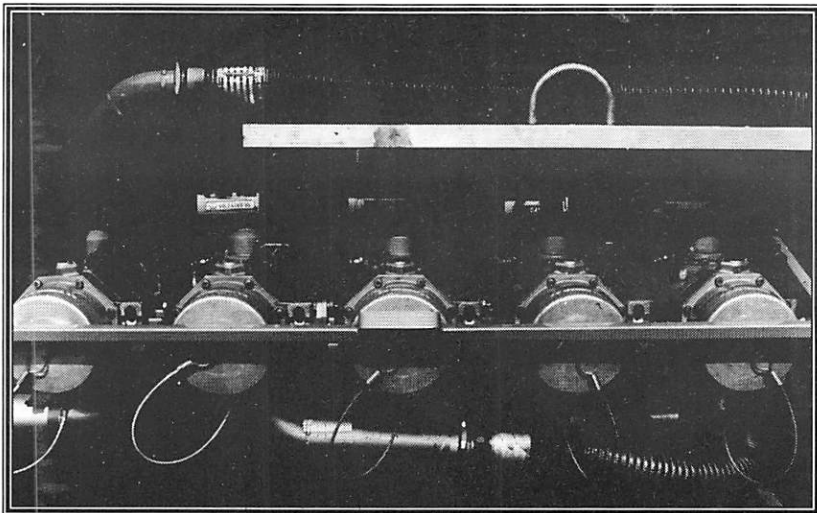
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TODAY we give a warm welcome to Oldham for the final League game of the season. It was a season that promised so much but at the end of the day we are still at the bottom of the Rugby League ladder.

Next seasons format is yet to be disclosed but as I have said previously we must return to One Division, this especially in the light of talks of Workington and Whitehaven amalgamating. Also would it not be wise for the likes of Batley to merge - they can't raise gates of over 1,000 and they are not doing too badly. Barrow, as written earlier, are at the wrong end of the ladder but can still command gates of 800. Look at Lancashire, York and Bramley, the front runners, they are lucky if they get 400-500.

So what could Barrow command if they were up with those front runners in ONE division. Let's hope the R.L. Chiefs take a long look at the future - three divisions is no good to any man.

How nice it was to see Maurice Lindsay miss out in the two main positions of the International Board - Sir Rodney Walker, who took the Vice-Chairman's role, is from good source, a very nice chap and a man who has the game held in his best interest.

So a season that promised so much back in February has come to nothing but let's not sit back - we **must** go forward.



Paddy

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Views from the North

For a change it is pleasant to be able to open this column by congratulating the team on a fine and all too rare away win against Doncaster last week. Lest those not present dismiss this win as inevitable against lowly opposition, Doncaster were a strong outfit with plenty of experience and what must be one of the game's toughest centres in John Okul. Unfortunately for them they met a Barrow side which showed some of its early season meanness in defence, maybe as a result of the shocker at home against York the previous weekend.

Without the advantage of club records I think this was the first win in the League away from home since we beat Bramley in July 1997. Let's hope it marks a turning point and we can finish off the season with a flourish and restore a bit of pride. Promotion for us is now out of the question so we must get our satisfaction from spoiling some other club's promotion party.

We offer a warm welcome to our friends from Oldham on this our last home match of what has turned out to be a very disappointing season for all of us. We started the season with very high hopes of promotion following the acquisition of the cream of a very competitive Carlisle team of 1997 and three very good overseas recruits in Sean Wallis, Jamie Stevens and John McKellerher. Sadly the team has rarely performed as a coherent unit, we have played too much predictable one-man rugby and our discipline has let us down badly.

I thought the Sky Superleague game in which Leeds beat Wigan at Central Park last weekend was one of the most thrilling games I have seen in the last two years. It had everything, skill, pace, two resolute defences and a sprinkling of sheer brutality. On the latter, if the Disciplinary Committee don't hand out at least one long suspension, I'm ready to join the ranks of those who firmly believe that there are dual standards in sentencing between Superleague and the rest.

I believe that one of the latest suggestions from the FASDA think tank, (and there's an oxymoron for you!) that's on a par with is one of the daftest yet. Their idea is that because there won't be enough games in the second division next season, each second division team should entertain some first division teams to make up a full quota of games. This is, apparently, because the first division teams believe that to include the remaining five second division two teams (four if Workington and Whitehaven merge), into one division would give that division too many games for comfort. What a load of old rubbish! The sooner that Superleague Europe and FASDA are dissolved and the running of the game is put back under the Rugby Football League the better. It would probably not improve the playing standards but it would save a bundle of money and force the petty politicians associated with the two bodies to either do something less destructive with their time or to ply their dubious political skills in a more fitting environment such as a fifth form debating society.

Fortunately for the game there is one man in the form of the R.F.L. Chairman, Sir Rodney Walker, who has the skills and presence to unite the game. He is extremely well respected in almost every sport in the land including most elements of Rugby League. Unfortunately, as so often happens with people of his abilities, he has become a target for some of the petty politicians referred to above. I hope for the sake of the game that he is able to ride above it all and call on the respect and trust that he enjoys outside the corrosive political element in FASDA & SLE and bring sense to this great sport.

Finally, and most importantly, we thank today's Sponsors, Messrs. Viktor (Emlyn Hughes) Ltd. This is a very successful company involved in promotional sports products. We hope that his invited guests enjoy their afternoon and that our own supporters "support the companies that support Barrow Border Raiders".

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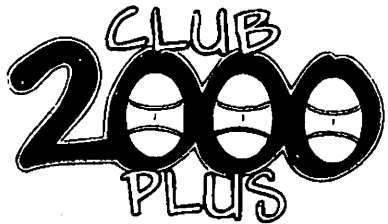
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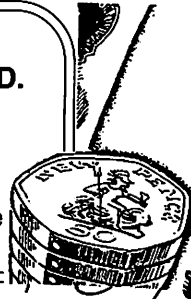
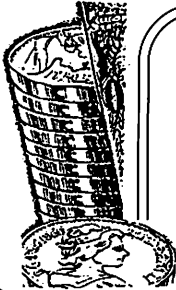
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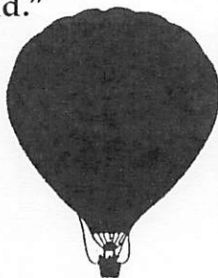
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**SECOND DIVISION 1998
FIRST TEAM**

FEBRUARY 1998

1 Silk Cut C.C. 3 R.				
FARNWORTH	H	52	8	927
15 WIDNES V. C.C. 4 R.	H	22	36	2425

MARCH 1998

1 Silk Cut C.C. 5 R.				
15 Silk Cut C.C. Q.F.				
28 Silk Cut C.C. S.F.				

APRIL 1998

10 WORKINGTON T.	H	26	10	1748
13 Lancashire Lynx	A	20	20	
19 BATLEY B.	H	19	17	1266
26 York	A	6	38	

MAY 1998

10 DONCASTER D.	H	42	8	1003
17 Oldham	A	4	13	
24 BRAMLEY	H	16	12	923

MAY 1998

31 RED ROSE CHAMPIONSHIP Workington Town	A	13	16	
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JUNE 1998

7 LANCASHIRE L.	H	12	22	886
14 Oldham (at Spotland Stadium)	A	8	32	
21 WORKINGTON T.	H	34	12	703
28 OLDHAM	H	19	2	1333

JULY 1998

5 Lancashire Lynx	A	14	32	
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JULY 1998

26 Workington Town	A	8	8	
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AUGUST 1998

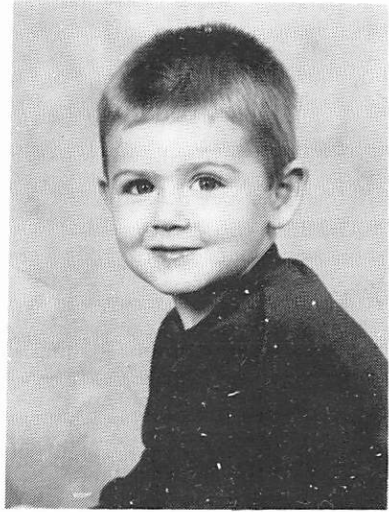
2 LANCASHIRE L.	H	22	12	815
9 Batley Bulldogs	A	16	17	
16 YORK	H	10	43	808
23 Doncaster Dragons	A	22	8	
30 OLDHAM	H			

SEPTEMBER 1998

5 Bramley	A			
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Home Kick Off 3.00p.m.

Today's Mascot



Name: Aiden McNally

Age: 4 Years old

Lives at Walney Island

School: Starts St. Columbas in
September

Favourite Soccer Team:
Manchester United

Favourite Rugby Team: Barrow
Border Raiders

*Barrow RL Support Group Family
Fun Day - Saturday 22nd August
at the Tally Ho raised a total of
£110.00 for the Willie Horne
Grandstand Appeal. Many thanks
to all who attended for their
support.*

Introducing The Roughyeds

KEITH ATKINSON

The Stalwart. This is Keith's 8th comeback! Signed for Oldham in 1985 and hung up his boots for what everyone thought was the final time in 1992. Little did we know! Back come forward who has probably played in every position with the possible exception of scrum half. Broke more bones than a butcher (his own that is!). Superb attitude.

CRAIG BARKER

Young stand-off half and a product of the Waterhead amateur RL club. Signed as a pro for the former Bears club and joined the Roughyeds as a free agent. Captained the Bears Academy side and graduated to the Alliance side, which he also led on occasions.

JASON CLEGG

Big Prop. Started in Union with Littleborough, moved into League with Littleborough based North West Pioneers and turned pro with Bradford Northern, (as they were then called), after being spotted by a Northern scout playing in a BARLA cup tie at Redhill (Castleford). Played several senior games with Bradford and later had a spell on loan with Batley.

SEAN COOPER

Former Saddleworth Rangers star, who was taken to Bradford in the Peter Fox era. Captained the Alliance side at Odsal, won numerous Alliance player of the year awards and joined Oldham as a free agent when the Bulls decided to scrap their reserve team. Impressive so far in the Roughyeds early games.

RICHARD DARKES

Former Huddersfield, Bradford and Dewsbury utility back. Ex-paratrooper. Signed after impressing in a pre-season match at Castleford. Played wing in his early days with Huddersfield & Bradford, but has since acquired considerable experience in the centre and in the back row of the pack.

CRAIG DIGGLE

A Rochdalian, Craig played with Rochdale Hornets when Roughyeds boss Paddy Kirwan was Alliance team coach at Spotland. Best position, wing. Scored two

tries in Oldham's first competitive match against Heworth in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

CHRIS ECKERSLEY

Former schoolboy sprint champion, who signed for the old Oldham club as a 15 year old on a club record contract for a teenager. A long running contract dispute ended with his move to Warrington before he returned to his new home town club as a free agent after a major shake up of personnel at Wilderspool.

MICHAEL EDWARDS

St. Helens born, Michael first joined the old club as a 15 year old scrum half. Was a regular in Alliance rugby for two or three seasons before Oldham coach Tony Barrow took him to Swinton. Now playing in the pack, he had a spell on loan with Salford last season and was delighted to return to Oldham when the opportunity arose.

NEIL FLANAGAN

Club skipper and an influential leader. A product of St. Anne's, Neil turned pro for his home town club and became its captain at the age of 19. Eventually moved on to Huddersfield, where he also had leadership responsibilities before joining Rochdale Hornets. Proud to be back in his home town and even prouder to be the skipper.

ANDY FLEMING

A Cockney who used to play soccer in the Tottenham and Chelsea youth sides, Andy took up League with London Crusaders in the days of Aussie boss Ross Strudwick. Had a spell in Australia and has played, on his return to England, with Bradford and Lancashire Lynx.

Preferred position: wing.

JOHN HOUGH

Made his name as the first player to be signed by the Roughyeds shortly after the new club was formed. A product of the Oldham schoolboy and youth game, John is a determined little hooker, who gained considerable experience from his 30 senior games for Warrington.

Expected to have a big season in division two.

AFI LUILA

Played 22 Super League games for the Bears last season after coming close to representing Tonga in the 1995 World Cup. First played for St. Helens. This strong, tough South Seas Islander, born in Tonga, raised in Auckland, will probably figure in the centre this season, although he is equally at home on the flank.

MARTIN MADERS

Young prop, who joined Huddersfield from Saddleworth Rangers as a club record buy for a teenager. Had a spell in Australia and later played with local amateurs Waterhead before joining Oldham for an undisclosed fee. His father Dennis played for Oldham in the sixties and seventies.

MICK MARTINDALE

Clever ball handler. Representing Oldham schoolboys on tour in Australia with Iain MacCorquodale, Eric Fitzsimons and Fred Loughton in 1988. Turned pro with Halifax, moved to Wakefield as part of a swap deal and joined his home-town club in January. Made his debut in the cup defeat at Widnes. Loose forward or stand-off.

JOE McNICHOLAS

Out and out winger. Fast, elusive and good on his feet. Still only 18. Signed for the Bears as a boy, but played only one senior game, at Leeds in the Premiership play-off last season. Rejected Bradford Bulls in a bid to make his name with the Roughyeds.

AIDRIAN MEAD

A Wiganer, Aidi first played in the Bears Academy side as a winger, but he switched to centre last season and impressed as a strong and pacy runner who could score tries. Keen to improve further and build on the success he enjoyed in the Bears 'A' team in 1997.

MIKE PRESCOTT

Back-row forward, also from Wigan. Made a big name for himself as a strong-running forward in the early days of Academy rugby. Since served his apprenticeship in the Alliance side and capable of doing well for the new Oldham club at prop or in the back-row.

BRIAN QUINLAN

Raised at St. Anne's, Brian was one of the three Oldham amateurs taken to Bramley by Maurice Bamford. The others were Jon Perks and Roy Jewitt. A strong prop or second-row, Brian is a useful goalkicker. He also plays, during the winter for Oldham RU but he is the first to admit that RL is his real sporting love.

PAUL ROUND

Veteran of the squad at 34, joined Oldham from St. Helens in 1987. The fee, £65,000 set by tribunal. Enjoyed the best days of his career at Watersheddings. Since had further experience with Wakefield, Halifax and Castleford. One of the 'old heads' in the young pack.

DARREN ROBINSON

'Baby' of the squad at 18. Scrum-half, who can also operate at stand-off. A Leeds lad, Darren played for the Bears Academy and Alliance teams, but never signed on. Signed for the Roughyeds as a free agent and has since caught the eye in warm-up matches, particularly in the 27-26 defeat at Castleford.

GRAEME SHAW

Son of former Oldham Athletic and West Brom soccer star David Shaw. Graeme played Union as a boy at Rakewood (Littleborough), but turned to amateur RL with Moldgreen when his family moved to Huddersfield. Represented the Young Lions against the Junior Kiwis and then signed for Bradford. Made a try-scoring Super League debut at Leeds. Second-row forward.

IAN SINFIELD

Made a big impression so far. Another Oldhamer, a product of Waterhead. Turned pro with Salford, who got an undisclosed fee when he signed for Oldham at Christmas. A natural back-rower, he is the elder brother of England schoolboys star and now Leeds youngster, Kevin Sinfield.

JOE NADIOLE

Big forward signed from Featherstone Rovers for an undisclosed fee. Huddersfield-born Joe played for his home-town club before moving on to Post Office Road. His elder brother, Tom, used to play for the former Oldham club and Joe made many visits to Watersheddings in those days to watch big brother in action.

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FIRST TEAM STATISTICS - 1998 SEASON.

(Including League, Silk Cut Challenge Cup Matches) Up to Sunday 23rd August 1998.

APPEARANCES	Sub.	Tries	Goals	D.Gls.	T. Points
P. Burns	14	1	3		12
D. Carter	16	2	9		46
D. Holt	19		6	1	25
G. Hutton	17		4		16
G. Kerr	10	1	5		20
G. Luxon	20		1		4
D. Marwood	16	1	1	32	70
G. Ruddy	19		10	2	40
P. McMillan	5		5		20
S. Quayle	4	6	1		4
S. Wallis	15	1	1		4
B. McDermott	5	2	1		4
N. Shaw	13	1	1		4
I. Halsall	6	1	3		12
P. Bent	2	4			
J. McKellener	14	2	3		12
D. Wilson	6	3		1	4
J. Thurlow	2				
S. Rhodes	13	5	5		20
M. Kavanagh	10	3	1		4
G. Chelton	3	2			
G. Spencely	5	13	1		4
P. Atkinson	12	1	4	9	34
T. Manihera	3		2		8
I. Rawlinson	1	7			
M. Whitehead	4	2			

ALLIANCE TEAM STATISTICS - 1998 SEASON (22/08/98)

P. Atkinson	10		5	35	90
Jamie Marshall	17	2	7		28
Joas Marshall	18		4		16
M. Whitehead	13		2	1	10
S. Procter	7				
D. Thomas	5	4	1		4
J. Wright	10	2			
M. McAllister	14		8		32
N. Caunt	9	3			
G. Hetherington	5	1			
N. Atkinson	5	3		5	10
P. Gardner	6	11	3		12
S. Magorian	14	1	4	16	28
P. McMillan	13	1	6	2	20
M. Green	8	4	5		20
C. Burgess	3	6			
S. Quayle	4	2	2		8
R. Creary	3	3			
I. Halsall	5		4		16
G. Luxon	2		1		4
S. Neale	16	2	2	4	19
A. Whalley	2				
D. Wilson	12	1	1		6
J. Thurlow	9		2		8
S. Jackson	2	4			
B. McDermott		3	2		8
P. Bent	2	1			
G. Chelton	14	1		1	4
H. Waddell		1			
J. Stevens	3		1		4
M. Kavanagh	5		2	2	12

A. SHARP (BUTCHERS)



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Today's
Referee :
GRAHAME SHAW

26 year old Grahame lists Ellary Hanley as the greatest player there has ever been and would like to meet Princess Diana. His dream was to have been able to have played in the 1996 World Cup Final. His favourite T.V. programme is They Think Its All Over, and enjoys the Blues Brothers, and music by Chris Rea.



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Donations of any unwanted
Rugby League memorabilia:
Programmes - Magazines,
Brochures etc.

All items to be sold in aid of the Willie Horne Grandstand Appeal.
Contact: JOHN SPOOR, The Rugby Shop, 78 Scott Street, Barrow.
Tel.: 824454

TOTAL RAISED SO FAR AND DEPOSITED IN THE
WILLIE HORNE GRANDSTAND APPEAL FUND £727

Re: Rugby League Test Series '98

*Anyone interested in travelling by Coach to the
2nd Test - Saturday 7th November - Bolton.
Please contact Karen on 820273 or call in
the Lottery Office, Scott Street, Barrow.*

The Braves Premier Account

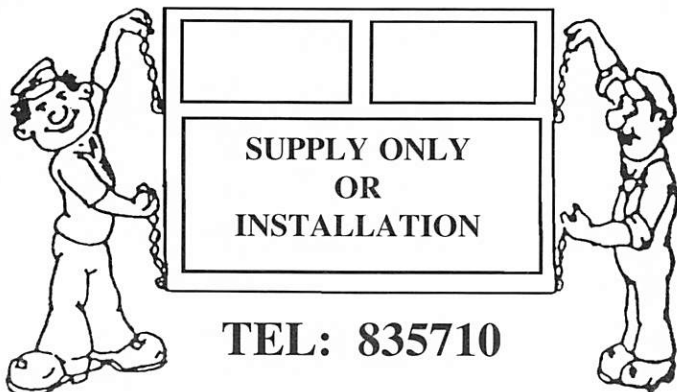
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SEE INSIDE BACK PAGE FOR JOINING.

*Any Supporter interested in travelling to
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a 3.00p.m. Kick Off, please contact Karen on
820273 or call in Lottery Office Scott Street.*

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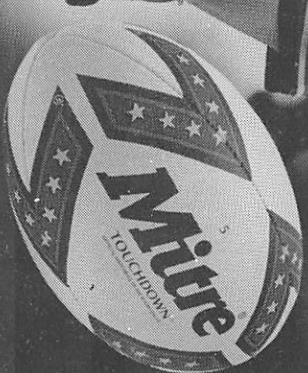
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