

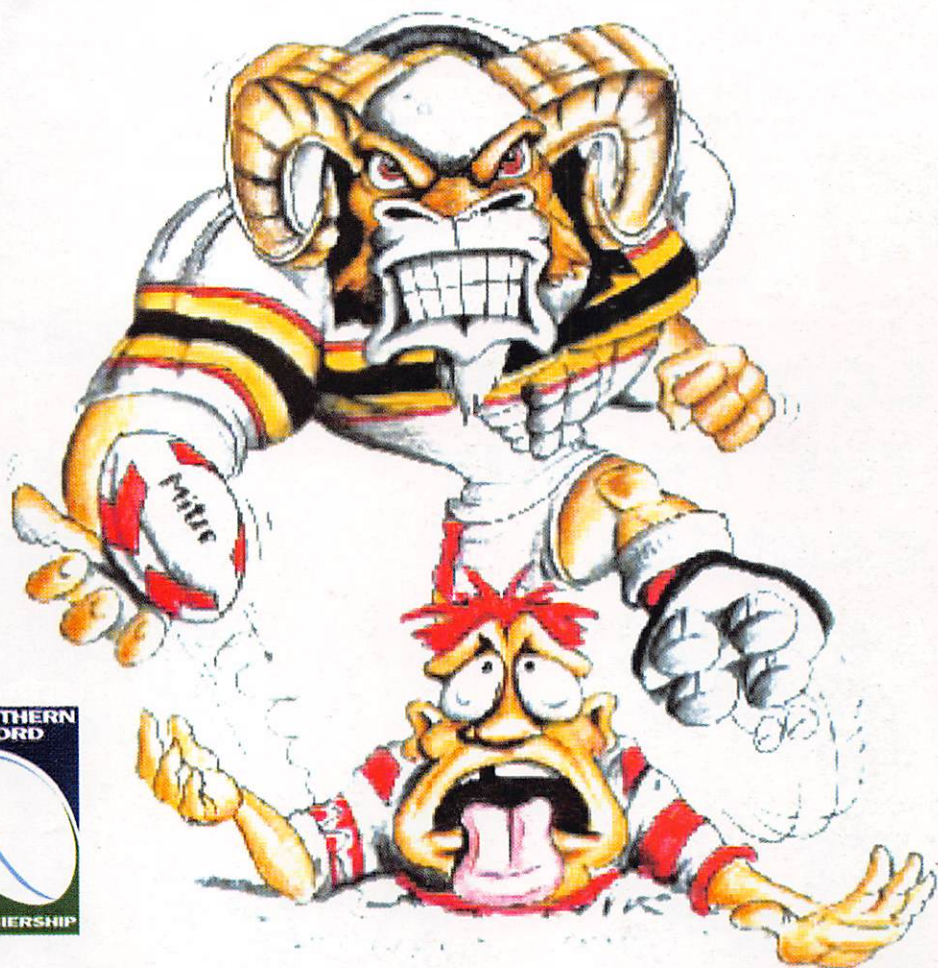


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# Club Honours

## Honours

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
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| Beaten Finalists                        | 1946/47                         |
| War Emergency League Winners            | 1941/42                         |
| Beaten Finalists                        | 1943/44                         |
| Division 2 Champions                    | 1904/05                         |
| Challenge Cup Winners                   | 1911/1912 1942/43               |
| Beaten Finalists                        | 1928/29                         |
| Yorkshire Cup Winners                   | 1925/26 1927/28 1942/43         |
| Beaten Finalists                        | 1918/19 1921/22 1940/41 1972/73 |
| Yorkshire League Winners                | 1946/47                         |
| BBC Floodlit Trophy Beaten Finalists    | 1975/1976                       |
| Northern Ford Premiership Grand Winners | 2000                            |
| Final Runners Up                        | 1999                            |
| Trans Pennine Cup Winners               | 2000                            |
| League Leader Trophy Winners            | 1999 2000                       |



Goals Season Barry Eaton 170 1999/00

## Record

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Match</b>           |   |
| <b>Goals</b>           | 13 Greg Pearce at Blackpool G 4th April 1993                                  |
| <b>Tries</b>           | 8 Dai Thomas v Liverpool C 13 April 1907                                      |
| <b>Points</b>          | 32 Les Holliday v Barrow 11 Sept 1994   |
| <b>Season</b>          |   |
| <b>Goals</b>           | Barry Eaton 170 1999/00   |
| <b>Tries</b>           | 40 Dai Thomas 1906/07   |
| <b>Points</b>          | Barry Eaton 398 1999/00   |
| <b>Career</b>          |   |
| <b>Goals</b>           | 863 Nigel Stephenson 1967/78 1984/86  |
| <b>Tries</b>           | 144 Joe Lyman 1913/31   |
| <b>Highest Score</b>   | 90-5 v Blackpool C 4th April 1993   |
| <b>Highest Against</b> | 82-0 v Widnes 30th Nov 1986   |
| <b>Attendance</b>      |   |
| <b>Highest</b>         | 26,584 v Halifax (Yorkshire Cup) 30th Oct 1920 at the Old Crown Flatt Stadium |
| <b>Lowest</b>          | 3,995 v Bailey (League 26th Dec 1994) at the new Crown Flatt Stadium          |

## LOOK WHATS IN THE TROPHY CABINET



NORTHERN FORD CHAMPIONS TROPHY 2000

TRANS PENNINE CUP WINNERS 2000

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ROY POWELL MEMORIAL TROPHY

LEAGUE LEADERS TROPHY CHAMPIONS 2000







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NFP action returns to Ram Stadium this afternoon for what, on paper, would appear to be an action packed afternoon. Oldham are currently going well in the NFP and are serious title contenders at this stage in the season. They have a number of experienced players in their team which is coached by Mike Ford. Ford is one of the few player coaches currently in the game and he uses his experience to good effect when needed. Chairman of the club is Chris Hamilton who is of course now the current chairman of the Association of Premiership Clubs taking over the reins from our own Bob McDermott. Oldham currently have a healthy fan base and we expect to see a fair number of supporters travelling over the Pennines to help create a big match atmosphere.

We would like to welcome everyone who has made the journey to support the team as well as welcoming all the Oldham players, officials and directors.

The last two home matches against Chorley Lynx and Gateshead Thunder have largely been one sided affairs. The Rams were overwhelming favourites before each game and the scores reflected the predictable nature of each game. While that's a superb compliment to Ned and the rest of the team it's also a disappointing facet of the NFP and the different levels that currently exist within the division. That has unfortunately manifested itself in the attendances at the two games and they have fallen well below what is needed to balance the books. Hopefully that will not be an issue this afternoon.

The rugby press has again focused on the Dewsbury Rams with several comments regarding affairs off the field of play. The match day magazine isn't the medium to carry out an in depth analysis of the rights or wrongs of how the club conducts its business. However it's disappointing that the most consistent team in the NFP doesn't receive the same amount of editorial cover for its achievements on the field of play.

Last weekend saw the first full weekend of Super League action and it would have been interesting to see if those games had any effect on NFP attendances. However the NFP programme was decimated yet again by the cold weather with only three games taking place including our game against Swinton Lions. There seems to be something about Gigg Lane because we seem destined to struggle against the Lions whenever we play at the ground. Last Sunday was no different and we were grateful to come away with the two points. One interesting feature for rugby league anoraks was that number 12 for both the Lions and the Rams was Paul Smith. Both players scored tries for their clubs to run up another fluke statistic.

There have been plenty of words about the Wigan v Warrington match that was played a week last Friday. Punch ups a plenty, players sent off, sin binned and cited, apologies from the clubs concerned and stern words from Greg McCallum. It will be interesting to see what will have happened to the players and clubs concerned since the disciplinary meeting was due to be held last Tuesday. Mr McCallum has also released the details of his 'seven deadly sins' that he wants to eradicate to clean up the game around the scrum. The new guidelines are targeted at clubs in the Super League but it will be interesting to see if they are as rigidly applied in the NFP. The game cries out for standardisation but hopefully the NFP coaches and players will be made aware of the new directive should they apply to them. Other notable changes are that the game should finish the moment the hooter sounds. (Hopefully no-one will about to score a try otherwise the poor timekeeper will get it in the neck). Referees have also been instructed not to delay a 20 metre tap while the opposition players get back on side which finally gets rid of one of the least liked rules in the game.

Finally still with the NFP and Super League the rift between Leigh Centurions and Halifax Blue Sox seems to widen each week. After the infamous dispute over players Leigh Chairman Mike Nolan has accused the Blue Sox of lying to the Bradford Bulls over the capacity at the Shay for their recent cup-tie. While not wishing to promote non stop back slapping you would not imagine two rugby union clubs criticising each other via the media. With St Helens coach Ian Millward claiming a Yorkshire bias it appears that the War of the Roses is about to start again and what better place to start than here at Rams Stadium. Yorkshire v Lancashire, Dewsbury v Oldham - it should be a great afternoons entertainment.

Enjoy the game.

Tony Scargill



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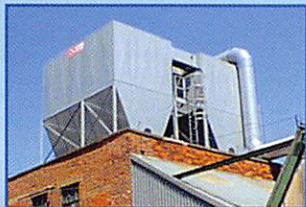




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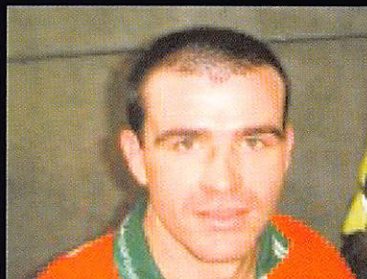
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# RUGBY League Express

## LEAGUE EXPRESS editor MARTYN SADLER celebrates the latest NFP Player of the Month award.

Reading this month's issue of Rugby League World magazine I am delighted to see that Workington Town hooker Carl Sice has won the Northern Ford Premiership Player of the Month award.

Carl is only 19, but the former Kells junior has had a great season so far, characterised by his explosive speed off the mark and his superb defensive qualities. After a number of substitute appearances last season, he has now established himself firmly as the first team at Derwent Park, and looks to be destined for big

things in the game. Carl was Workington's man of the match in six of their first eight matches of the season, and hopefully he is one of the new young breed of Cumbrian players who will lead Cumbrian Rugby League into a new renaissance. There is nothing

better, in my view, than being able to witness young players starting to make a mark on the game.

I must admit to not having a hand in the selection of the NFP Team of the Month, because if I did I would be tempted to ask why only two Leigh players and one Keighley player

have been included in the NFP 'form' side for January. Neil Turley and Simon Baldwin from Leigh, and Nathan Antonik from Wigan, seems a poor

return for the two teams who are so far unbeaten in the Premiership.

In these columns I have previously put forward the idea for a NFP representative side to play the French League. And, when you look at the talent in the NFP, we could easily see an Under-21 representative side being put together.

In this month's Rugby League World editor Graham Clay has picked out six young stars who are making great progress in the 2001 NFP competition. Apart from Sice, he has selected Neil Turley and Simon Svabic (Leigh), Wayne English (Swinton), Jon Wilkins (Hull KR) and Stuart Dickens (Featherstone). We have to give

youngsters like those the motivation to keep on improving, and a representative side in which they could play together would be a tremendous innovation.

I recently went to see York Wasps record their first win of the season at home to Gateshead Thunder, who have yet to register their first victory. It was a cold night at the Huntington Stadium, and the crowd wasn't very big, but the game, which York won 21-4, was very entertaining. And it was entertaining because it was well contested.

Having said that, there is a growing disparity between the top and bottom of the NFP, with some clubs at the top clearly spending heavily in a bid to try to get into Super League, and some at the bottom having cut down their costs to the bone to try to avoid financial black holes, of the sort that have recently affected York, Doncaster, Hunslet and no doubt a number of other NFP clubs.

In the long term all NFP clubs will have to cut their cloth accordingly, and I hope that RFL officials will be able to devise a structure to the competition that will enable those clubs to have a proud, long term future.



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# ROGER RAMS HOME THE POINTS

Well it's been a cold couple of weeks hasn't it. Too cold for my usual romp down in the meadows at the Bywell Road End, but never mind "Spring is in the Air" and I might just have caught sight of a Groundhog, although it could have been a big rat! Despite the weather, I had a great time at the Fun Fair last weekend and hopefully it will come back again next year. The big wheel "The Dewsbury Eye", as we nicknamed it, provided great views over the town, even though you could catch "Mount (un)Pleasant away in the distance."

Today we face Oldham in what should be a great encounter. I've searched the dictionary of domestic and wild birds and beasts, but just couldn't find anything remotely described as a Roughyed. I hoped it might be some kind of Pennine Mountain Goat I



could have locked horns with, but no such luck. So it looks like I'll be on my own today as I walk round the ground.

TODAY, WE HAVE A SPECIAL BUCKET COLLECTION FOR THE DEWSBURY RAMS CHEERLEADERS (just thought I'd say it boldly enough), so please give generously for these hard working youngsters. They turn up here game after game and put a lot of hard work into entertaining us all and we do appreciate it.

Sadly, this is our only home game of 3 matches this month with its 31 days, yet 6 games in April in 30 days. It is frustrating when we are trying initiatives to bring new folk in to watch the game. I hope there is a big crowd today to cheer the players on. They deserve a sell out crowd at each home game and if we do reach the dizzy heights, it's hard at times to believe the crowds will match the efforts on the field.

ROGER THE RAM

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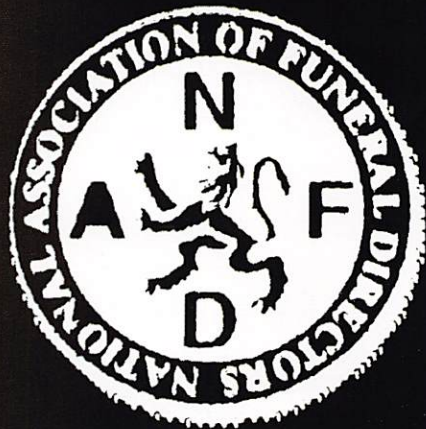
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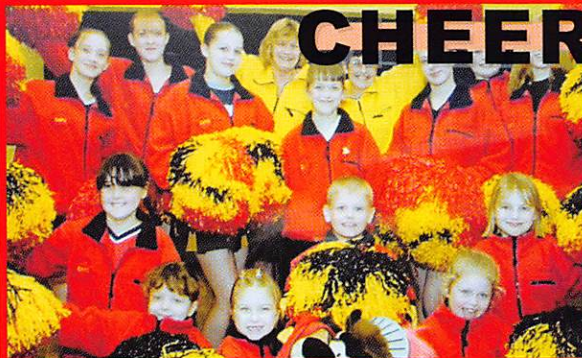
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# CHEERLEADERS



We were all very sad to hear of the recent tragic death of our former Cheerleader Lyndsey Sykes. Lyndsey was one of our founder members and worked ever so hard to help the group become established in our early days. I remember when Lyndsey first started at Cheerleaders. She was ever so keen and rarely missed either on practice nights or on match day. While we would in no way wish to prolong the nature of the terrible accident we

would like to say thank you to Lyndsey for everything you did for us and we hope that you can still look down on us and be proud of what you helped us achieve. Our thoughts are with your mum and dad Christine and Chris and will you sister Joanne who was also a member of the Cheerleaders.

The club has agreed to allow us to hold bucket collections at both today's game and at the game against Keighley Cougars. We need to raise some more money to help finance the next set of kit. As we have said it so many times before we are self funding and receive no financial support from the club itself. However they kindly agreed to our request to hold two bucket collections and we would like to thank them for their co-operation on this matter. We would also like to thank everyone who contributes towards the collection no matter how large or how small the donation.

Thank you for your support.

Margaret Scargill

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# In Support of the Rams

The only and I do mean only good thing about the fixtures this season, has been the fact that we have missed the worst of the cold weather on scheduled home dates, but I bet Neil and the boys are wondering if they are ever going to meet Doncaster. Certainly it will be after the Trans Pennine Cup Final on the 14 March and in a way it's a blessing he didn't have to try to fit that one in over the last two weeks, even if it didn't count.

Well, we are up where we belong in that top three and even on a bad playing day away from home with most other games cancelled, we survived the trip to Swinton and I am really looking forward to today's encounter. If history is anything to go by in the NFP, it will be a real test of both team's aspirations for the League and Play Offs and although there is little doubt both will be in the top eight, last week showed us no game can be taken for granted.

It's games like today that show the fans what a competitive league the NFP can be and I suspect (certainly early doors), both teams would compete with the bottom four of Super League as Leigh showed against Salford.

It's just a pity there is such a gap opening at the bottom end and with the current and former Chairmen of the NFP both in the Main Stand today, I'd like to take the opportunity of suggesting it's time we looked at Two Divisions and a proper home and away fixture list to put some reality into the end results of the League and not depending on who gets the weakest teweams home and away!!

Now that Super League is underway, I suppose we will read and see less and less about the NFP in the media and this is something the RFL needs to address urgently to ensure the

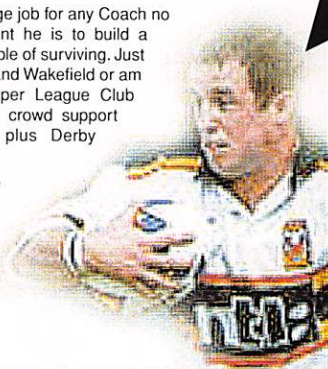
gap between the two divisions doesn't widen and make things even harder for the Grand Finalists to make the step up. Not just in terms of ground improvements and spectator numbers but also in performance. You don't have to be an accountant to work out that with no Murdoch money coming in next season to the NFP and no substantial tv money or sponsorship to replace it, there won't be many full time players around next season.

That represents a huge job for any Coach no matter how competent he is to build a transitional side capable of surviving. Just look at Huddersfield and Wakefield or am I wrong? Can a Super League Club survive on the away crowd support from the big four plus Derby games?

Hopefully one day we may find out!

SOUTH  
STANDER

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# Under The Spotlight

## OLDHAM ROUGHYED'S

Oldham start today's game in 6th place in the table with 12 points from 7 matches putting them level on points with 5th placed Featherstone Rovers but with three games in hand. Oldham have had a disjointed start to the season with home matches in particular being disrupted by the weather. Their recent fixtures have been dominated by cup matches and postponements. In the cup Oldham enjoyed an easy 64-0 win over Queensbury in round 3. They were then drawn to play Hull KR at Boundary Park and were forced to play the game in mid-week. They attracted a reasonable crowd of 2,008 to the cup tie although the attendance would have been far greater had they been able to play on the original date. Still it mattered not as they beat their NFP rivals 17-6 to gain a fifth round home tie against Wakefield Trinity Wildcats, a game that many people expected them to win. Unfortunately it wasn't to be as Martin Pearson steered Wakefield into the quarter finals.

In the league games that Oldham have played since the turn of the year results have generally been good as the club keep up the pressure on the leading clubs. The new year got off to a great start when Oldham beat Widnes 20-12 to retain their 100% start to the season. That 100% record subsequently disappeared when they lost 44-18 at home to Leigh but there was reward in a bumper home crowd of over 4,700. Their two most recent home games have strangely mirrored our own. They beat Chorley 56-2 on a cold Tuesday evening and followed that with a 52-6 defeat of Gateshead Thunder leaving the club well placed to challenge for honours. However they cannot afford to suffer many more cancellations and they already face a number of mid-week games. The condition of the pitch

at Boundary Park is far from ideal with the wet winter weather ruining the playing surface.

This season has basically continued on the upturn in fortunes that the club saw in 2000. In 1999 the club struggled along at Spotland sharing the ground with Rochdale FC and Rochdale Hornets. The pitch problems that they faced at Spotland were numerous and the club struggled to put together a real run of form. They didn't seem to struggle in quite the same way in the cup as they eliminated us from the competition at the first hurdle 18-10. We returned to Spotland later in the season to take the league points 28-12 to leave honours even between the two clubs. Oldham finished the season next to the bottom of the table with just five wins and two draws from 28 matches played.

With the benefit of a share of the Murdock money in 2000 the club aimed for better times. They returned to Boundary Park and with Mike Ford in inspirational form the good times were back. Wingman Mark Sibson was brought to the club by Ford from Bramley and he finished the season as the leading try scorer with 23 tries followed by hooker John Hough. Hough received some reward for his loyalty at the club as he ended the season with 17 tries to his name the same number as winger Joey Hayes who underlined his Super League pedigree with a number of top rate performances.

Oldham finished last season in 6th place with 19 wins and a draw from 28 matches and an average attendance of 2,197, almost double the 1999 figure. The club eyed up a trip to Gigg Lane for the final and when they eliminated one time leaders Hull KR 22-14 their hopes remained high. Unfortunately (or that is what they thought at the time) they then faced a trip to Belle Vue to play Doncaster Dragons.

The Dragons were just about untouchable on home soil. The highly charged game was featured on Yorkshire Television's Rugby League Raw programme and what a game it turned out to be. It had just about everything as the game went into extra time only for Oldham to edge home 24-17 leaving the home team devastated by their defeat. The semi-final loomed and again it was away this time to Leigh Centurions. Unfortunately there was to be no fairy tale ending as Leigh progressed into the final where they came unstuck against the Dewsbury Rams.

There is no doubt that Oldham will have learnt much from last season and they may well make it all the way to the final. Their ground complies fully with Super League requirements leaving the clubs directors free to concentrate on playing matters if they were to win the Grand Final. Chairman Chris Hamilton and his board of directors have taken the club a long way in a short period of time and it is time that will tell whether they are ready to make a big step upwards.

Tony Scargill



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# OLDHAM ROUGHYEDS



## JASON ROACH

One of the six new signings for the 2000/2001 season. A big, strong winger with Super League experience with St. Helens, his home-town club, Castleford and Warrington. A nephew of former Hornets centre Wilf Roach, Jason was with Swinton in the NFP last season.

## GARETH BARBER

A 20 year old stand-off born and bred in Oldham. He was reared on rugby alongside his best friend, the Leeds and England back-rower Kevin Sinfield. When Sinfield signed for Leeds, Barber signed for Workington, but returned "home" to Oldham during the close season.

## CHRIS FARRELL

Signed for the Roughyeds from Wigan for an undisclosed fee in September. Followed in the footsteps of his twin brother, Phil who took the Wigan to Oldham path six months ago. Elder brother is Andy Farrell, Wigan, England and Great Britain captain.

## PAUL NORTON

Journeyman forward, who made a name for himself playing for Lancashire Lynx. Impressed Oldham when he played against them last season. Signed at the start of the season.

## KEVIN O'LOUGHLIN

Another Lynx man, he followed Norton to Oldham in search of a new start to his career after earlier spells with St. Helens and Halifax Blue Sox in Super League.

## DARYL LACEY

Daryl hit the headlines as a 13yr old when he signed for Wigan on a seven year contract. Is one of several ex-Wingers in a Roughyed squad which has benefitted from the Wigan-area knowledge of Alliance team coach Hadyn Walker and new club scout John Jackson.

## MIKE FORD

Fordy's been there done it and got the t-shirt. He has won virtually every honour in the game. Previously with Wigan, Leigh, Castleford and had a spell in Australia, with Queensland Crushers. Surely one of the best scrum-halves of his generation, now rapidly becoming an outstanding coach.

## ANTHONY GIBBONS

Anthony is another of ORLFC's twin brother combinations - with brother

David. Signed from Bramley he is now in his second season for the Roughyeds. A versatile, hard working player used mainly as a centre.

## DAVID GIBBONS

Played for Leeds and Bramley with his twin brother Anthony before following coach Mike Ford to Oldham. Used mainly as a stand-off he missed only one game last season.

## MARK SIBSON

" Ziggy " is another of the players that Mike Ford signed from Bramley. He is widely regarded as one of the best and most exciting full-backs in the NFP. Top scorer for the Roughyeds with 24 tries last season.

## PHIL FARRELL

Anything the Gibbons boys can do in the backs, the Farrells can have you seeing double in the forwards. Phil, a second rower joined Oldham last March, quickly made a back-row spot his own and played a major part in the gradual improvement of a team that finished semi-finalists and NFP club of the year.

## NEIL RODEN

Another of Roughyeds former Wigan players. Neil came to Oldham alongside Phil Farrell. He has quickly established himself in the first team - either as a scrum-half or stand-off.



# OLDHAM ROUGHYEDS

## DEAN CROSS

Dean can play either on the wing or at centre. Previously played for Widnes Vikings, he signed for the Roughyeds towards the end of last season.

## JOE McNICHOLAS

A Rochdale boy, who lives close to Spotland, Joe was originally with Oldham Bears. Fast and elusive, he broke a leg in his fourth game for the Roughyeds and missed most of the Clubs first season. A Winger with exceptional pace of the mark.

## DANNY GUEST

Danny is another of the Roughyeds "originals" who returned to the club last season. Previously played for Keighley and Lancashire Lynx. He still has a lot to learn about the game, but certainly has the size and frame to make an impact in the NFP. He realises that prop forwards generally develop, both physically and mentally as they mature. His long term ambition is to play at Super League level, with ORLFC.

## IAN SINFELD

Ian is now in his second spell at Oldham following a stint playing RL in France. Elder brother of Kevin, the Leeds and England forward. Ian

works hard in the back-row and always plays above his weight.

## JOEY HAYES

Joey was signed from Salford, having made his name with St Helens, where he won a Super League championship medal. A speedy winger who played in every league game last season, before damaging his knee in the final game against Featherstone Rovers.

## ANDY PROCTOR

Andy is club captain for the second successive season. Formerly with Saddleworth Rangers, Wakefield Trinity and Bramley. Highly regarded for his phenomenal work rate both in attack and defence. Used mainly as a blind-side prop forward.

## PAT RICH

Pat has recently qualified as a lawyer. Last season he scored more points for the Roughyeds than anyone else. Eleven tries and 108 goals gave him 260 points in 32 games. Started at Keighley Cougars and at the start of this season, the reformed Gateshead Thunder tried to sign him, but he chose to stay at Oldham. Played for England in the 1999 Student World Cup.

## JASON CLEGG

A big, strong prop. Jason turned pro for Bradford but has now enjoyed 3 excellent seasons with the Roughyeds. A firm favourite of the crowd. When 'Cleggy' surges forward it normally takes at least three opponents to stop him.

## WARREN BARROW

Warren was signed from St Helens and can play either winger or centre, but has played all his Roughyeds rugby on the wing, scoring 12 tries in 23 appearances last season. Generally sound and well versed in the requirements of the game, so much so that his work doesn't always catch the eye. Hopefully, there is still much more to come from him. Given his size he should be taking more of the load.

## LEO CASEY

The complete pro? Leo is now regarded as a veteran at 35 years old and is one of the most experienced props in the NFP. Now in his second spell at ORLFC, he has also played for Featherstone, Rochdale and Swinton. Still very much part of Mike Ford's plans.



# PREMIERSHIP REVIEW

Since our last home game much of the Premiership action has been dominated by the weather. It wasn't too bad two weeks ago but the following mid-week action and the biggest part of last weekend's games were wiped out by the weather.

The table has changed little in the last fortnight with Leigh Centurions still holding a 100% record and with a home game against Batley Bulldogs today that record will surely stay intact. Leigh gave a good account of themselves in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup holding the home team to 20-10 with Leigh in front for long periods of the game. Leigh were critical after that match of what they claimed were Warrington's strong arm tactics. Judging from the Wolves tactics against Warrington Leigh could have just cause for complaint. The club has also been in the news following the setting up of an alliance with the French team Villeneuve and the approval by Wigan Metropolitan Council of their plans for a new 1,250 all seater stand. The outline cost of the project is £750,000 and work is scheduled to start in August and be completed in March 2002 and in time for Super League although there's a lot of clubs who will be looking to spoil those particular plans including both of today's teams. Leigh's game at York last weekend was frozen off. This came as a bitter blow to the York club who had been hoping for an influx of Leigh supporters to help their troubled finances.

York recently recorded their first win of the season when they beat Gateshead Thunder 21-4 in front of a crowd of 426 at the Huntington Stadium. York players don't receive winning pay but instead share out 50% of the gate receipts. There won't have been much money generated from that particular game and the York players and coach Lee Crooks should be commended for keeping going under such difficult circumstances. At least they have some new resources at boardroom level with former chairman John Stabler returning to the fold having resigned from Hull. He has been joined by Russell Greenfield who has also left Hull for the struggling North Yorkshire outfit. Stabler in particular has a long association with the club and it is good to see that he is not prepared to stand back and watch the York club struggle along in isolation.

Back to the table and the Rams have crept level with Leigh on 18 points but Leigh do have a superior points difference. However Keighley Cougars could go above the Rams if they win their game in hand. The Cougars should have played Rochdale last weekend and they make the trip north to play 9th placed Workington today. Keighley's 66-12 thrashing of Batley gave them a place and home advantage in the Trans Pennine Cup Final. However there are doubts about when that game might

actually take place with ground conditions not too good at Cougar Park recently. This afternoon the Cougars will face a much tougher test from a recently revitalised Workington Town team. Town won 31-28 at Barrow a fortnight ago which is a real marker of their upturn in fortunes.

Widnes Vikings currently occupy fourth place. The Vikings continue to spend and have added former Doncaster players Kevin Crouthers and Paul Cook to their squad. Both players have turned up at a number of clubs in recent seasons. Former Rams player Crouthers has had spells at Bradford, London, Wakefield and Doncaster before this latest move to Widnes. There is just a little sense of desperation at the Autoquest Stadium. Their 48-14 defeat of Chorley Lynx didn't impress coach David Hulme who has looked to solve their problems by entering the transfer market yet again.

For Doncaster Dragons there are some worrying times ahead and they have now dropped to seventh place with 12 points from 9 matches. Doncaster are at Barrow this afternoon which will be an interesting monitor of how much the players have been upset by the recent traumas. However Doncaster are not the only club with financial worries and others may surface as the season progresses. It is a reminder of how delicate things can be in the NFP and a run of poor attendances or postponed games can soon upset the balance.

Featherstone and Oldham are 6th and 7th respectively. Oldham's season is covered in a little more depth elsewhere and Featherstone have been totally inactive for the last couple of weeks. However this afternoon they host Chorley Lynx giving them the opportunity to consolidate their top eight place. Hull KR make up the top eight. The Robins have fluctuated in and out of the top eight. Last weekend they claimed two points at Chorley when they beat the Lynx 54-32. It's unusual for Hull KR to concede so many points while still winning a game and they will be out to be less generous against Swinton Lions at Craven Park.

In this afternoon's other games Gateshead (18th - 0 pts from 10) are at home to Whitehaven (16th - 5 pts from 8), Hunslet (13th - 7 pts from 10) entertain Rochdale (14th - 6 pts from 8) and Sheffield Eagles (10th - 10 pts from 11) play Widnes Vikings (4th - 13 pts from 18).

Tony Scargill

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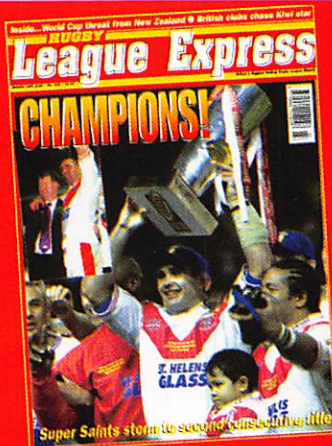
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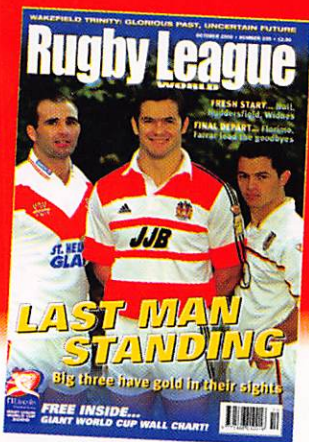


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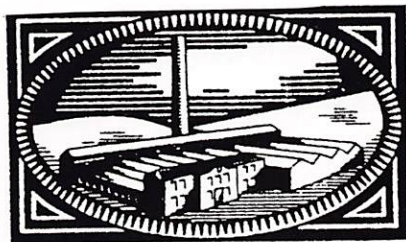
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**RICHARD AGAR?**

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# "Famous Father - EQUALLY FAMOUS SON"



This week's Player Interview is with probably one of the most popular current Rams - 6'1" Stand Off **RICHARD AGAR**.

Aged 29 (just!), Richard was born in Castleford, son of **ALLAN** who won a Division One Championship medal with **DEWSBURY RLFC** back in 1973. Allan a former Player and Coach, also won a Championship medal with **HULL K R** and a Challenge Cup medal with **FEATHERSTONE**, when he was also named "**MAN OF STEEL**". Richard's brother Jonathan also played League as a Junior with Castleford.

Richard began playing Rugby league as early as 6 years old, with Travellers saints in Featherstone and later signed with for two seasons with **FEATHERSTONE ROVERS** at the age of 17. He then came to Dewsbury, where apart from a season in Australia with **EDEN TIGERS** and a short spell at **ROCHDALE**, he has been a stalwart in the **RAMS** squad.

His biggest moments in Rugby League are

without doubt, being part of last season's Grand Final winning squad and earlier when he also won in a Grand Final with **Eden Tigers**.

Richard names his favourite food as anything Italian, listens regularly to Oasis and claims his favourite movie as Rita, Sue & Bob too! (although he refuses to name his source on that one).

Currently recovering from a broken thumb, the popular Stand Off is desperately hoping that the run of injuries he has experienced in the past 12 months, will now be behind him and he can look forward to another great Championship end to the Season, playing in every remaining game.

His longer term ambition, is to progress on to Coaching a professional side at the end of his playing career and he has begun to set his sights on that goal.

His final words to the **DEWSBURY FANS** - Get behind us - stay behind us and drive us on to another grand Final win - oh and by the way rustle up a few friends to join you.

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# Bally's Banter

## "A WIN'S A WIN"

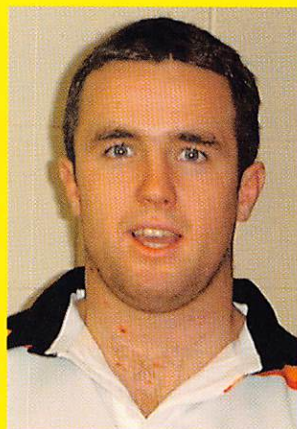
I was unable to make the Swinton game last week but from what I heard on the radio it sounded like we made hard work of what should have been a comfortable victory. At the time of writing this piece, I still haven't seen

anyone as I've been bed bound by the dreaded flu so I really can't give you any thoughts or inside info on the game. I'm sure you all have your own opinions on last week's performance. There is one thing though, Paul Smith has been ribbing me for weeks now to give him a mention in the column and I keep telling him if there is something worth mentioning I won't hesitate to put it in. I don't know how true it is but apparently he scored the try of the season last week. It said it was 40 metres out on the radio but knowing that big galoot he'll be claiming a length of the field try. I'm dreading training for the next few weeks!

I'd have loved to have played at Gigg Lane again as it holds great memories from our trip there last July! The day is still fresh in my mind and probably will be for many years to come. It's days like Grand Final day that make the cold, pre season training worthwhile. We have a chance to get to another grand final this year but that means we have to get back to doing what made us so great last year. There's no crisis by all means but we must rectify this problem before it starts getting too late!

This afternoon we host a very entertaining Oldham. Everytime we have played them in the last couple of seasons they haven't been afraid of throwing the ball about. They have some great players and were very unlucky not to get to the GF last year. This year they want to go one better which means winning games like this. It has got to be the tie of the round, potentially it's going to be a real battle, let's hope it's everything it's made out to be!

Get behind us.....Bally!



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### half time quiz

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- Which country might the Great Britain side prepare in ahead of the Ashes series against the Aussies this Autumn?
- Name the two NFP players Super League champions St Helens have signed this week?
- Who became Hull KR's fourth signing in ten days this week?
- Which team caused an upset by beating Keighley in mid week?
- Who did Oldham wing Danny Arnold represent in the World Cup?
- What is Swinton's new signing Dale Holdstock's family link with his new club?
- Which side won this week's student Varsity match held in Richmond, London.
- What is the name of Leigh's mascot?
- Who has just been made player development manager and under-21 coach for the RFL?
- Which sides will contest the BUSA student knock out cup at the Rams Stadium later this month?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 26

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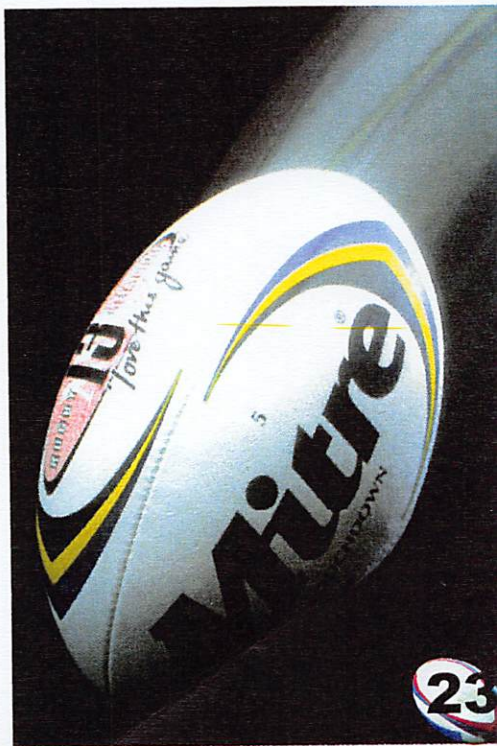
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1. South Africa
2. Heath Crutchank and Rodney Bowker
3. Matt Schultz
4. Rochdale Hornets
5. Scotland
6. It was where his father Roy, a British and English international, made his name
7. Oxford
8. Parky Pig
9. John Kear
10. Edge Hill College (Liverpool) UWIC (Cardiff)



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# IN THE PHYSIO'S ROOM...



As we entertain Oldham this afternoon, fortunately the "Foot and Mouth" Disease hasn't reached Dewsbury yet and we welcome back some absentees from recent weeks for this top of the table clash.

We had numerous absentees at Swinton last week with various problems. All three of our influential pivot players behind the scrum were missing from the

starting line up. Barry Eaton has successfully recovered from his ankle problem and came through the Swinton game with no ill effects after coming on as substitute. Richard Agar was still on the sidelines after he broke his thumb against Castleford, and he will miss the next couple of weeks after a visit to the doctor last week. Damian Ball has trained well this week after suffering from flu last week.

Andrew Spink has recovered well from his neck injury he picked up from the Chorley game; but Liam Tallon and Simon Hicks are still on the sidelines this week. Liam has been to a specialised sports medicine centre this week for assessment after his ankle was not responding to physiotherapy or doctors intervention, and Simon has had a scan on his groin this week and we await the results.

Fortunately, the club must be in a good position when the worst injury in the last few weeks is suffered by the club physio. As Damian Ball mentioned a couple of weeks ago in his programme notes, I am out of action after a minor accident; and I must take this opportunity to thank Hilary Pape who has looked after my on field duties in the last couple of weeks.

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# "THIS TIME LAST YEAR"

## Leeds Rhinos 42 Dewsbury Rams 10

Northern Ford Premiership side Dewsbury saw their Challenge Cup dreams ended - but only after a brave fight against Super League giants Leeds.

The holders were given an early fright at Headingley before they recovered their composure to reach their seventh semi-final in eight years.

Captain Iestyn Harris was the inspiration for the Rhinos, as he returned from injury with a 16-point display. But there was bad news for Leeds, when it emerged centre Paul Bell could miss the whole of the season after dislocating his shoulder and suffering ligament damage in first-half injury time.

Dewsbury were aiming to become the first non-Super League club to reach the last four. And the 250-1 outsiders for the cup threatened to create one of the biggest upsets in the competition's history when they claimed a shock early lead.

Wood makes impact The visitors went in front after only seven minutes, after former Wakefield second-rower Sean Richardson produced a neat off-load to send stand-off David Mycoe into space.

Winger Adrian Flynn then kicked through the legs of Leeds full-

back Harris, allowing centre Gavin Wood to follow up and touch down. Barry Eaton converted the try to put the Rams 6-0 in front.

There could so easily have been worse to come for Leeds, but Dewsbury hooker Ian Talbot was only inches away from extending the lead when he put a drop-goal attempt narrowly wide.

The Rams defended magnificently at times but they could do little to stop Rhinos' Kiwi centre Richie Blackmore in full flight after 26 minutes.

**They were a very competitive and passionate side....**

And Harris, returning from a knee injury that forced him to miss Leeds' surprise defeat by Wakefield in last week's Super League opener, put the home side in front for the first time when he dummied his way over after 32 minutes.

All to play for Ryan Sheridan sprinted over to make it 14-6 at the break, but the contest was still not over as the visitors carved out a second try when swift cross-field passing created an overlap for the impressive Richardson to send centre Dan Potter over for Dewsbury's second try.

The 48th-minute introduction of



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teenager Kevin Sinfield finally turned the match in Leeds' favour, however. The loose forward provided astute passes for Blackmore and Harris to claim their second tries.

And the Rhinos hit cruise control in the final stages. Australian second-rower David Barnhill crashed over for two tries in four minutes, while Adrian Morley also took advantage of a tiring Rams defence to grab a try.

Neil Kelly said "I feel we came out of the game with a lot of credit. I don't think we deserved a 40-point score. We represented the Northern Premiership quite well".

Dean Lance said "They were a very competitive and passionate side and certainly gave us a game. But we hung in there when they were having a crack at us and plenty of guys put their hands up"

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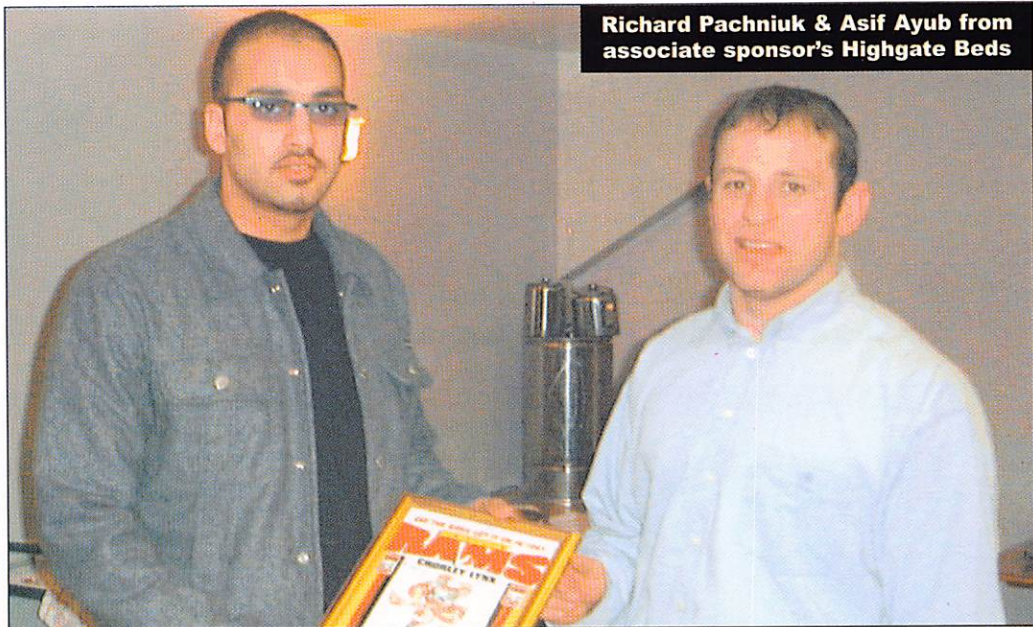


Howard Cook's ladies  
making a pass with Ryan



Ashley-Kate meets Roger the Ram & Captain Thunder





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# Web Watch

**"A weekly chat where fans can discuss the game"**

I did want to review the Official website for Oldham but it has been withdrawn. Anyway, I stumbled across their Unofficial site oldhamroughyeds.net.

This site, which is part of the Rivals network was launched last month and is currently the only web-site where Oldham Fans can get news and information about their team and swap stories via the message board.

The site is run by Gary Town, who was one of the former editors of Roughyed Times - ORLFC's widely acclaimed fanzine. Before setting up the site Gary had no experience whatsoever of web site design.

The main features of the site are it's unique online match reports (when Oldham's game are not postponed), which in most cases appear only a few hours after the match finishes, player profiles with photos courtesy of rugbyleaguephotos.com, Simon Winnard a local rugby league journalist and lifelong Roughyeds fan, writes a regular feature on the goings on both at ORLFC and in the world of RL in general and for travelling Oldham fans there

is a section devoted to away travel, which gives detailed directions together with information about what standard of refreshments are available at away grounds.

The Roughyeds message board has already exceeded all expectations and has provided the fans with a much needed forum to express their views and generally keep in touch with each other.

Already in the planning stage is a weekly chat room probably to run in the evening after matches, where fans can discuss the game with each other and both players and club officials will be asked to participate.

The site is run by Roughyed fans for Roughyed fans and although not officially connected with the club it is hoped that this may change in the future due to the problems that the club has experienced with their site. It is hoped that this site will give the fans what they really want from a Roughyeds web site and any ideas or suggestions are always welcome.



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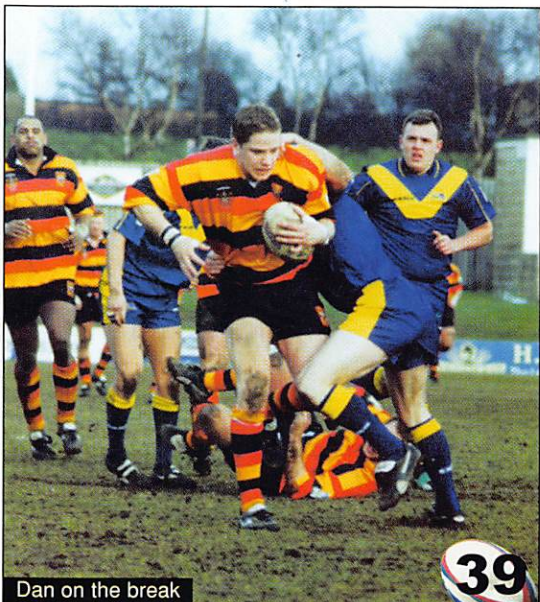
Sean is tackled by the thunder



Nathan looks for support



Dan leads for the line



Dan on the break



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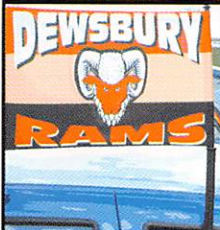
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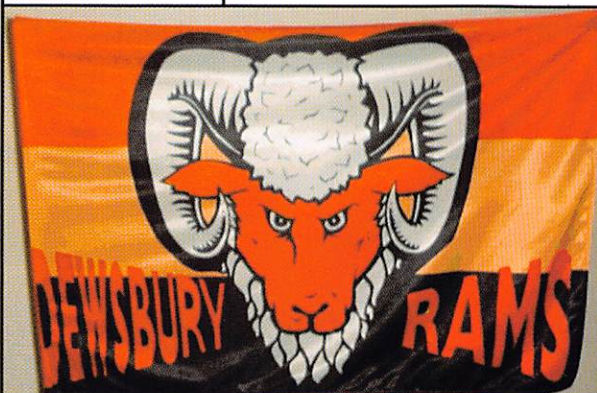
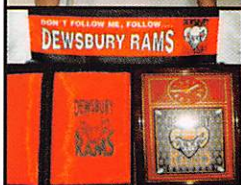






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# 2000/01 season stats

## DEWSBURY RAMS RLFC



| Date     | Opponent              | KO     | att  | Result    | 1          | 2           | 3          | 4           | 5           | 6        | 7               |
|----------|-----------------------|--------|------|-----------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------|-----------------|
| December |                       |        |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 3rd      | Featherstone Rovers   | H3:00  | 2608 | 21/12W    | GRAHAM     | GODFREY     | WOOD       | POTTER (1T) | FLYNN (1T)  | AGAR     | EATON(1T/4G;1D) |
| 10th     | Keighley Cougars      | A3:00  | 2511 | 6/32L     | GRAHAM     | GODFREY     | WOOD       | POTTER      | FLYNN (1T)  | AGAR     | EATON(1G)       |
| 17th     | Hull Kingston Rovers  | H3:00  |      |           | GRAHAM     | BAKER (1T)  | FLYNN      | POTTER (1T) | GODFREY(1T) | AGAR     | EATON(4G)       |
| 26th     | Batley Bulldogs       | H12:00 | 2516 | 24/12W    | GRAHAM(2T) | GODFREY     | FLYNN      | POTTER      | BAKER(1T)   | AGAR     | EATON(4G)       |
| January  |                       |        |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 1st      | Hunslet Hawks         | A7:30  | 1210 |           | GRAHAM     | BAKER       | TALLOM(2T) | SMITH       | FLYNN(2)    | AGAR     | EATON(1T/7G)    |
| 7th      | York                  | H3:00  | 1033 |           | GRAHAM(1T) | GODFREY     | WOOD       | POTTER(1T)  | FLYNN(2T)   | AGAR     | CAIN(1T)        |
| 14th     | Gateshead Thunder     | A3:30  |      | Postponed |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 21st     | Sheffield Eagles      | A3:15  | 860  | 25/6W     | GRAHAM(1T) | GODFREY     | POTTER(1T) | FLYNN       | BAKER(1T)   | CAIN(1T) | EATON(3G)       |
| February |                       |        |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 4th      | Doncaster Dragons     | A3:00  |      | Postponed |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 18th     | Chorley Lynx          | H3:00  |      | 70/0W     | GRAHAM     | GODFREY     | POTTER(1T) | FLYNN(3T)   | BAKER       | CAIN(3T) | MYCOE(9G)       |
| 25th     | Gateshead Thunder     | H3:00  | 850  | 54/10W    | GRAHAM(1T) | GODFREY(1T) | POTTER     | FLYNN(3T)   | BAKER(2T)   | CAIN     | MYCOE(1T/4G)    |
| March    |                       |        |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 4th      | Swinton Lions         | A3:00  | 810  | 20/18W    | GRAHAM     | GODFREY     | POTTER(1T) | FLYNN       | BAKER(1T)   | CAIN(1G) | MYCOE(1G)       |
| 11th     | Oldham                | H3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 18th     | Rochdale Hornets      | A3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| April    |                       |        |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 1st      | Barrow Border Raiders | H3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 8th      | Widnes Vikings        | H3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 13th     | Batley Bulldogs       | A7:30  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 16th     | Gateshead Thunder     | H3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 22nd     | Leigh Centurions      | A3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 29th     | Workington Town       | H3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| May      |                       |        |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 6th      | Featherstone Rovers   | A3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 13th     | Keighley Cougars      | H3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 20th     | Hull Kingston Rovers  | A3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 27th     | York                  | A3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| June     |                       |        |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 3rd      | Whitehaven Warriors   | A3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 10th     | Sheffield Eagles      | H3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 17th     | Doncaster Dragons     | H3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 24th     | Chorley Lynx          | A3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| July     |                       |        |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |
| 1st      | Swinton Lions         | H3:00  |      |           |            |             |            |             |             |          |                 |







# 2000/01 season stats

## DEWSBURY RAMS RLFC



| 8      | 9             | 10       | 11              | 12        | 13            | 14         | 15              | 16         | 17           |
|--------|---------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|
| FISHER | PACHNUIK      | JOWITT   | RICHARDSON      | SMITH     | BALL          | TALLOM     | KERSHAW         | SPINK      | MCDONALD     |
| JOWITT | PACHNUIK      | LONG     | RICHARDSON      | SMITH     | BALL          | TALLOM     | KERSHAW         | SPINK      | MCDONALD     |
| LONG   | PACHNUIK      | JOWETT   | RICHARDSON(1T)  | SMITH     | BALL(2T)      | TALLOM(S4) | KERSHAW(S11)    | SPINK(S17) | MCDONALD(S8) |
| LONG   | PACHNUIK      | JOWETT   | RICHARDSON (1T) | SMITH     | BALL          | TALLOM     | KERSHAW         | SPINK      | MCDONALD     |
| LONG   | EATON(1T)(7G) | JOWITT   | RICHARDSON      | SMITH     | BALL(2T)      | SPINK      | KERSHAW(1T)     | MCDONALD   | HICKS        |
| LONG   | PACHNUIK      | JOWITT   | RICHARDSON      | SPINK     | BALL          | CAIN       | KERSHAW         | HICKS      | MCDONALD     |
| LONG   | MYCOE         | JOWITT   | RICHARDSON      | SPINK     | BALL (1G,1DG) | WOOD(S5)   | FISHER(S17)     | SPINK(S9)  | HICKS(S8)    |
| FISHER | PACHNUIK(3T)  | LONG     | RICHARDSON(1T)  | SMITH(1T) | BALL          | WOOD(1T)   | SPINK           | JOWITT     | MCDONALD     |
| JOWITT | PACHNUIK      | MCDONALD | RICHARDSON      | SMITH(2T) | SPINK         | WOOD(S13)  | BALL(1T1G)(S12) | FISHER     | LONG         |
| FISHER | PACHNUIK      | MCDONALD | RICHARDSON(1T)  | SMITH(1T) | SPINK         | EATON(S6)  | WOOD(NU)        | LONG(S8)   | JOWITT       |



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# LEAGUE TABLE AS OF 4/03/01

| Pos | Team         | P  | W  | D | L  | F   | A   | PTS |
|-----|--------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1   | Leigh        | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0  | 452 | 94  | 20  |
| 2   | Dewsbury     | 10 | 9  | 0 | 1  | 336 | 104 | 18  |
| 3   | Keighley     | 10 | 8  | 1 | 1  | 383 | 130 | 17  |
| 4   | Widnes       | 10 | 7  | 1 | 2  | 294 | 141 | 15  |
| 5   | Featherstone | 11 | 5  | 2 | 4  | 284 | 149 | 12  |
| 6   | Oldham       | 7  | 6  | 0 | 1  | 206 | 92  | 12  |
| 7   | Doncaster    | 9  | 6  | 0 | 3  | 187 | 123 | 12  |
| 8   | Hull K R     | 11 | 5  | 2 | 4  | 176 | 175 | 12  |
| 9   | Workington   | 9  | 6  | 0 | 3  | 188 | 196 | 12  |
| 10  | Sheffield    | 11 | 5  | 0 | 6  | 222 | 187 | 10  |
| 11  | Rochdale     | 9  | 4  | 0 | 5  | 139 | 155 | 8   |
| 12  | Batley       | 10 | 4  | 0 | 6  | 124 | 226 | 8   |
| 13  | Whitehaven   | 9  | 3  | 1 | 5  | 110 | 124 | 7   |
| 14  | Barrow       | 9  | 3  | 1 | 5  | 159 | 188 | 7   |
| 15  | Hunslet      | 10 | 3  | 1 | 6  | 138 | 241 | 7   |
| 16  | Swinton      | 9  | 3  | 0 | 6  | 134 | 185 | 6   |
| 17  | York         | 11 | 1  | 1 | 9  | 99  | 421 | 3   |
| 18  | Gateshead    | 11 | 0  | 0 | 11 | 80  | 410 | 0   |
| 19  | Chorley Lynx | 10 | 0  | 0 | 10 | 104 | 474 | 0   |



Barry Eaton missing last weeks Sunday's game brought to an end his run of scoring in 59 consecutive games, thus beating the old record of 58, set up by Nigel Stephenson from October 1970 to March 1972. Barry's run started June 27th 1999 with 3 goals at Hilton Park Leigh. His absence also ended a successive run of 80 games going back to 1998 when he mist his last game at Swinton on June 28th. According to what records I have been able to check, David Watkins holds the record for the longest scoring run of 92 games, from August 1972 to April 1974, with Salford. The longest run of consecutive games goes to Keith Elwel at Widnes, playing in 239 games from May 1977 to September 1982.



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MOBILE: 07803 199325  
TEL: 01924 468 914  
FAX: 01924 437 746

## Graham Broadhead (Builders) Ltd

### TODAY'S MASCOT

Hello, my name is Racheal Blay, I am 10 years old, I live in Dewsbury and go to Chickenley Community School.

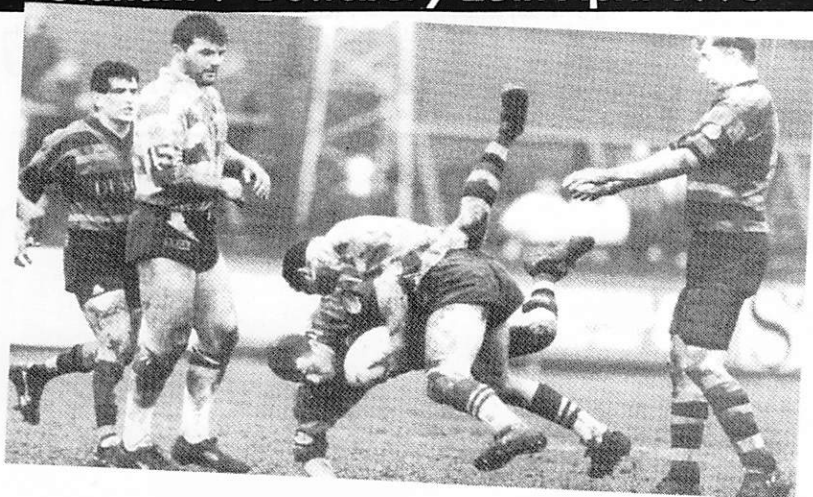
My favourite band is S Club 7 and my favourite food is a bacon butty. My hobbies listening to music, playing football, colouring and playing computer games. My favourite T.V programme is Sabrina the teenage witch. My favourite player is Damian Ball, he's really cute.





# **ACTION REPLAY ACTION REPLAY ACTION REPLAY ACTION REPLAY**

**Oldham v Dewsbury 25th April 1993**



Full back NATHAN GRAHAM (above) well tackled, with PAUL SHUTTLEWORTH on the left, DARREN ROGERS on the right.

Prop forward GLENN BELL switches to stand off in the dying seconds (below) and goes over for the equalising try, PAUL SHUTTLEWORTH backing up.



## **Match Details**

Stones Bitter Premiership Round Two - Oldham 14 Dewsbury 14 - Attendance 2,403.

Photographs courtesy Dewsbury Reporter



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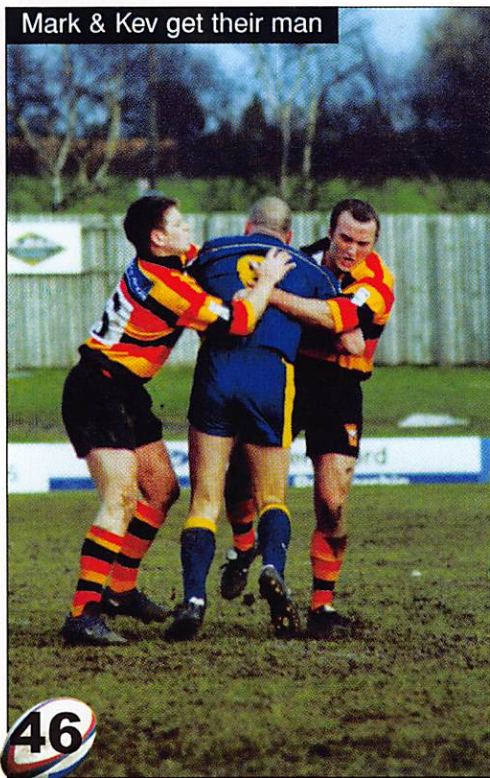
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Mark & Kev get their man



Aidy off loads just in time



## DEWSBURY

Red, Amber & Black



## OLDHAM

Red & White

|                      |                 |                      |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Nathan Graham     | Full Back       | Wally Gibson 1.      |
| 2. Eddie Rombo       | Right Wing      | Scott Ranson 2.      |
| 3. Marquis Charles   | Right Centre    | Darren Adram 3.      |
| 4. Darren Rogers     | Left Centre     | Iva Ropati 4.        |
| 5. Dennis Bailey     | Left Wing       | Hugh Gumbs 5.        |
| 6. Paul Delaney      | Stand Off       | Tommy Martyn 6.      |
| 7. Paul Shuttleworth | Scrum Half      | Shaun Devine 7.      |
| 8. Glenn Bell        | Openside Prop   | Se'e Solomona 8.     |
| 9. Neil Kelly        | Hooker          | Richard Russell 9.   |
| 10. Gary Cocks       | Blindside Prop  | Mark Sheals 10.      |
| 11. Glen Coughlan    | 2nd Row Forward | Ian Sherratt 11.     |
| 12. Mark Haigh       | 2nd Row Forward | Shane Tupaea 12.     |
| 13. Greg Pearce      | Loose Forward   | David Bradbury 13.   |
| 14. Gary Sidebottom  | Substitute      | David Stephenson 14. |
| 15. Shayne Williams  | Substitute      | Rowland Phillips 15. |

Referee - Colin Morris (Huddersfield)  
Touch Judges - R. Duckworth and I. Muir

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## OLDHAM

Wednesday 28th April 1993 - Kick Off 6.00pm  
at Mount Pleasant Batley

Official Programme 70p

Today's Match Sponsored by  
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