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WATCH TO THE COACH'S PLAYER OF THE SEASON

# martinscorner



**One things for certain today, I won't have to work hard to motivate everyone for this game.**

To be playing at home, in a semi final game with a place in the grand final at stake ought to be motivation enough. Whoever we were playing today this would be a massive game for everyone associated with Rochdale Hornets. To be playing against our nearest rivals obviously adds a bit of extra spice, particularly for the fans and those of us who have played for both sides.

Oldham have had a tremendous run towards the end of the season and capped it with a great result away at Leigh a couple of weeks ago. That meant they were able to sit out last week-end and no doubt will be raring to get stuck in today.

At this stage of the season you can't afford any mistakes because they'll be severely punished. In both our play –off games so far we've made too many mistakes for my liking. Against Widnes they possibly cost us the game. Last week, against Hull Kingston Rovers, our mistakes made for a tight affair. They came here full of confidence



and to be fair there was nothing between us for long periods. But we made a lot of problems for ourselves with some poor ball handling and that put us under a lot of unnecessary pressure. Fortunately we put it together well for a spell in the second half and wrapped it up. We've talked about the lessons from those games and what we need to do today.

There should be a tremendous atmosphere in the ground today and hopefully we will be giving you plenty to shout about at the end. In some respects whether you are a Coach or a supporter all you can really hope is that everyone gives 100 percent. We've come a long way together this season

and hopefully everyone who puts on a Rochdale Hornets shirt today will be able to come off at the end of the game proud of their performance.

If we're also able to look forward to a Grand Final appearance next week, all the better.

Get behind the lads and enjoy the game.

**Martin**

Photos courtesy of 

## ROCHDALE HORNETS RLFC

**Reg Office:**

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**Stadium Manager:** Mr R Cowgill

**Club Chaplin:** B McNiven

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# boardroombrief

**Today we offer a warm welcome to all the Directors, officials, players and fans of Oldham who have made the short journey for this afternoon's Northern Ford Premiership Final Series Semi Final here at Spotland.**

In the long history of games between us rarely has there been so much at stake. Given we're both original Members of the Northern Union and were both founded in the 1870's it is remarkable that arguably this is the most important game ever played between the two of us.

When the Play-off's set off the only way we were scheduled to play each other if results went according to the form book would have been in the final itself. The fact that we are meeting in the Semi Final is partly down to the great result Oldham managed to pull off at Leigh Centurions two weeks ago. Leigh hadn't previously lost at home this season and by all accounts Oldham fully deserved to win the game. That performance and result will have given them great confidence and they won't fear coming to Spotland, which has been something of a second home for them over the past few years.

We've played twice already this season and have each won once. Our win away at Oldham back in April was one of our best away performances of the season. We

witnessed an exhilarating display that day, the support play in particular was of the highest order. Whether that game will have any bearing on today's we'll have to wait and see but it's likely that we'll get a much tighter game here today.

A tight game is also what we saw last week-end against

Hull Kingston Rovers. They came to Spotland on the crest of a wave and were many people's dark horses for the Play-off's. There was nothing between us in the first half, in fact on territorial possession Rovers probably shaded it. Both team's defences were on top and we didn't help our cause with a number of handling errors. In the second half we managed to get on top and scored a couple of excellent tries to earn our place in the Semi Final here today.



One special mention must go to Marlon Billy. In scoring last week-end he equalled the club's 66 year record for the number of tries in the season. What is perhaps most remarkable about the feat is that

Marlon didn't score in an NFP game during the first three months of the season. With at least one more game to go everyone will be hoping that he can go on to break the record.

Hopefully this is not the end of the road this season, but as we are now in a sudden death situation we want to thank you all for your continued support.

*Photos courtesy of Alpha Photography*

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# big match preview

by Gareth Walker

**A SEASONED script writer could not have penned a better outcome. Old rivals Oldham and Hornets clash today at Spotland for a place in the coveted NFP Grand Final next Saturday. After two meetings this season, it stands at one all, while on the league table Hornets finished one place above the Roughyeds only on points difference. Whichever way you look at it, this afternoon's encounter means everything to both clubs.**

It promises to be a truly fascinating clash. Oldham will arrive at Spotland having had a weekend off following their stunning 15-14 win away at Leigh Centurions in the opening weekend of the play-offs. That result will ensure that they enter today's match full of confidence of going one better than last year, when they fell to Leigh at this stage of the competition.

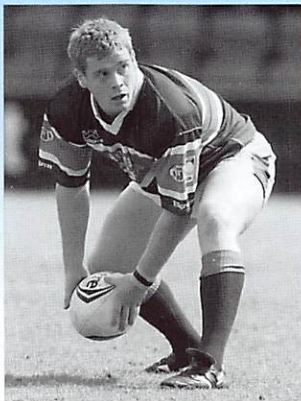
Hornets, meanwhile, are in the play-offs for the first time. They didn't have the luxury of a weekend off having lost to Widnes two weeks ago, and last Sunday were involved in a bruising encounter with Hull KR.

But Hornets do have the notion that the last time the side's met, on Good Friday, they were comprehensive 38-10 winners. In the meeting at Spotland on Christmas Eve, it was Mike Ford's side who emerged victorious, by 10-6, the last time Hornets were beaten at home in the Premiership.

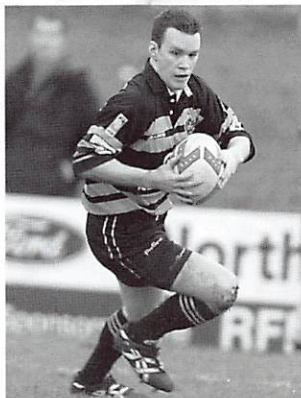
Those games, however, will count for little, if anything, this afternoon. The play-offs are a different ball game altogether, and with such a lot at stake, this afternoon's match

promises to rise to a higher level than previous encounters.

Who would have believed - especially seven games into the season - that Hornets and coach Martin Hall would be one game away from the NFP Grand Final? It has been a remarkable campaign, but it is not over yet and the players will be keen to extend the season for another week.



Paul Owen (above) and Mark Sibson (below) go head-to-head today



Today's clash throws up several intriguing personal battles all over the field. The clash between the two scrum halves - likely to be Latham Tawhai versus Ford - will be crucial, as will the battle between the two stand offs, Danny Wood and Neil Roden.

Two of the best attacking full backs in the competition - Paul Owen and Mark Sibson - go head-to-head, while in the pack, in-form hookers Keith Brennan and Darren Robinson will relish their contest, and the almighty collisions between the eight props on display should be interesting to say the least.

Then there is the battle of wits between the two coaches - Hornets' Hall and Oldham's Ford - both of whom have deservedly been nominated for the NFP Coach of the Year.

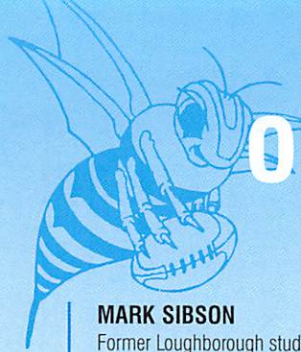
What more could you want from a Rugby League match? Two big local rivals facing each other for a place in

a major final in front of a large and expectant crowd.

For supporters of both clubs, it should be a great afternoon, and a terrific advert for the NFP

Photos courtesy of

League Express



# oldham roughyeds

## **MARK SIBSON**

Former Loughborough student who has spells at Castleford and Bramley. Very elusive runner from full back capable of scoring from long range.

## **JOEY HAYES**

A Firm favourite with the Oldham crowd this former super league star with St Helens and Salford is always likely to get on the scoresheets.

## **ANTHONY GIBBONS**

Former Leeds and Bramley player with a good step off either foot. Also one of the best defensive centres in the NFP.

## **PAT RICH**

Geordie Law Graduate who has previously with Keighley. A very reliable goal kicker he represented England students in the Student World Cup Final.

## **DAVE GIBBONS**

Twin brother of Anthony he too has played at Bramley and Leeds. Very pacey with an eye for the opening. He is an aggressive defender. He also has a good kicking game.

## **NEIL RODEN**

A product of the Wigan Academy set up he joined the club last year. Has grown in stature ever since. He is a scrum half with good hands and a sound kicking game.

## **JASON CLEGG**

A massive prop with deceptive agility. He gives the team a big go forward and a quick play the ball.

## **JOHN HOUGH**

The clubs first ever signing this Oldham born hooker was the clubs player of the season last year. Very fast out of dummy half he is a regular try scorer.

## **ANDY PROCTOR**

Club Captain and a prop with a big workrate. Formerly with Wakefield and Bramley. Recently included in the Student Rugby League Hall of Fame.

## **LEO CASEY**

Now reaching the veteran stage an Irish international prop with a wealth of experience. Former clubs include Rochdale Hornets.

## **DANNY GUEST**

Huge young prop former with Keighley and Chorley. Has

started to push through this season and big things are expected from him.

## **PHILLIP FARRELL**

Second row who joined the club along with Neil Roden. Brother of England Captain Andrew he is probably the most exciting young second row in the NFP. A massive workrate and a great pair of hands.

## **PAUL NORTON**

Signed in the off season from Chorley Klocker has been one of the clubs consistent performers. Very strong defender who can play prop or second row.

## **IAN SINFIELD**

Oldham born player equally at home at loose forward or second row. An aggressive defender with pace running out wide.

## **KEVIN MANNION**

Former student international player a loose forward with good hands. Wigan born and another former Rochdale player.

## **GARETH BARBER**

Young stand off born in Oldham and signed in the summer from Warrington. A player with huge potential he has already played a number of first team games.

## **DARYL LACEY**

Young winger or full back signed in the summer from Wigan. A player with plenty of pace and a safe pair of hands.

## **CHRIS FARRELL**

Twin brother of Phil and another summer signing from Wigan. A loose forward with great vision.

## **GAVIN DODD**

Young full back or winger and a former student international. A very elusive runner with great pace.

## **LEE DORAN**

Teenage prop who has been starring with clubs alliance team. A very exciting prospect.

## **KEITH BRENNAN**

Reserve team scrum half coming back after a serious injury. Expected to push strongly for s first team place when back to full fitness.

## **WARREN BARROW**

Big winger signed from St Helens. A regular try scorer last season and strong finisher.



# oldhamroughyeds



## CLUB HONOURS

Rugby League Championship Winners:

1909-10, 1910-11, 1956-57

Runners Up:

1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22, 1954-55

First Division Winners:

1904-05

Challenge Cup Winners:

1899, 1925, 1927

Runners Up:

1907, 1912, 1924, 1926

Lancashire Cup:

1907 1910, 1913, 1919, 1924, 1933, 1956, 1957, 1958

Lancashire League:

1897-98 1900-01 1907-08 1909-10 1921-22 1956-57 1957-58

Second Division :

1963-64, 1981-82, 1987-88

Divisional Premiership :

1988, 1992

## 10 OLDHAM. MILESTONES

- 1895 First game in the Northern Union, a 16-8 defeat at Hunslet
- 1899 Oldham beat Hunslet to become the first Lancashire club to win the Challenge Cup
- 1922 Reg Farrar sets a club record of 49 tries in a season
- 1927 The first radio broadcast of a challenge cup final takes place when Oldham play Swinton at Wigan
- 1933 Alex Givvons makes his debut for the club he would be associated with for 60 years
- 1956-57 A three trophy season, Lancashire Cup, League and Championship Final
- 1959 Oldham pay a world record £10,650 to Workington Town for Ike Southward
- 1981-82 Mike Parrish becomes the only Oldham to score in every game in a season
- 1997 Oldham beat Swinton 20-16 in their last game at Watersheddings on 19 January
- 1997 Oldham Bears drop out of Super League, go into liquidation and are resurrected as a second division team

## OLDHAMS RESULTS 2000-01

OPPONENTS		RESULT
Barrow Border Raiders	A	28 - 16
Workington Town	A	22 - 6
Rochdale Hornets	A	10 - 6
Widnes Vikings	H	20 - 12
Leigh Centurions	H	18 - 44
Chorley Lynx	H	52 - 2
Gateshead	H	52 - 6
Dewsbury Rams	A	13 - 18
Whitehaven Warriors	H	8 - 19
Sheffield Eagles	H	24 - 16
Featherstone Rovers	A	8 - 22
Hunslet Hawks	H	58 - 4
York Wasps	A	70 - 6
Batley Bulldogs	H	26 - 8
Rochdale Hornets	H	10 - 38
Widnes Vikings	A	16 - 34
Batley Bulldogs	A	9 - 8
Doncaster Dragons	H	23 - 4
Keighley Cougars	H	38 - 4
Swinton Lions	A	33 - 10
Barrow Border Raiders	H	36 - 10
Swinton Lions	H	22 - 20
Chorley Lynx	A	60 - 10
Workington Town	H	24 - 18
Gateshead	A	50 - 20
Whitehaven Warriors	A	16 - 15
Keighley Cougars	A	26 - 16
Hull K.R.	A	4 - 24
Leigh Centurions (Play Off)	A	15 - 14



# lookingback...

## ...to our last encounter

**13 APRIL 2001**  
**OLDHAM 10 ROCSDALE HORNETS 38**  
**(ATT: 2,398)**

**OLDHAM:** D Arnold, J Hayes, A Gibbons, P Rich, W Barrow, D Gibbons, N Roden, L Casey, J Hough, J Clegg, P Farrell, P Norton, I Sinfield. Subs G Dodd, A Proctor, C Farrell, D Lacey.  
Tries : P Farrell(1) Goals : Pat Rich (3)

**ROCHDALE HORNETS:** P Owen, S Cooper, B O'Meara, M Calland, M Billy, Danny Wood, L Tawhai, D Sculthorpe, D Robinson, A Ireland, D Stephenson, J Bunyan, D Watson  
Subs : W Rogers, D Larder, M Bunce, W Ayres.  
Tries : P Owen, S Cooper, M. Calland, D. Watson (2), J. Bunyan Goals D Wood (7)

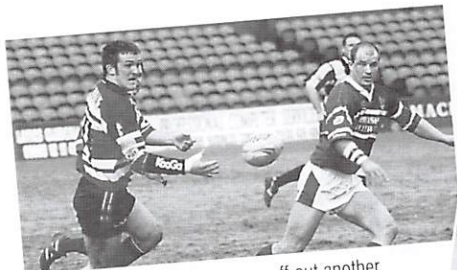
With both sides in impressive form going into the game this was expected to be one of the most exciting derby games for years. Rochdale's team included six former Oldham players and another two who were born in the town, as well as a Coach who had been involved with Oldham.

The opening minutes went Oldhams way and scored the first points after five minutes with a Pat Rich penalty. With

their first worthwhile attack of the game Hornets replied with a converted try from Watson. On 14 minutes Pat Rich converted his second penalty but by now Rochdale were looking a much more organised and dangerous team. In the 20th minute Danny Wood converted a penalty to put the Hornets further in the lead.

Rochdale Hornets continued to push forward and good work by Sean Cooper set up the supporting Dave Watson to score. Wood converted along with a second penalty in the 34th minute. With only a minute of the half remaining, James Bunyan was put through by Latham Tawhai for another converted try leaving the half time score : Oldham 4 Rochdale Hornets 22.

Within five minutes of the restart Sean Cooper and Matt Calland touchdowns extended the lead even further. Hornets were now rampant and it was no surprise when Latham Tawhai burst through again this time to set up Paul Owen, who gratefully accepted the chance. Danny Wood converted. In the dying seconds a rare attack by Oldham resulted in a try for Phil Farrell and Pat Rich converted the goal- kick to leave the final score Oldham 10 Rochdale 38.



Brendan O'Meara moves in to snuff out another Oldham move



Dave Watson touching down for 1 of 2 tries



Darren Robinson Leaves the Oldham defence floundering

**ROCHDALE**

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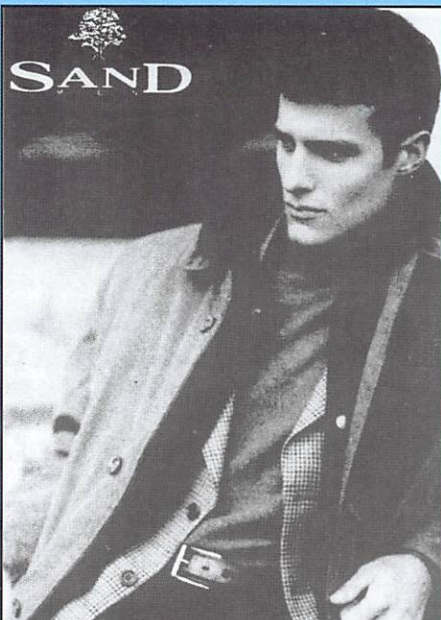
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*Denis Hope*

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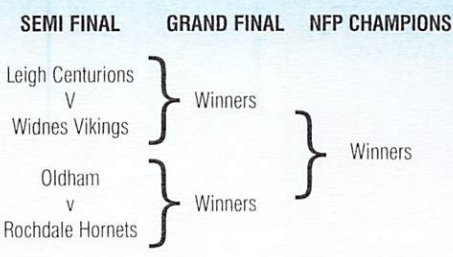
# the play-offs

**After the wonderful fare of the first round of the first round of the play-offs both Leigh Centurions and Rochdale Hornets booked their places in the NFP Major Semi-Finals by beating Featherstone Rovers and Hull KR respectively last week-end.**

the scores were locked at 4-4 at half-time before three Hornets' tries mid way through the half effectively won them the game. Popular winger Marlon Billy had special cause for celebration as his 30th try of the campaign equalled the Hornets all time record for tries in a season.

An excellent first half performance was central to the Centurions' 26-10 win against Rovers, as they established a 22-0 lead by the break. Neil Turley again scored for Paul Terzis' side, but prop Tim Street, in his last season, was sent off along with Craig Booth after just five minutes. Featherstone Rovers attempted a brave second half comeback but Simon Svabic's kicking always meant that Leigh were in the driving seat. The Centurions will now take on Widnes Vikings at Hilton Park.

All the above means the Play-offs currently look like this:



Rochdale set up todays Spotland showdown with local rivals Oldham by defeating Hull KR 21-14. In a tense game

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# premiership fixtures



## DECEMBER

	H/A	TIME	SCORE	ATT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
3	Worthington Town	A	3.00	8-18	1,384	Owen	Miller	Wood	O'Meara	Billy	Alexander	Coates	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Bunce	Larder	Feaon	Cooper	Newell	Edwards	Stephenson
10	WIDNES VIKINGS	H	3.00	14-24	1,547	Owen	Miller	Wood	Cooper	Billy	Watson	Coates	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Bunce	Larder	Feaon	Mayberry	Campbell	Edwards	Stephenson
17	CHORLEY LYNX	H	3.00	52-12	745	Owen	Miller	Wood	O'Meara	Billy	Watson	Coates	Scullthorpe	Ayres	Ireland	Bunce	Larder	Feaon	Cooper	Campbell	Mayberry	Stephenson
24	OLDHAM	H	1.00	6-10	3,402	Owen	Miller	Wood	O'Meara	Billy	Watson	Coates	Scullthorpe	Ayres	Ireland	Bunce	Stephenson	Feaon	Mayberry	Campbell	Robinson	Edwards

## JANUARY

7	Swinton Lions	A	3.00	8-4	1,153	Watson	Miller	Wood	O'Meara	Billy	Owen	Coates	Scullthorpe	Ayres	Ireland	Bunce	Larder	Stephenson	Cooper	Campbell	Rogers	Robinson
27	WIGAN ROSE BRIDGE (SCCC3)	H	3.00	52-0	731	Watson	Cooper	Wood	O'Meara	Billy	Owen	Coates	Scullthorpe	Ayres	Ireland	Rogers	Stephenson	Martindale	Callard	Campbell	Newell	Simpson
31	Whitehaven Warriors	A	3.00	4-13	641	Watson	Cooper	Callard	O'Meara	Billy	Owen	Coates	Scullthorpe	Ayres	Ireland	Rogers	Larder	Stephenson	Alexander	Campbell	Martindale	Simpson

## FEBRUARY

4	Leigh Centurions	A	3.00	0-48	2,568	Mayberry	Cooper	Wood	O'Meara	Billy	Watson	Coates	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Bunce	Rogers	Larder	Stephenson	Powell	Campbell	Simpson	Ireland	
13	HUNSLET HAWKS (SCCC4)	H	3.00	38-4	605	Owen	Cooper	Callard	O'Meara	Billy	Wood	Coates	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Bunce	Stephenson	Larder	Watson	Mayberry	Rogers	Ireland	Martindale
18	DONCASTER DRAGONS	H	3.00	26-6	1,058	Owen	Cooper	Callard	O'Meara	Billy	Wood	Coates	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Bunce	Stephenson	Rogers	Watson	McHugh	Radley	Newell	Simpson
25	VILLENEUVE LEOPARDS (SCCC5)	H	3.00	19-26	817	Owen	McHugh	Cooper	O'Meara	Billy	Wood	Coates	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Bunce	Rogers	Stephenson	Mayberry	Larder	Radley	Martindale	

## MARCH

7	Keighley Cougars	A	3.00	23-20	1,533	Owen	McHugh	Callard	O'Meara	Billy	Wood	Ashton	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Stephenson	Rogers	Watson	Bishe	Burman	Simpson	Bunce
13	Hunslet Hawks	A	3.30	42-20	746	Owen	McHugh	Callard	O'Meara	Billy	Wood	Ayres	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Stephenson	Rogers	Watson	Rensden	Bunce	Burman	Larder
18	DEWSBURY RAMS	H	3.00	44-26	1,195	Owen	McHugh	Callard	O'Meara	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Stephenson	Rogers	Watson	Ayres	Larder	Burman	Bunce
25	Hull Kingston Rovers	A	3.00	6-12	1,513	Owen	McHugh	Callard	O'Meara	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Stephenson	Rogers	Watson	Ayres	Bunce	Burman	Larder

## APRIL

1	Gateshead Thunder	A	3.30	40-15	387	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Burman	Larder	Watson	Ayres	Bunce	Rogers	Stephenson
8	YORK H	H	3.00	98-0	762	Owen	Cooper	Callard	O'Meara	Billy	Wood	Ayres	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Stephenson	Burman	Watson	Alexander	Bunce	Rogers	Larder
18	Oldham	A	3.00	38-10	2,398	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Stephenson	Burman	Watson	Ayres	Bunce	Rogers	Larder
17	SHEFFIELD EAGLES	H	7.30	48-8	1,101	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Larder	Burman	Watson	Ayres	Bunce	Rogers	Simpson
22	Featherstone Rovers	A	3.00	20-18	1,746	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Larder	Burman	Watson	Ayres	Bunce	Rogers	Hill

## MAY

6	WORKINGTON TOWN	H	3.00	38-16	1,067	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Stephenson	Burman	Watson	Garland	Berry	Rogers	Larder
9	HULL KINGSTON ROVERS	H	7.30	32-10	1,102	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Ayres	Ireland	Stephenson	Burman	Watson	Garland	Berry	Rogers	Larder
13	Widnes Vikings	A	3.00	18-44	3,860	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Ayres	Ireland	Stephenson	Burman	Watson	Garland	Berry	Feaon	Larder
20	Chorley Lynx	A	3.00	66-10	311	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	McHugh	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Stephenson	Ireland	Rogers	Larder	Garland	Ayres	Berry	Burman	Bunce
27	SWINTON LIONS	H	3.00	32-9	1,116	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Stephenson	Ireland	Larder	Rogers	Watson	Garland	Berry	Burman	Bunce

## JUNE

3	BATLEY BULLDOGS	H	3.00	36-10	1,076	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	McHugh	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Ayres	Ireland	Rogers	Burman	Watson	Garland	Berry	Stephenson	Bunce
10	WHITEHAVEN WARRIORS	H	3.00	34-24	1,190	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Stephenson	Ireland	Rogers	Burman	Watson	Ayres	Berry	Garland	McHugh
17	LEIGH CENTURIANS	H	3.00	38-4	2,473	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Ayres	Ireland	Rogers	Burman	Watson	McHugh	Berry	Robinson	Bunce
20	BARROW BORDER RAIDERS	H	7.30	38-10	1,083	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	McHugh	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Rogers	Burman	Watson	Garland	Berry	Knowles	Bunce
24	Doncaster Dragons	A	3.00	34-22	899	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Knowles	Stephenson	Burman	Garland	McHugh	Ireland	Berry	Rogers

## JULY

1	Batley Bulldogs	A	3.00	26-10	728	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	McHugh	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Knowles	Robinson	Ireland	Rogers	Burman	Watson	Garland	Berry	Simpson	Stephenson
8	Widnes Viking (Minor Semi-Final)	A	3.00	24-34	4,202	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Stephenson	Burman	Watson	Garland	Berry	Knowles	Rogers
15	HULL KR	H	3.00	21-14	2,252	Owen	Cooper	O'Meara	Callard	Billy	Wood	Tawhai	Scullthorpe	Robinson	Ireland	Stephenson	Rogers	Watson	Garland	Berry	Burman	Knowles
22	Oldham	H	3.00																			

# rollcall

## NFP 2000/01

NAME	APPS	SUB	TRIES	GOALS	D/G	PTS
Neil Alexander	1	2				
Paul Ashton	1					
Warren Ayres	10	8	3	1		14
Joe Berry		12	6			24
Marlon Billy	32		30			120
Ryan Blake	1					
Martin Bunce	8	13	3			12
James Bunyan	14	7	10			40
Matt Calland	22	1	12			48
Steve Campbell	7					
Mick Coates	11	2	5			18
Sean Cooper	24	3	8			32
Mickey Edwards	3					
Danny Fearon	4	1	2			8
Steve Gartland	2	9	3	4		20
Rob Hall	1					
Andy Ireland	29	3	1			4
Matty Knowles	2	3				
Dave Larder	12	9	8			32
Mick Martindale	1	3				
Casey Mayberry	1	5	2			8
Wayne McHugh	8	4	5			20
Marlon Miller	5		2			8
Chris Newall		3	1			4
Brendan O'Meara	31		11			44
Paul Owen	31		11			44
Mark Powell	1					
Dave Radley	2					
Neil Ramsden	1					
Darren Robinson	21	4	18	2		80
Wes Rogers	16	11	3			12
Danny Sculthorpe	31		4		2	18
Ben Simpson	7					
David Stephenson	22	5	5			20
Latham Tawhai	18		4			16
Dave Watson	28		10			40
Danny Wood	31		13	124		300

## 'A' TEAM DIV 2000/01

NAME	APPS	SUB	TRIES	GOALS	D/G	PTS
Paul Ashton	11	1	7	11	6	56
Neil Alexander	11		2	1		10
Warren Ayres	11		6	23		74
Dan Badham	2	2	4			16
Gareth Bardsley	1					
David Best		1				
Jason Best	1					
Ryan Blake	6		2			8
Ben Boothman		1				
Paul Brooks	1					
Gavin Buckley	6		3			12
James Bulmer		4				
Martin Bunce	4	1				
Steve Campbell	2					

Mick Coates	5					
Garth Cochran		2				
Sean Cooper	4		4			16
Ged Corcoran	1	1				
Gareth Davis	9		3			12
Craig Diggle	4		1			4
Lee Durrant	2		1			4
Mickey Edwards	2		2			8
Danny Ellis	2					
Neil Flanagan		13				
Greg Ford	7	3	2			8
Chris Garforth		1				
Steve Gartland	4		2	10		28
Peter Green	1					
Ryan Gumbridge	1	2				
Mick Hadaway		1				
Rob Hall	16	1	1			4
Lee Hanlon	1					
David Harmer	2	2	1			4
Andrew Henderson	4					
Tony Hilton	6		3			12
Chris Hough	11	9	10	2	2	46
Andy Ireland	1					
Chris Kay	1					
Dave Larder	1		1			4
Matt Larder	6	3	1			4
Adam Law	2			7		14
Ste Lett	1	3				
Mick Martindale	7		1			4
Casey Mayberry	4		1			4
Wayne McHugh	10		11			44
John McMullen	1	2				
Chris Newall	9					
Martin Ogden	2					
Gary Otun	1					
Mark Powell	12	2	5			20
Lee Prest	1	1				
Dave Radley	9	1				
Neil Ramsden	15		5			20
Gavin Reynolds	4					
Darren Robinson	7	1	7	4		36
Wes Rogers	1	1	1			4
Wayne Roper	21		4			16
Ian Schifilliti	2	4				
Lee Sculthorpe	1					
Ben Simpson	18	2	1			4
Jim Sparks	1	1				
David Stephenson	1					
Sam Turnell		1				
Dave Watson	1					
Rob Wheterhead		3				
Roy Whitehead		1				
Matt Wilde	5					
Craig Williams	1					



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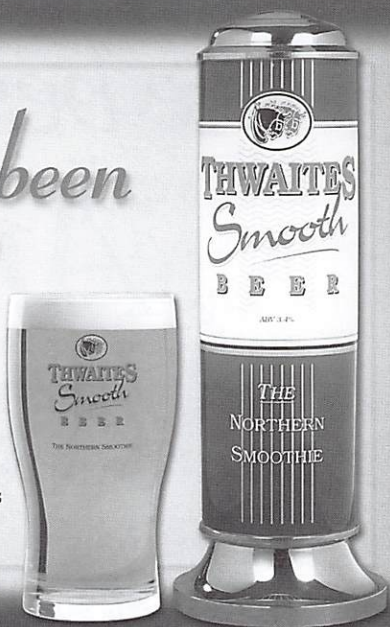
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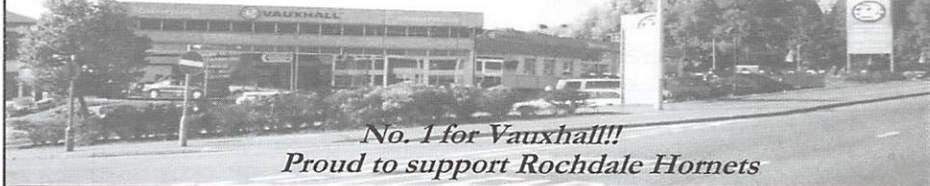
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# noticeboard

## GRAND FINAL TICKETS ON SALE

The Grand Final is due to take place here at Spotland Stadium on Saturday 28th July 2001, kick-off 2.30p.m.

Tickets are also on sale from the RFL Box Office on 10332 232 9444 as follows.

Seats (side) - £10, Concessions - £2

Seats (behind goal) - £7, Concessions - £1

Standing - £5 - Concessions - Free (must be accompanied by an adult)

## NEXT UP

If we win today our next game will be the NFP Final Series Grand Final against the winners of the other all Lancashire clash between Leigh Centurions and Widnes Vikings here at Spotland on Saturday 28th July 2001, kick-off 2.30pm.

## hornetswebsite

Why not visit the OFFICIAL ROCHDALE HORNETS WEBSITE on:

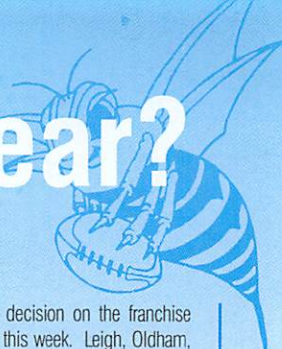
[www.rochdalehornets.co.uk](http://www.rochdalehornets.co.uk)

See what the news is and / or have your say on the web.

## nfp 2000/01 table

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
Leigh Centurions	28	26	0	2	1139	321	818	52
Widnes Vikings	28	21	1	6	961	377	584	43
<b>ROCHDALE HORNETS</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>42</b>
Oldham	28	21	0	7	780	416	364	42
Featherstone Rovers	28	17	2	9	825	401	424	36
Dewsbury Rams	28	18	0	10	801	438	363	36
Hull KR	28	16	2	10	555	450	105	34
Keighley Cougars	28	16	1	11	810	498	312	33
Workington Town	28	16	0	12	681	568	113	32
Whitehaven Warriors	28	15	1	12	608	419	189	31
Sheffield Eagles	28	14	0	14	637	543	94	28
Doncaster Dragons	28	14	0	14	622	532	90	28
Batley Bulldogs	28	13	0	15	452	618	-166	26
Barrow Border Raiders	28	12	1	15	631	685	-54	25
Swinton Lions	28	10	0	18	538	711	-173	20
Hunslet Hawks	28	6	1	21	380	959	-579	13
Gateshead Thunder	28	2	0	26	346	990	-644	4
Chorley Lynx	28	2	0	26	395	1361	-966	4
York Wasps	28	1	1	26	193	1499	-1306	3

# 3 divisions next year?



**Rumours abound that The Strategic Commission, who are examining the game's structure, are in favour of having three divisions next year. Under their proposals there will be automatic promotion for the NFP I and NFP II Grand Final winners, with the bottom teams in Super League and NFP I relegated.**

Some of the cash which would have gone to the Super League's 11th and 12th franchises will be used to provide for balloon/parachute payments for teams moving between NFP and Super League. The advantage of the three-division set-up is that it would ensure competitive games week in, week out. All 10 teams in each division would be involved in either the fight for a top five play-off place or to avoid relegation, which should ensure that the excitement goes right down to the last game.

This is how the divisions would look based on the current standings:

**Tetley's Super League:** Bradford, Wigan, St Helens, Hull FC, Leeds, London, Castleford, Warrington, Salford, Halifax.

**NFP I:** Dewsbury, Featherstone, Huddersfield, Hull KR, Keighley, Leigh, Oldham, Rochdale Hornets, Wakefield Trinity, Widnes.

**NFP II:** Workington, Whitehaven, Barrow, Chorley, Doncaster, Swinton, Sheffield, Batley, Hunslet, Gateshead, York.

This proposal would scupper the prospects of all the franchise applications of the teams left in the NFP Play Offs. The RFL and the independent body of consultants they have employed to

assess them were due to make a decision on the franchise applications for Super League entry this week. Leigh, Oldham, Widnes and Rochdale are known to have submitted applications. Leigh and Widnes, at least, are rumoured to be given the green light leaving the way open for either team to progress to Super League providing they can win the Grand Final. Presumably both Oldham and Rochdale Hornets will be seeking to push their claims by winning the Grand Final next week.

Even a group of MP's have got involved in the issue of opening up the prospects of promotion and relegation. Leigh MP Andy Burnham, who tabled a parliamentary early day motion on the issue, said that his local team - Leigh Centurions - have been denied the chance they deserved as NFP champions.

He said: "Sport depends on the chance to get on and progress. That's what it's all about. It's not fair to have a glass ceiling on top of the feeder league. It stops teams like Leigh and Widnes - both big names from the sport's past - ever getting back to the way they were. It's the dream factor, the thought of moving up and taking on the big boys. Once you take that away from the fans, the essence of the game is lost".

Others who have signed the motion include the local MPs for Widnes (Derek Twigg), Featherstone (Jon Trickett) and Keighley (Ann Cryer). The motion has also been signed by Neil Turner, from the home of rugby league giants Wigan, and David Hinchliffe of Wakefield.

## NFP - award nominations

Leigh's Neil Turley heads the list of nominees for this year's NFP Awards after being chosen in the Player and Young Player of the Year categories. The winners will be announced at the NFP Awards Night and celebration Dinner, to be held at the Auto Quest Stadium, Widnes, on Tuesday, July 24. The NFP All Stars team, held in conjunction with Rugby League World, will also be announced. The full list of nominations is as follows:

### NFP PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Phil Cantillon (Widnes Vikings)

Danny Sculthorpe (Rochdale Hornets)

Neil Turley (Leigh Centurions)

### NFP YOUNG PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Phil Farrell (Oldham)

Mick Nanyyn (Swinton Lions)

Neil Turley (Leigh Centurions)

### NFP COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD

Mike Ford (Oldham)

Martin Hall (Rochdale Hornets)

Paul Terzis (Leigh Centurions)

### NFP REFEREE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Colin Morris

Richard Silverwood

Peter Taberner



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## Alliance 2001 first division fixtures

<b>December</b>	Thurs 7th	Widnes	A	8-16
	Thurs 14th	Keighley Cougars	A	13-43
	Thurs 21st	Oldham	A	24-36
<b>January</b>	Sat 6th	Workington	A	13-16
	Weds 10th	Batley	A	14-34
<b>February</b>	<b>Thurs 1st</b>	<b>Leigh</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>15-14</b>
	Weds 7th	Hunslet	A	9-0
	<b>Sat 17th</b>	<b>Workington</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>28-12</b>
<b>March</b>	Thurs 22nd	Doncaster	A	16-27
	<b>Thurs 8th</b>	<b>Hunslet Hawks</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>32-10</b>
	Sun 18th	Leigh	A	TBA
	<b>Sat 24th</b>	<b>Whitehaven Warriors</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>39-14</b>
	Thurs 29th	Featherstone	A	13-20
<b>April</b>	<b>Thurs 5th</b>	<b>Doncaster Dragons</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>TBA</b>
	<b>Thurs 19th</b>	<b>Featherstone</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>34-18</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Tues 8th</b>	<b>Widnes</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>26-32</b>
	<b>Weds 16th</b>	<b>Keighley Cougars</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>40-16</b>
	<b>THURS 24TH</b>	<b>OLDHAM</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>22-36</b>
	<b>THURS 31ST</b>	<b>BATLEY</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>26-24</b>
<b>June</b>	Sat 9th	Whitehaven Warriors	A	20-14
	Sat 17th	Leigh Centurions	A	24-34
	<b>FRI 22ND</b>	<b>DONCASTER DRAGONS</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>43-26</b>
Play Offs				
	Sat 28th	Keighley Cougars	A	29-38

## alliance 2000/01 table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	PTS
Widnes Vikings	18	14	1	3	574	279	295	29
Oldham	18	14	0	4	595	368	227	28
Leigh Centurions	18	13	1	4	594	267	327	27
Keighley Cougars	18	12	1	5	448	398	50	25
<b>ROCHDALE HORNETS</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>18</b>
Featherstone Rovers	18	6	1	11	305	444	-139	13
Doncaster Dragons	18	6	0	12	412	517	-104	12
Batley Bulldogs	18	5	1	12	275	470	-195	11
Workington Town	18	4	1	13	332	478	-146	9
Whitehaven Warriors	18	4	0	14	215	521	-306	8

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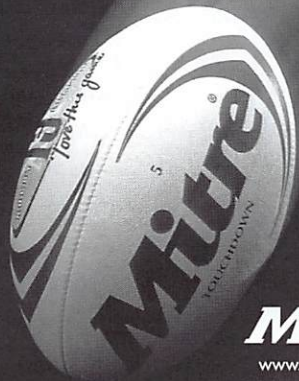
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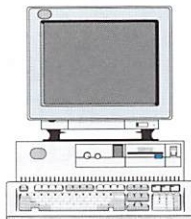
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thursday 2nd august

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thursday 30th august

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Heaviest Defeat, 10-82 v Hull Sharks 1999-2000

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In a Season - 30, J. Williams, M. Billy 1934-35, 2000-01  
In a Match - 5, J. Corsi, J. Williams, N. Brelsford, M Billy 1921 & 22, 1933, 1972, 2001  
**Most Goals:** In a Career - 733, W. Gowers 1922-36  
In a Season - 150, M. Stret 1994-95  
In a Match - 14, S. Turner 1989  
**Most Points:** In a Career - 1481, W. Gowers 1922-36  
In a Season - 346, M. Strett 1994-95  
In a Match - 32, S. Turner 1988-89  
**Most Appearances:** 455, W. Gowers 1922-36

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			<b>PAUL OWEN</b> 1	FULL BACK	1	<b>MARK SIBSON</b>		
			<b>SEAN COOPER</b> 2	RIGHT WING	2	<b>JOEY HAYES</b>		
			<b>BRENDAN O'MEARA</b> 3	RIGHT CENTRE	3	<b>ANTHONY GIBBONS</b>		
			<b>MATT CALLAND</b> 4	LEFT CENTRE	4	<b>PAT RICH</b>		
			<b>MARLON BILLY</b> 5	LEFT WING	5	<b>JOE MCNICHOLAS</b>		
			<b>DANNY WOOD</b> 6	STAND OFF	6	<b>NEIL RODEN</b>		
			<b>LATHAM TAWHAI</b> 7	SCRUM HALF	7	<b>MIKE FORD</b>		
			<b>DANNY SCULTHORPE</b> 8	OPEN SIDE PROP	8	<b>LEO CASEY</b>		
			<b>DARREN ROBINSON</b> 9	HOOKER	9	<b>KEITH BRENNAN</b>		
			<b>ANDY IRELAND</b> 10	BLIND SIDE PROP	10	<b>PAUL NORTON</b>		
			<b>DAVE STEPHENSON</b> 11	OPENSIDE 2ND ROW	11	<b>PHIL FARRELL</b>		
			<b>JAMES BUNYAN</b> 12	BLINDSIDE 2ND ROW	12	<b>BRYAN HENARE</b>		
			<b>DAVE WATSON</b> 13	LOOSE FORWARD	13	<b>KEVIN MANNION</b>		
			<b>STEVE GARTLAND</b> 14	SUBSTITUTE ONE	14	<b>JOHN HOUGH</b>		
			<b>JOE BERRY</b> 15	SUBSTITUTE TWO	15	<b>JASON CLEGG</b>		
			<b>WES ROGERS</b> 16	SUBSTITUTE THREE	16	<b>CHRIS FARRELL</b>		
			<b>MATTY KNOWLES</b> 17	SUBSTITUTE FOUR	17	<b>DANNY GUEST</b>		

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

## match officials

REFEREE S P JANSON

TOUCH  
JUDGES

S MARSHALL  
P W GRUNDILL

IN GOAL  
JUDGES

P WHARTON  
G WALLACE