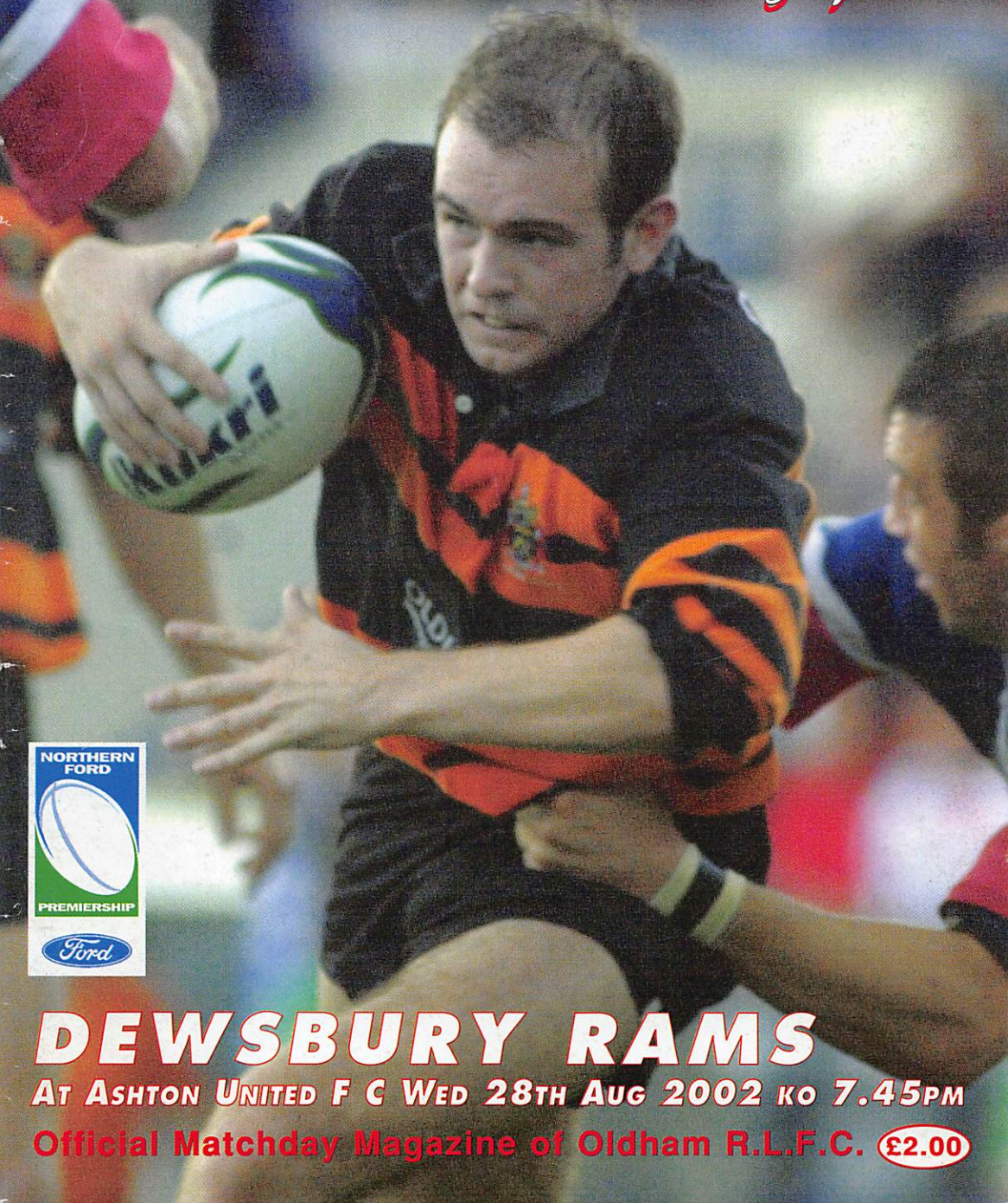


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The Roughyeds



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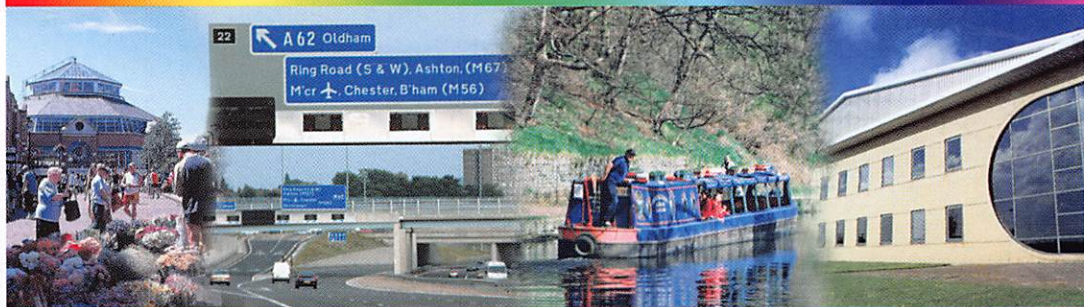
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IN THE HOT SEAT

with Christopher Hamilton



THE importance of tonight's game should already be apparent to everybody but nevertheless we are now at the point where the talking stops and its down to the players on both sides to do the business.

This game has been scheduled to replace our away fixture against York which was due to have been played on Sunday, 1st September, the difficulties of teams going bust in the middle of the season have been highlighted this year and again, as most of you will know, Dewsbury have made no secret, perhaps understandably, that they are not happy at having to play this game.

Let's not forget, however, that Molloy and the players would probably also have been happier to have stuck with the original fixture list.

Once again last Sunday the Oldham team showed their strength of character with a display against Workington that was just what was needed against a side that tried to intimidate us physically but that met its match.

What was particularly pleasing is that our team is still (Molloy and Cleggy excepted!) relatively young so to be able to soak up the physical aspect and yet play all the quality rugby was testament to their development as a team.

You will also have read of our unsuccessful attempts to bring people in on loan last week which was particularly frustrating. At the end of the day the reasons were more to do with the NFP playing season than any other factors.

With 16 of the 18 NFP sides potentially playing for end of season Play Off places it was always unlikely that clubs would let players move on loan.

What we also found was that because our season would normally have finished weeks ago (even the Grand Final was played a month ago last season). Super League teams (and we spoke to every one) have also got injury problems and are operating with smaller squads than last season.

The search for players was in no way a reflection on the players already here but an attempt to increase numbers as the injury list seems to get bigger and bigger.

Tonight's game will have a cup tie atmosphere and it is again important that we make as much noise as possible to get behind the team. Please remember that the lads don't make mistakes deliberately and sometimes your vocal encouragement is needed more when that happens in a game. Let's make tonight the noisiest game of the season. Thanks for your support as ever.

Chris



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Andy Goodway 1979-85 & 1993-94.

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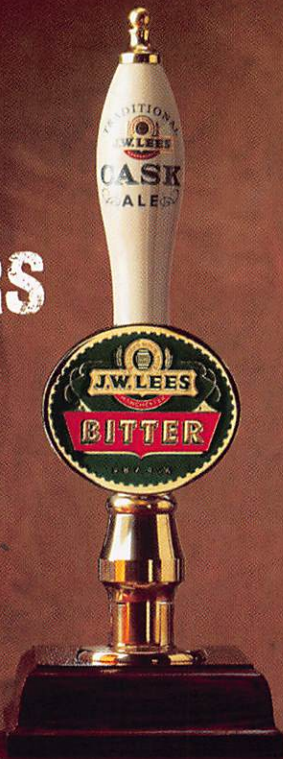
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COACH'S COMMENTS... with Steve Molloy

CAN I welcome all the officials, players and spectators of Dewsbury for this very important midweek game here at Hurst Cross. A special welcome to Richard Slater who I played alongside at Featherstone and to Andy Fisher who I have locked horns with on many an occasion. It's ironic that at this moment in time we are the only two player coaches left in the NFP.

Tussles with Dewsbury are always physical and with everything that is depending on the result of this game I don't expect it to be any different. I wonder if somebody had a crystal ball at Red Hall when they decided after the demise of York, to set up the extra fixture of Oldham v Dewsbury. It certainly couldn't have been organised better as far as excitement is concerned as it is a must win game for both sides who are eager for that 9th spot.

I was very pleased generally with the result against Workington, but just hope we can get as good a completion rate all through the game as we did in the first half last Sunday. Unfortunately in the second half we fell off a little. Once again lady luck has not been kind to us with the injury of Bryan Henare early in the Workington game. If we had to have an injury why had it to be a back row forward. We really tried hard the week before to bring in some cover for all our injuries but I am

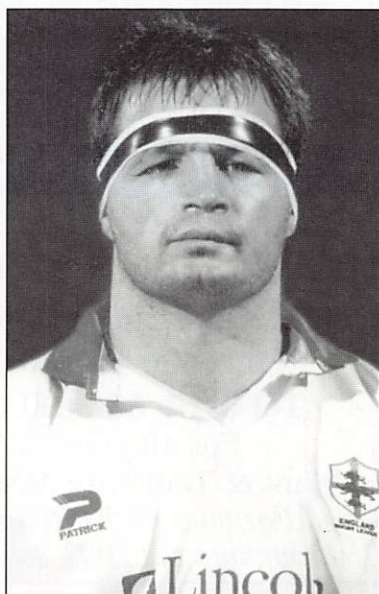
beginning to realise how hard the task is, especially when a lot of other clubs are in the same boat and Super League don't want to weaken their squads at this time in the season. Bryan's injury just added to the situation and we will certainly miss the likes of Phil Farrell and Paul Norton, but more importantly we hope they successfully recover from their injuries.

Who would have thought at the start of the season that clubs like Dewsbury and Oldham, with recent success in the NFP Play Offs, would be slogging it out for a 9th place spot but then you never can predict things in rugby league can you.

I really hope that there is a good turn out today for this vital clash, not only for the revenue that is so vital for the club but also to get behind the lads. It really is important to them. We also hope there will be a great crowd for what, hopefully, will be our last game at Hurst Cross this season against Keighley, and that we will get a great following in all our play off games, which will be away from home.

Enjoy the game,

Steve



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In Yer Face



TONIGHT's game against Dewsbury is vital to both clubs in their battle to finish in the top nine and so ensure a place in the new National League Division One next season. Last Sunday's results, with Oldham defeating Workington and Dewsbury losing the Heavy Woollen derby to Batley, have put the Roughyeds in pole position. Once again this is a 'must win' fixture for both clubs so the action promises to be exciting, tense and dramatic. In other words rugby League at its best. Of course, there is a bit of a trap-door in that whoever fails to make the nine can contest a play-off for the tenth spot in next year's Division One. But there are no certainties in sport and clubs like Workington, Sheffield and Barrow will have plenty to say about the final outcome. Plenty of gripping action yet to come, then, with the only drawback the continued poor attendances – with one or two notable exceptions – which continue to blight the competition. The vast majority of players give their all for little financial reward and those spectators who do attend matches display wonderful enthusiasm and commitment. The big question remains: how do we get the rest out of B&Q and into our stadium? . . . Answers please to Red Hall.



The punishment metered out to Canterbury Bulldogs in Australia – the docking of 37 points, for blatantly evading the salary cap – is entirely appropriate. I hope it will serve as a warning to clubs throughout the rugby League world that cheating will not be tolerated and that a competition in which one club has an unfair advantage is no competition at all. Of course the losers in all this are the supporters and the players who will not now contest the Grand Final series. Let's hope the guilty parties are made to pay.



"Salford got a man in called Simms who just didn't like me". So says Bobby Goulding. He has also revealed that he didn't speak to coach Karl Harrison for over two weeks before his exit from Salford. Does this sound like the behaviour of a mature professional? To me it smacks more of the plaintive wailing of a spotty adolescent. As Goulding chases a target of playing for every club in Super

League and a few in the N.F.P. as well, all of which he seems to leave under a cloud, perhaps, it is time to look in the mirror and ask one very pertinent question: is it them or is it me?

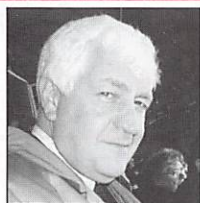


A French Government report has finally lifted the lid on the banning of Rugby League by the wartime collaborationist Vichy regime. "The action taken against Rugby League derives essentially from steps taken by officials of the French Rugby (Union) Federation who saw an opportunity to get rid of a dangerous rival", the report says. It may be over half a century ago but but those who believe things have changed should think again. As I reported last week Bradford's triumph in the Middlesex Sevens was studiously ignored. All those who say the Broncos' presence in the capital is vital to publicity and promotion of our game might also care to reflect on how many national papers had a reporter at Saturday's game against Widnes and how many relied on an agency report if they bothered to mention the match at all. You see, to get proper recognition you have to be, in Mrs Thatcher's immortal words, 'One of us'. The last rugby League personalities to fit the mould were Bill Fallowfield and David Oxley (and, possibly – which hat am I wearing today? – Sir Rodney Walker). The rest of us are either Northern oiks or wild colonials.



Things seem to be falling into place for the revived club in York. With the experienced and very able Steve Ferres as Chief Executive at the helm and now the announcement that Paul Broadbent will assume a player-coach role, the future is promising providing the club is financially secure. It came as no surprise to some of us that the former York Wasps failed as the previous Board had clearly been burning the candle at both ends and did not like being reminded of this. Their short-sighted supporters got their come-uppance too. However, in anticipation of a successful return it's time to say 'welcome back' and 'good luck' to all those dedicated to the game in a city which remains a hotbed of rugby League.

G.C.



'THE DON'

DON YATES is a fervent supporter of rugby league both amateur and professional and covers the length and breadth of rugby league country to take in as many and as wide a variety of matches as possible. Normally his column, "On this Day" would be featured

here but the editors have asked Don, a rugby raconteur of some repute, to, on this occasion, feature some of the lighter moments he has experienced during his travels.

I MUST apologise for the first tale because it relates to a rugby union match which I attended with my father during the early 1970s. It is not a bad thing to do, watch rugby union. In fact, every rugby league fan should be made to watch a rugby union match each season so that they realise just how good rugby league is. Anyway one September about thirty years ago I found myself in Blackpool on holiday with my dear old dad. With nothing to do we decided to go to the Fylde RUFC and watch a match between the NW Counties and Fiji. Early in the match the home fullback caught the ball immediately in front of us and made a mark. In those days if you caught the ball, dug your heel in the ground and shouted 'mark' simultaneously you were allowed time to take a free kick to touch. It was quite a popular tactic in rugby union and, although the same rule applied in rugby league, it was rarely used in proper rugby, just in kick and clap. Although the full back made a clean mark, the referee and half the Fijian pack pretended they had not heard him shout and so he was knocked off his feet, trampled underfoot and eventually carried off the field on a stretcher. Fiji won the match easily enough 21-3. Five penalties and two dropped goals to one penalty. No tries, not even the hint of a try, no passing moves, absolutely no tackling but plenty of applause and pink champagne. The rah-rah boys loved it. As we walked back to our digs I asked dad what he thought of the match. 'Crap', he said, which I thought was a remarkably accurate and concise report of the game. 'Yes', I replied in agreement. 'But I felt a little sorry for that full-back.' 'What' he bellowed, 'that soft blighter' although he did not exactly say blighter, preferring instead to use a rugby league expression which means just about the same. 'Did you hear what he said when he caught that ball?' he shouted **MAM**, the big soft *****.

ONE OF THE best rugby league weekends that I ever enjoyed was a trip to Perpignan with the Welsh squad during the early 1990s. Managing the Welsh team at that time was Jim Mills, a fearsome character in his playing days and a man whose stature commanded respect once his playing career was over. We flew to Barcelona and then drove north to our hotel complex on the outskirts of Perpignan. As the coach pulled into the hotel courtyard, Big Jim took the coach microphone and addressed the players. 'As you leave the coach a Sky-TV crew will take a head and shoulder shot for tomorrow's televised coverage. No messing about see. When that's done, up to your rooms, unpack and straight down for dinner. OK. No messing, best behaviour now. Ho, after dinner be back on the coach by 8.30 sharp. Jim then sat down but other Rugby Football League

officials were confused about what was happening at 8.30. No reception or other function had been arranged to their knowledge. But no one dare ask Jim. Eventually Neil Tunnicliffe, then a very junior member of the Chapeltown Road staff, was instructed to find out exactly what was going on at 8.30. 'Err, excuse me, err Jim, err mate, can you help me, err, what's happening at half past eight?' he stuttered. 'We're going on the piss' came the reply. And, of course, we all did.

IN JANUARY 1996, along with my brother Joe, I had the pleasure of touring New Zealand with the Great Britain party. You may remember that just before the second test at Palmerston North, the Rugby Football League recalled half the tour party. Apparently the financial side of the tour was 'under achieving' so half the players were sent home to save money. The morning after the departure the tour management must have got mixed up about who was in which room at the tour hotel and training schedules for the following five days were posted under our door, obviously by mistake. First up that morning was Joe who said, glancing at our training programme, 'Blimey,' or words to that effect, 'they've sent half the team home and now they want us to ***** play!!'

NOT TOO long ago I went to an end of season National Conference League fixture between Woolston Rovers and Mayfield. There was to be only one winner that evening and Mayfield knew who it would be. As a result the team that travelled could only be described as being 'depleted'. As the teams warmed up I was joined by a travelling Mayfield supporter who gave me his rather graphic opinion of the Mayfield line-up. He was particularly scathing about the veteran Mayfield full back, who he claimed, must be playing under an assumed name as he had been suspended sine die several years earlier. Apparently he was the dirtiest player ever to lace up a pair of boots. 'Keep your eye on him' I was advised. Woolston ran in a few tries early in the match so my Mayfield correspondent observed, 'He's had enough now. He'll soon be off'. Not many minutes later a minor scuffle occurred and our fullback ran, or rather hobbled, the 50 yards or so to join in the argument. In no time at all he had turned the incident into an all out 26 man brawl. When the dust had eventually settled, the referee, rather surprisingly, merely brandished a yellow card, sending our veteran fullback to the sin bin. As he sauntered past us on his way to the dug out, he reached down into his stockings and produced a crumpled old Woodbine. 'Give us a light Billy, he said to the Mayfield man, he said to the Mayfield man, 'I'm back on in ten minutes'.

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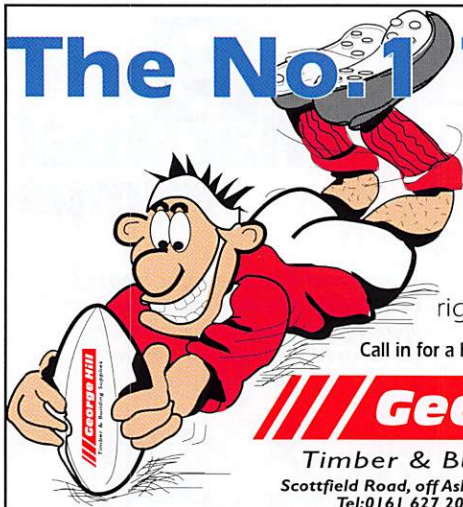
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Oldham have just two ACADEMY FIRST DIVISION matches to complete their league fixtures which will ultimately determine their position in the SIX TEAM GRAND FINAL PLAY OFF SERIES. The first of those was at Manor Park last night against Whitehaven (before these notes were written) with the final game this coming Sunday at Doncaster (1pm).

The play offs are then scheduled over the next four consecutive weekends commencing the weekend 7/8 September culminating with the Grand Final the weekend of 28/29 September. The format is as follows:-

Weekend 7/8 September

(Preliminary Semi-Finals)

First & Second don't play

Match A Three v Six

Match B Four v Five

Weekend 14/15 September

(Qualifying Semi-Finals)

Match C One v Two

Winner to Final

Loser to Mayor Semi Final

Match D Winner (A) v Winner (B)

Winners to Mayor Semi Final

Loser eliminated

Weekend 21/22 September

(Mayor Semi Final)

Match E Loser Match C v Winner Match D

Winner to Final

Loser eliminated

Weekend 28/29 September

(Grand Final)

Winner Match (c) v Winner Match (E)

The final will be held at a ground provided by the team with the highest league position.

ACADEMY FIRST DIVISION FIXTURES

MAY

11	OLDHAM	v	Sheffield Eagles	W 22-20
15	OLDHAM	v	Keighley Cougars	W 60-12
18	OLDHAM	v	Workington Town	P
25	Dewsbury Rams	v	OLDHAM	L 20-12

JUNE

2	Keighley Cougars	v	OLDHAM	W 46-26
8	OLDHAM	v	Whitehaven	P
16	Sheffield Eagles	v	OLDHAM	W 40-36
22	OLDHAM	v	Doncaster Dragons	W40-28
29	Barrow Raiders	v	OLDHAM	W 31-14

JULY

6	OLDHAM	v	Leigh Centurions	L 6-46
21	Whitehaven	v	OLDHAM	L 35-20
27	OLDHAM	v	Barrow Raiders	W 38-8

AUGUST

7	OLDHAM	v	Dewsbury Rams	W18-10
11	Leigh Centurions	v	OLDHAM	L30-4
18	Workington Town	v	OLDHAM	P
29	Whitehaven	v	OLDHAM	7.00

SEPTEMBER

1	Doncaster Dragons	v	OLDHAM	1.00
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ACADEMY FIRST DIVISION (As At 22.8.02)

	GAMES					FOR				AGAINST				DIFF	PTS
	P	W	D	L	Dr	Gl	Tr	Pts	Dr	Gl	Tr	Pts			
Leigh Centurions	12	12	0	0	2	82	114	622	0	21	24	138	484	24	
Oldham	12	8	0	4	3	37	65	337	1	32	55	285	52	16	
Doncaster Dragons	12	6	1	5	1	53	76	411	0	60	80	440	-29	13	
Dewsbury Rams	12	5	1	6	0	54	67	376	2	34	52	278	98	11	
Barrow Raiders	13	4	0	9	1	40	64	337	3	62	70	407	-70	8	
Sheffield Eagles	12	4	0	8	2	42	59	322	3	51	73	397	-75	8	
Whitehaven	11	4	0	7	1	31	43	235	5	48	75	401	-166	8	
Keighley Cougars	12	4	0	8	5	33	41	235	1	64	100	529	-294	8	

NFP Round Up

SUNDAY'S Roughyeds's 35-10 victory over Workington Town coupled to the Rams narrow 24-26 home reverse against 'Heavy Woollen' rivals Batley Bulldogs means that if the Roughyeds win tonight's rut with the Rams the West Yorkshire outfit in order to qualify in ninth spot for the TOP NINE GRAND FINAL SERIES and with it an automatic place in next seasons NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE will have to win their last two games at home to Leigh Centurions and away to Huddersfield Giants and hope the Roughyeds come unstuck in their final game at home to Keighley Cougars.

There have already been two matches between the sides this season Oldham losing 30-6 in an early NFP fixture at Rams Stadium later gaining suitable revenge 47-12 here at Hurst Cross in the National Cup. Ironically the match welcome to Ram Stadium came from the then Dewsbury Chief Executive John Harbin who as Roughyeds's head coach orchestrated that National Cup victory. Now he's inside-out at the Latics. How things change!

As expected Hull KR and Batley have now confirmed their places in the top nine play-offs and Whitehaven should with victory from their final home game against Chorley Lynx.

On the right are listed the formats for both the TOP NINE GRAND FINAL SERIES and the SIX TEAM QUALIFYING SERIES which will decided which team snatches that vital tenth position in next season NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE.

Still to play:-

DEWSBURY

OLDHAM (A), LEIGH (H),

HUDDERSFIELD (A)

DEWSBURY AND KEIGHLEY AT HOME.

OLDHAM

KEIGHLEY (A), FEATHERSTONE (H).

WORKINGTON

HUDDERSFIELD (H)

SHEFFIELD

FEATHERSTONE(A), BATLEY (H).

BARROW

Finally, whoever grasps the ninth spot will play away to the side finishing fourth which mathematically could be Rochdale Hornets, Featherstone Rovers, Doncaster Dragons or Hull KR.

Final games are:-

ROCHDALE

DONCASTER (A)

FEATHERSTONE

BARROW (H), WORKINGTON (A)

DONCASTER

ROCHDALE (H), HULL KR (A)

HULL KR

HUNSLT (A), LEIGH (H),

DONCASTER (H)

Northern Ford Premiership

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Diff	PTS
Huddersfield Giants	25	24	1	0	1076	234	842	49
Leigh Centurions	24	20	1	3	931	365	566	41
Rochdale Hornets	26	18	1	7	769	546	223	37
Featherstone Rovers	25	16	1	8	741	575	166	33
Doncaster Dragons	25	16	1	8	705	543	162	33
Hull Kingston Rovers	24	15	1	8	643	444	199	31
Batley Bulldogs	25	15	1	9	588	591	-3	31
Whitehaven	25	14	1	10	565	535	30	29
Oldham	25	12	2	11	678	513	165	26

Dewsbury Rams	24	13	0	11	668	534	134	26
Sheffield Eagles	26	13	0	13	579	610	-31	26
Workington Town	25	12	0	13	644	609	35	24
Barrow Raiders	25	11	1	13	630	607	23	23
Keighley Cougars	25	7	0	18	452	834	-382	14
Swinton Lions	24	4	1	19	389	804	-415	9

Chorley Lynx	25	4	0	21	409	918	-509	8
Hunslet Hawks	24	2	1	21	346	869	-523	5
Gateshead Thunder	24	0	1	23	288	970	-682	1

HOW THE TOP NINE GRAND FINAL SERIES WORKS....

WEEK ONE ELIMINATION SEMI FINALS

(SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2002)

Match A Team 4 v Team 9

Match B Team 5 v Team 8

Match C Team 6 v Team 7

Clubs 1, 2 & 3 bye - Winners to the preliminary semi-finals, losers eliminated

WEEK TWO PRELIMINARY SEMI FINALS

(SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2002)

Match D Team 1 v Team 2

Winners to Grand Final, loser to Major semi-final

Match E Team 3 v Lowest placed qualifying club

Match F Highest placed qualifying club

v Middle placed qualifying club

Winners to Minor semi finals, losers eliminated

WEEK THREE MINOR SEMI FINALS

(SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2002)

Match G Winner Match E v Winner Match F

Winner to Major semi final, losers eliminated

WEEK FOUR MAJOR SEMI FINALS

(SUNDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2002)

Match H Loser Match D v Winner Match G

Winner to Grand Final, losers eliminated

WEEK FIVE GRAND FINAL (AT WIDNES)

(SUNDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2002)

Winner Match D v Winner Match H

HOW THE SIX TEAM QUALIFYING SERIES WORKS...

Week One - Preliminary Semi-Finals

Match A - Team 3 (12) v Team 6 (15)

Match B - Team 4 (13) v Team 5 (14)

Winners to Minor Semi Finals - Losers eliminated

Week Two - Qualifying Semi-Finals

Match C - Team 1 (10) v Team 2 (11)

Winner to Final - Loser to Major Semi Final

MINOR SEMI FINAL

Match D - Winner Match A v Winner Match B

Winner to Major Semi Final - Loser eliminated

Week Three - Major Semi-Finals

Match E - Loser Match C v Winner Match D

Winner to Grand Final - Loser eliminated

GRAND FINAL

Winner Match C v Winner Match E

Winner of Grand Final gains final place in National League One for 2003. Team numbers based on final league positions - home advantage to highest placed team.

The Final will be a double header at Widnes along with the TOP NINE GRAND FINAL

BW

IN Town TODAY



DEWSBURY RAMS

THE current Dewsbury club was formed in April 1898 and was admitted into the Rugby Football League in 1901. Since then the club has had an interesting existence. Challenge Cup winners in 1912 and League Champions in 1973, Dewsbury were the first club to qualify to play at Wembley. However Dewsbury's best sustained spell came during the Second World War. The club were managed at the time by media personality Eddie Waring who won fame and popularity through BBC television coverage of the game and then the 'It's a Knock Out' game show. With wartime troops, including several rugby players, assembled at the nearby Caulms Wood Army Camp, Waring was able to gather a strong team around him such as all time greats Gus Risman, Roy Francis, Vic Hey, Jim Sullivan, Charlie Seeling, Barney Hudson and Alan Edwards. Between 1940 and 1944 Dewsbury were Yorkshire Cup winners and beaten finalists, Challenge Cup winners as well as Championship winners and runners-up. They also won the 1943 Championship Final but that was declared null and void after it was declared that Dewsbury had fielded an ineligible player in the final.

When Dewsbury won the Championship in 1973 they were skippered by another television personality, Mick Stephenson, Stevo of Sky-TV fame.

Dewsbury's most recent success came two years ago when they won the Northern Ford Premiership, beating Leigh 13-12 in the Grand Final before a record Gigg Lane crowd of 8,487.

The current Dewsbury squad who hope to emulate that season 2000 success includes the following players:

ANDY FISHER Coach. A very experienced player, recently appointed coach after being assistant coach last season.



Nathan Batty

NATHAN BATTY Full Back. One of John Harbin's Wakefield signings, toured Australia with Wakefield. Played for the Yorkshire Academy 2000.

DANNY BROUGH Half Back. A local lad formally with Thornhill Trojans, signed for

Wakefield 1998 and toured Australia in 2001.

CHRIS CHAPMAN Centre/Second Row. Signed at the start of the season from Sheffield Eagles, formally with Leeds Rhinos and has Great Britain Academy experience.

JIMMY ELSTON Half Back. Signed from Oulton Raiders by John Harbin in 1999 was Wakefield Alliance Player of the Year 2001.

TONY FELLA Forward. a strong fast prop signed from Doncaster Dragons in the close season.

ADRIAN FLYNN Three-quarter. Now in his sixth season at Dewsbury. A local lad with over 150 appearances. Last seasons leading try scorer.

PAUL HICKS Forward. Signed from Batley Bulldogs for the start of this season. Formally with Wakefield Wildcats.

JIM LEATHAM Forward. An experienced player joined Dewsbury from Keighley mid way through last season.

DAVIDE LONGO Threequarter. Second spell at Dewsbury, first joined in 1993/4 season, has been at Bradford, Keighley and Batley before returning.

GEORGE MACK Threequarter. Product of local amateur club, now in third season at Dewsbury.

CHRIS PARKER Forward. Signed from Gateshead Thunder, formally with Bradford also had a couple of seasons in South West Australia.

CHRIS REDFEARN Half Back. Signed from Bradford, former Redhill and Kippax junior player. Has been on loan for a short spell at Hunslet.

ANDY SPEAK Hooker. Another signing from Wakefield Trinity Wildcats. A player with plenty of potential.

RICHARD SLATER Forward/Captain. A very experienced player, signed from Hull KR. Formally with Featherstone Rovers where he was also captain.

FRANK WATENE Forward. A pack leader with a wealth of experience. Captained Auckland Warriors reserves in 1998, and was also a junior Kiwi.

SIMON WILEMAN Forward. Signed from Featherstone Rovers at the start of this season. A good attacking player.

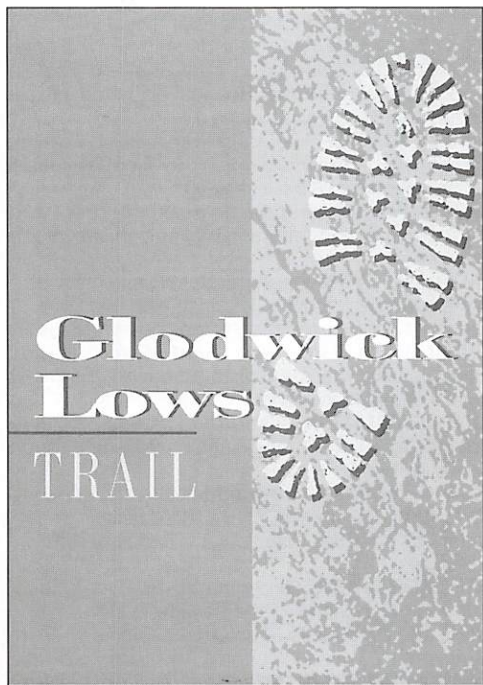
CHRIS KITCHING Stand off/Centre. Recent signing from Hull KR. An experienced player.

CARL BRIGGS Stand off/Half back. Recent signing from Gateshead he has played at all levels and has brought a wealth of experience to the club.

Walkerbouts

... with Brian Walker

A WALK ON THE EASTSIDE



AT A point centre of a triangle formed by Albert Buckley's coalmine, hermit Billy Butterworth's shack and a path thought to be once part of the route used by Roman Centurions trekking north to do yet more carnage to the Brigantes and marked NO3 on the "Glodwick Lows Trails" is, and I quote, where "perhaps the most renowned person associated with the Lows, Clem Beckett, a resident of Swinton St (and a lion of a man) probably practiced. Clem was a dare-devil motorcyclist who rode 'The Dome of Death' at fairgrounds across the North and who died, not in the Dome, but in 1937 fighting the fascists in Spain. Oh, and by the way Oldham Rugby Club played it's very first match here, on the housing estate to your left, on the 17th of February 1873, against Stalybridge. The pitch is now part of the housing estate!"

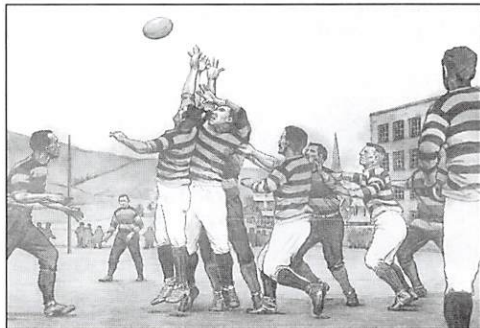
The walk highlighted by 10 other similar pearls of wisdom, takes about an hour

pointing out along the way houses on Abbeyhills Road once hit by a German V1 rocket, the difference between a carbonicola and anthraconaia, were to look for pieces of Iron Age flint, the site of the long gone brickworks, how to spot a coal seam and the cave in which the foxes, or was it the fairies, lived.

It isn't the irritation that they got the date wrong (it was actually October 21st 1876) that didn't even warrant a scratch after having pointed out the public notice in which the originators of the guide, a joint effort by English Nature, Geologists Association, Oldham Environmental Services and Oldham Education and Leisure announced that in conjunction with Kawasaki (believed to be funding the project) that they were seeking permission to recreate The Dome of Death on land that was once Tommyfield Market or failing that, on the site of the old Higgy Gasworks.

I telephoned the Council last Thursday morning and they confirmed that yes it was true and no it wasn't a hoax. Neither did they make any secret of the fact that Clayton Playing Fields had been the original choice the Dome acting as a beacon to tourists arriving in the town from the direction of the motorway but thought this may be too sensitive.

And, no, there was no announcement on the new rugby ground but they did promise to correct the date of that first game in the next reprint of "Glodwick Lows Trail"



Oldhams first ever match Glodwick Lows 1876

Iva Slate loose



GREAT NEWS item this week. Apparently Mr Mason Scarr, a farmer from Bainbridge in the Yorkshire Dales, lost his herd of cattle to foot and mouth disease last year. He has just returned from a Norfolk cattle sale with 33 Friesian cows. The only problem is that, according to a rueful Mr Scarr, the cows - bred on flat land - don't like the hills. "We have to push them up", says Mr Scarr, "but then as soon as you turn your back they come down again". Sounds a bit like Oldham's pack at Batley if you ask me.



I'M GLAD I don't work for Halifax Blue Sox. The club currently has two Directors. Last week one, Bob Sweeney, was on holiday in the Algarve and knew nothing about the dismissal of Head Coach Steve Linnane. The other Director, Neil Anderton, denies doing the dirty deed, so how come Linnane is suddenly out of a job? Apparently the plug was pulled by one Stephen Pearson, a former Mayor of Calderdale, and shortly to be brought in as an advisor by the Blue Sox. It's certainly got to be a first: sacked by someone who doesn't work for or have a financial stake in the club. What next? The new Coach appointed by the tea lady?



MIND YOU Huddersfield Giants also have a novel idea. Before signing Marcus St. Hilaire from Leeds Rhinos all the players were asked to vote in

secret as to whether the club should take him on. Perhaps mindful that brother Lee is on the coaching staff all 22 voted yes. Extra circuits and press ups if they'd gone the other way are a great incentive!



AT WHITEHAVEN, too, this spirit of inclusiveness is catching on. When the club sift through the applications for a Coach to succeed Paul Cullen players Aaron Lester and David Seeds will have a say in who is appointed next.

So, you see, you, me and the tea lady must be next in line to decide Oldham's next signing. Me, I want Keiron Cunningham.



MARTYN SADLER had a great suggestion in League Express this week. Fearing that relegation could be the death knell for any club relegated from Super League he proposed that there should be no relegation. BUT he went on to say that "there's no reason why clubs that win the NFP Grand Final shouldn't be promoted into Super League if they satisfy all the criteria for promotion, without a club having to come down". By my reckoning that means that after 10 years all the clubs in National League One will be in Super League and after 20 years we'll be back to a single division of 32 sides as per the 1950's. Now that's what I call progress. And you thought it was me that had a slate loose?

GC

Michael's Match

... from the pen of Michael Turner



TODAY we extend a warm welcome to the players, officials and supporters of the Dewsbury club and in so doing look back at the game between the two teams that opened the 1913-14 season.

The Oldham side included three new signings in Hall, Parkinson and Robeson. Billy Hall of course went on to achieve great fame as an international and Jim Parkinson was at the beginning of a long, long association with the club as both player and official. Despite a strong wind blowing on the day a good attendance of almost 15,000 turned up for the match.

Dewsbury were the better team in the first half with half-backs Milne and Price causing plenty of trouble for the Oldham defence, ably assisted by Taylor and O'Neill in the forwards. Indeed it was a combination of all these players that produced the opening score when Taylor went over for a try improved by Ware. Oldham responded with Avery and Waye taking the game to the visitors in fine style but the Dewsbury defence, with full back Jackett to the fore held firm.

Half time came with the visitors still holding on to their five point lead.

The second period saw a more urgent approach from the Roughyeds and the scores

were soon level after a break by Anlezark continued by Viv Farnsworth paved the way for Avery to score a try with Ferguson adding the conversion. The deciding try came when wingman Evan Davies cut through up the right flank before handing back to centre Viv Farnsworth. The speedy Australian finished off the move much to the delight of the home supporters. Again Joe Ferguson added the extra points and now it was Oldham with the five point advantage. Back came Dewsbury who laid siege to the Oldham line. The pressure finally told when centre Ward scored wide out. The conversion was missed and Oldham managed to hold on for a ten points to eight victory.

OLDHAM:

J Parkinson, E Davies, V Farnsworth, W Hall, T Williams, W Farnsworth, E Anlezark; J Wright, J Ferguson, C Waye, C Robeson, D Holland, A Avery.

DEWSBURY:

Jackett, Rhodes, Ware, Ward, Sharples, Milne, Price; O'Neill, Garnett, Abbishaw, Taylor, Hammill, Stone.

Attendance 15,000

Referee Mr G F Dickinson - Halifax.



The Oldham team v Dewsbury on September 6th 1913.

Back Row: C Waye, D Holland, A Avery, J Ferguson, C Robeson, J Wright, G.W. Smith (in suit)
Front Row: E Davies, V Farnsworth, W Hall, E.A. Anlezark, J Parkinson, W Farnsworth, T Williams.



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A Chance to Meet

JOEY HAYES

with David McGeally, Radio Cavell 1350AM

Well Joey welcome to A Chance to Meet, the same basic question every time. Where were you born, when you were born and who's in your family?

I was born in Warrington, on the fourth of the first, 1976 and I live with my mum and my brother. That's Etna and Adam. My dad's Ken, but they've been divorced since I was about two. Let's start back at the beginning of that, 26 years old in Warrington. That means that you're a 'wire' lad. Is that your first memory of rugby league? It was, yes, I used to go and watch the games every week. I used to stand in the Fletcher End every week with my dad. I had some good times. I used to be a big fan of Des Drummond, Kevin Tamati and the rest of the lads. Paul Cullen as well, he was there, one of my favourite players as well. I used to support him. Fifteen to twenty years ago they had some decent players at Warrington, didn't they? Yes. But saying that Mark Foster was still there when I started playing and he was there when I used to watch them as well. So they seem to have kept some of the stalwart players there as long as they could. It's a town where the town really gets behind the rugby team doesn't it? Yes, in recent years tended to wane a bit with their decline in performance recently, but there is still the grounding there for a good support base for the team. They just need to string a few wins together I think.

What's your first memory of Rugby League? Either watching or playing.

Playing in a 'sevens' tournament as a curtain raiser to a Warrington game, which we won as well. Now those curtain raisers, it must have been great for young kids to be playing on the field of their heroes and to be playing in front of what was often a decent crowd. Is that how it felt that day? Oh yes, certainly yes. Obviously when you're doing curtain raisers all the crowd isn't in yet but the hard core fans generally tend to turn up early anyway just to watch the young lads and see who's coming through. So it does tend to give you a bit of a taste of what things could be like in the future.

Who did you first play for? Crossfields. An amateur club. Did you play rugby league at school? We did, yes. We didn't even have a football pitch at school, we just had a rugby pitch, so we didn't really get a choice of sports! So you played for Crossfields. From what age to what age? I started playing for them at under elevens and I had a couple of years off when I was playing football instead. Then I went back at under seventeens and played for two years then. So how did you get into professional rugby league? What happened then? Well, I was at Crossfields, and I think it was the under eighteens I was in, when I got an ankle injury so I went down

to St Helens for treatment. I'd already had talks with Warrington and they'd basically said I was too small and would never make it in rugby league. So I didn't really want to keep persevering with Warrington, so I went down to St Helens for treatment. I think it was Eric, at the time, that wanted me to start playing for the Academy. So I did, I played for a season and then he became the first team coach and picked me for the first team. That must have been a bit of a 'got one over on Warrington' for you? Yes, it was, it was. A couple of years later as well, Saints wanted to use me in a swap deal for Paul Sculthorpe. There was me and several other players and basically I think I still had a bit of a bee in my bonnet and I refused to go because of what Warrington had said before. They shot themselves in the foot really as well.

What about the greatest influence on you? You mentioned Eric (Hughes) there, who has been, so far, the greatest influence on you in the way you play rugby league and in your development?

I think spending years watching Des Drummond really. I think I modelled myself on him. Then Jason Robinson has a similar style of play. Not quite as err, suicidal as Des Drummond's style of play, but still going for evasion and fast play the balls really. I think from a coaching point of view John Fieldhouse had quite a big effect on me when I was at Crossfields, because he coached us, just for a year when we won everything. Then Eric Hughes at St Helens as well because he gave me the chance. He always knew exactly what to say to me when I was playing badly, just to turn me around. It's that unique grasp of knowing individual players and knowing what works for them. With some players it's they maybe need a shout, others need the arm round, some others a bit of guidance. Where do you fit in? I think I tend to be the one who just needs a quiet word. I just need to be told what I like to be told I'm a good player. I don't like the negative aspect really. I don't like any coach giving me negative feedback. I just want positive feedback all the time because I tend to feed off that instead. When I'm playing, if I'm not getting any feedback from the coaching staff, I just tend to prefer to get a good whack of one of the opposition players and that tends to give me a kick-start as well! Playing on the wing, that isn't the reason you dislike negativity as the away fans must give all wingers such a lot of grief. Oh no, that's the incentive to score isn't it? You don't even have to say anything back to them. If you score when you walk back you get to look at all their faces. That's reward enough for me really.

What about your most memorable moment in rugby league so far?

I think it would have to be scoring the first try in the Regal Trophy Final at Huddersfield, I think. I even got somebody to bet some money on me as well. Is that allowed? Well, it was a bit of a double reward I think really. (laughter)

That's your most memorable moment, what about the worst moment?

Let's see I think worst, to be honest and I've not really had that many, was losing the Grand Final last year and not doing

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because you've had an awful lot of lying on the 'table' being worked on that you think "Oh I know it all"? Yes it's something to do with that. All in all I've spent about three years in rehab at Saint Helens and recently I've just had my ninth operation as well. So I think it's about time I started looking a bit further afield than just rugby and I thought, "Well I had the work experience so I might as well turn my hand to that". What were the operations? Have they all been for the same thing, or different parts of your anatomy? All over really. I've had two reconstructions of the knee and various cartilages removed, I've had wrist operations, shoulder operations, groin operations as well. Almost the five million dollar man! Yes, something like that.

What about your most amusing memory of the game? There are times when things happen on a rugby pitch that causes a chuckle. What have you seen?

I think my funniest moment would be in an Alliance game at St Helens, or it may have been a first team game, and one of the Alliance lads had come through and got a really big tackle on him from, I think Karl Harrison at the time from Halifax, and he stood up and played the ball the wrong way because he really just didn't know where he was at all. He was confused, he was dazed and he just played it the wrong way. Everyone just stood there in disbelief that he'd actually played it to the other team. I just couldn't control the laughter. I thought it was really funny. So someone had to chase after him and make the tackle.

What about the biggest character you've come across in the game at all the clubs you've been at?

Biggest character, erm, ... I have to say Tommy Martyn to be honest. Cos even when the games really tough he still comes out with the funniest comments and even when I've played against him he still comes out with the same little jokes just in your ear if you've just tackled him, or he's tackled you. So I'd have to say Tommy.

What about your ambition in Rugby League? You said a few moments ago you were considering retiring after the Grand Final, if we'd won. That was a bit of a surprise to me, so have you got any ambitions in rugby league?

Erm, what's left now? I think my problem was that I achieved so much so quickly in rugby. So I think mainly it's getting Oldham to do well now. We've had a bit of a rocky patch this season so we'll be looking to get a good run into these play-offs and cementing the team together I think because we've wavered in the past couple of months. Recent games we've started playing slightly better, so, just trying to get the team to gel together a bit better and forging on into the play-offs I think. That's immediate ambition are there any ambitions for next season or the season after? Well we'll have to see how that goes after this season, I think. I need to pick up my performances at the moment so Well thanks very much Joey, it's been a pleasure chatting to you.

This interview will be broadcast in full on Radio Cavell - 1350AM next Friday during "Sports Preview" between 5-00 and 6-00pm.

myself justice or the rest of the team justice in the game. It was a bit of a major downer really. I was considering retiring at the time and there was no way I was going to do that after losing in a game like that. You say you were considering retiring, but your only a young lad really, so what's happened to you in the course of your career away from rugby league. Prior to signing for Saints I'd started a Sports Science degree which I then stopped after a year and a half to sign for Saints. Now I'm in my final year of my Physiotherapy degree at Manchester Royal, so it's just a year until I finish that and then I'll have to see what happens then when I start working full time. You say Physiotherapy degree, is that

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MY CONCLUSION? I think that Steve Molloy is going to go on to be a genuine top quality coach, both in terms of technical aspects of the job and in his ability to get players to play for him. Let us just hope we can enjoy a bit of stability, and his development for at least a year or two.

That should have been the final paragraph of my article in the programme for the Hunslet game on August 4th, but a technical error resulted in it getting lost before it reached the printed page. However, I can't think of a better example to justify its sentiments than last Sunday's performance against Workington.

After our lack lustre start, the rest of the display was outstanding, with real, 100% commitment from all 17 players. How much more effective are both Jason Clegg and Danny Guest these days. What a brave effort from John Hough, natural hooker though he is, to give it a real go at no. 13 in our injury wracked circumstances. What a heroic display by all the remaining 16, with a huge size deficit in many cases, to cope with the big, rough Cumbrians pack without Bryan Henare for most of the match. And what a clever technical game we played early in the second half especially, to first sit on, and then gradually expand, the 14 point half time lead we had established. Yes, I can't imagine a better tribute to the qualities of Steve Molloy as a coach - and that is not to weaken his own phenomenal contribution to the performance as a player.

How good, too, it was to see Anthony Gibbons back to something like his sharpest. In the past two seasons he

missed only five games in total and scored 29 tries, which makes you realise both how important he was as a cog in the machine during those years, and what we have missed so far for large parts of this season. Another aspect of Sunday's game, though, which is not only a credit to Molloy, of course, sees the continuing progress made by some of our youngsters. Although I know that lots of the squad have dates of birth which deserve that label. I would pick out three in particular who have come on in leaps and bounds this season, all of whom had particularly good games on Sunday, I thought. In the backs Jon Goddard & Gareth Barber have missed only three matches between them all season, and scored respectively 10 & 13 tries - and Barber's beautifully delayed pass to Gibbons which created his third try was a good illustration of the steady blossoming of his potential.

But, to me, the really significant development has been that achieved by Lee Doran, the lad made 12 appearances as a sub during the 2000 and 2001 season but, amazingly for a forward in particular, he has not missed a game this season, (our only ever present in fact) and apart from the ordinary grafting, of which he has done at least his share, has run in for 11 tries so far. There was the last minute one on Sunday, of course, but more importantly were the offloads which created his others when the result was very much in the balance. I don't know how long we will be able to hold on to him - rather more likely in National Division One than Division Two, perhaps! - but it has been the real highlight of my season, at least, to observe his growth as a player.

Junior Roughyeds



APPEARANCES & SCORERS (34 FIXTURES TO DATE) 2001-2002

PLAYER	APPEARANCES	SUBSTITUTIONS	TRIES	GOALS	DROP GOALS	POINTS
M. SIBSON	26	4	17			68
G. DODD	22	3	5			20
D. GIBBONS	28	2	9			36
J. GODDARD	32		10			40
J. McNICHOLAS	30		14			56
J. BRADDISH	19	4	7	63	3	156
N. RODEN	26	7	16		5	70
S. KNOX	3					
J. HOUGH	31		9			36
J. CLEGG	22	11				
P. FARRELL	17	2	5			20
B. HENARE	29	2	10			40
L. DORAN	29	5	9			36
T. HODGKINSON	2					
G. BARBER	22	11	13	63	1	179
D. GUEST	4	23				
L. CASEY	1	3				
W. COWELL	9	12	5			20
K. BRENNAN	15	7	8	9		50
A. PROCTOR		7				
P. NORTON	22	3	5			20
A. GIBBONS	18	3	7			28
D. FOSTER	5	1	5			20
A. MURRAY		4				
S. MOLLOY	19	3	2		1	9
D. LACEY		3	1			4
C. CAMPBELL	6	5	3			12
D. NEWTON		2				
R. STAZICKER		2				
J. HEYES	9		6			24
S. BROWN		1				
G. JOHNSON		4				

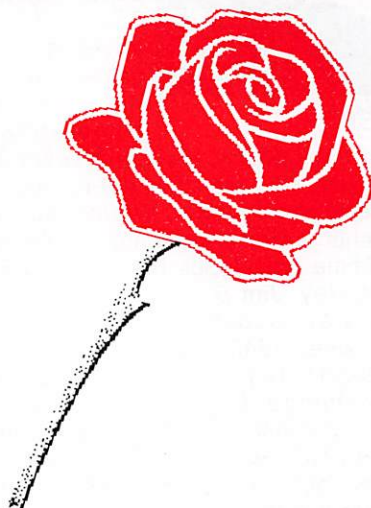
* For club records appearance and scorers for the York game have been retained within these stats.

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A Potted History of Dewsbury

The current Dewsbury club was formed in April 1898 and was admitted into the Rugby Football League in 1901.

The first national competition won by the club was the Challenge Cup in 1912. Dewsbury beat favourites Oldham in the final of that competition, a controversial affair that was played before a Headingley crowd of 15,371. The Roughyeds led 5-2 at half time and looked to be heading for victory before the dismissal of forward Albert Avery for dissent. Two tries from winger Billy Rhodes then snatched victory for Dewsbury.



Eddie Waring

During the Second World War the club enjoyed a sustained run of success when they were managed by media personality Eddie Waring who won fame and popularity through BBC television coverage of the game and then the its a Knock-out game show. With

wartime troops, including several rugby players, assembled at the nearby Caulms Wood Army Camp, Waring was able to gather a strong team around him such as all-time greats Gus Risman, Roy Francis, Vic Hey, Jim Sullivan, Charlie Seeling, Barney Hudson and Alan Edwards. Between 1940 and 1944 Dewsbury were Yorkshire Cup winners and beaten finalists, Challenge Cup winners as well as Championship winners and runners-up. They also won the 1943 Championship Final but that was declared null and void after it was declared that Dewsbury had fielded an ineligible player in the final.

Dewsbury last won the Championship in 1973 when they were skippered by another television personality, Mick Stephenson, Stevo of Sky-TV fame. The

play-off in those days involved the top 16 clubs. Warrington were top, Wigan were sixteenth, Oldham ninth and Dewsbury eighth. In the opening round of the play-off Dewsbury entertained Oldham at the old Crown Flatt stadium. The attendance was 4,500 and Dewsbury won 29-14. A visit to second-in-the-table Featherstone Rovers followed. Dewsbury won 26-7 and they followed that up with another superb win, 12-7 at Warrington in the semi-finals. Third placed Leeds were favourites to lift the Championship at Odsal but, once again, Dewsbury came up trumps. Stevo grabbed a couple of tries in the final, which Dewsbury won 22-13.

Unfortunately that was Stevos last match in Dewsburys colours. He was transferred to Australian club Penrith during the summer for what was then a World record transfer fee of £20,000.

Dewsburys most recent success came two years ago when they won the Northern Ford Premiership, beating Leigh 13-12 in the Grand Final before a record Gigg Lane crowd of 8,487. Rugby League politics being what they are, Dewsbury remain in the Northern Ford Premiership despite that exciting and emotional victory over Leigh.

Last season they lost coach Neil Kelly to Widnes and several members of that Premiership winning squad also followed their coach across the Pennines. Despite the exodus, Dewsbury still made the play-offs although they fell at the first hurdle, losing in the opening round at home to Hull Kingston Rovers. This season they have battled away in mid-table and have never lost the belief that they will eventually make at least the National League, Division One.

Whether they achieve their aim by ending in the top nine or whether they will have to pursue those ambitions through the play-offs remains to be seen. The result of tonights match, therefore, is vital to both clubs in the frantic fight for top nine places.

D.Y.

CLUB CALL

GOLF CLASSIC 2002

This year the club's excellent annual golf tournament GOLF CLASSIC 2002 will be held at Royton and Crompton Golf Club on **Thursday 12th September.**

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HAT SNATCHERS

Recently I was reading the excellent double page article in our programme for the Batley Bulldogs game, by Brian Walker, where he suggested that a trophy be commissioned for the forthcoming test series against New Zealand to be named after one George W. Smith.

I have discovered that George, a New Zealander, toured here with the 1905 Union side alongside Lance Todd (whose name is now synonymous with the trophy given to the Man of the Match at the Challenge Cup Final).

After this tour George signed for Oldham and Lance Todd for Wigan, they were to meet on opposite sides at Wigan on 19th February 1908, a match that Oldham went on to win.

Smith made 173 appearances for Oldham and scored 100 tries and kicked 5 goals. After retiring he stayed in Oldham with his wife and family until his death in 1954. I have a cousin, Percy Brierley, now in his 80's, who was a follower of Oldham for many years. He discovered that George Smith's daughter, now 90 years of age, was still living in Royton.



I asked if it would be possible to meet her but was informed that she was now 'poorly sighted' and this would not be possible. My cousin decided that it would be best to pass her messages via the local Post Office. He left the Batley programme there hoping that Mrs Edna Stansfield (nee Smith) would pick it up on her

Many thanks.
My Dad always called
high tacklers "HAT
SNATCHERS"
Sorry about the poor
writing. I am
very badly
sighted.

weekly visit to the Post Office accompanied by her friend, who would hopefully read the contents of the programme to her.

We were in fact successful in our endeavours and Edna left the accompanying Thank You note thanking my cousin for his kindness and added, as you can see above a very amusing comment, 'My father called head high tacklers, "Hat Snatchers".'

In the same programme and from the pen of Michael Turner another Oldham v Batley game was featured on January 10th 1982. The game was played at Boundary Park where the under-soil heating had ensured that the snow covered pitch was playable. I was at the game, assessing the referee Frank Robinson, a Police Inspector from Leeds. In the Batley line up at right centre we see the name S. Presley - yes it is the same Steve Presley who refereed a recent Oldham game at Hurst Cross, I confirmed this with him this week. A succession of serious knee operations has affected the progress of this once top Super League referee, but he hopes that his games in the NFP will help him to climb the ladder.

BATLEY TEAM (As in 'Michael's Match Oldham v Batley 23.6.02)

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TOPIC OF THE DAY

... THE BEST TEAM OF PLAYERS TO REPRESENT OLDHAM 1951-2001

I'M well aware that I'm sticking my neck out on this one and that readers with long memories will disagree with my selections, perhaps violently. In living memory the best team to represent Oldham was in the 1950s, although Frank Myler's early '80s team was a bit special too. However, I will bet that older supporters in the 1950s would have been saying that Griff Jenkins' side was not a patch on Oldham's 1920s heroes. It will always be so and today's juniors will always have fond memories of today's players, which is just as it should be.

In making my selections, as with the series just finished, international honours rank highly, for it doesn't take a genius to work out that a player good enough to represent England or Great Britain is a cut above the normal.

OLDHAM 1951 - 2001

- 1 **Bernard Ganley** Record breaking goalkicker. Six times 100+ goals in a season. First ever to pass 200. 3 GB caps.
- 2 **Dick Cracknell** 119 tries in 213 appearances. County and international honours.
- 3 **Alan Davies** 20 GB caps. 1958 tourist. All time club leading try-scorer. Great centre whether on attack or defence.
- 4 **Des Foy** A surprise 1984 tourist where he covered himself in glory. 96 tries in 197 appearances.
- 5 **Ike Southward** Subject of world record transfer both to and from Oldham. 1958 tourist. 54 tries in 52 appearances.
- 6 **Dave Topliss** Captain at Wakefield and Hull and then at Frank Myler's Oldham. Only 49 appearances but a true 'great'.
- 7 **Frank Pitchford** 105 tries in 305 appearances. Two GB caps. 1958 tourist. Magical playmaker and defence splitter.
- 8 **Frank Foster** Only 47 appearances but the well travelled prop was inspirational.
- 9 **Kevin Taylor** A record 429 appearances. England and GB U24 caps but never full G.B. Consistency was his hallmark.

- 10 **Hugh Waddell** 1988 tourist and a star of GB's first win against the Aussies for 10 years. Great 'go forward' player.
- 11 **Syd Little** 249 appearances. 10 GB caps. One of very few RU converts to make it to the very top.
- 12 **Andy Goodway** 136 appearances. 1984 tourist. Eleven caps with Oldham and more with Wigan. Never less than 100%
- 13 **Derek Turner** Missed 1958 tour because of injury but 11 caps while with Oldham. 1962 tourist after move to Wakefield.

AND THE NEAR MISSES:-

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Fullbacks | Martin Murphy, Mick Burke, Wally Gibson, Derek Whitehead. |
| Wingmen | John Etty, Mike Elliott, Terry O'Grady, Trevor Simms, Geoff Munro, Clive Sullivan, Green Vigo. |
| Centres | Johnny Noon, Phil Larder, Mick Parrish, Peter Smithurst, Vince Nestor. |
| Stand-offs | Frank Daley, Alan Kellett, Wilf Briggs, Frank Stirrup, Tommy Martyn, Cliff Hill |
| Scrum-halves | Ray Ashton, Mike Ford |
| Props | Mick Morgan, Ken Wilson, Charlie Bott, David Hobbs, Terry Clawson, Ken Jackson, John Fieldhouse, Peter Goddard |
| Hookers | Len McIntyre, Jack Keith, Alan McCurrie, Roger O'Mahoney |
| Second-rows | Bob Irving, Chris Joynt, Charlie Winslade, Mick Worrall, Mike Kuiti, Bob Lindner, Terry Ramshaw |
| Loose forwards | Terry Flanagan, Bryn Goldswain, Dave Parker, Geoff Robinson. |

NOW WATCH OUT IN THE NEXT PROGRAMME FOR THE DUCK EGGS WHO HAVE TURNED OUT FOR OLDHAM!

G.C.

Stat Attack

THE FOLLOWING figures taken from League Express week by week prove absolutely NOTHING! However, they are nevertheless a very interesting reflection of referees performances.

As far as I can gather the most penalised game of the season was refereed by Peter Taberner and finished with 19 penalties to Whitehaven and 11 to Leigh which is quite remarkable given that Whitehaven are the least penalised team in the N.F.P.

1. CLUB BY CLUB

BARROW: Least favourite ref Steve Presley. Best Colin Morris.

BATLEY: Must dread Steve Addy. So far they have been penalised 12, 10, 11 and 15 times by him. Bob Connolly only penalised them once.

CHORLEY: tend to incur Nick Oddy's wrath.

DEWSBURY: Refereed six times by Steve Addy and caned every time.

DONCASTER: Nick Oddy and Peter Taberner don't seem to like their style, but Paul Lee only managed 2 penalties against them.

FEATHERSTONE: Ron Laughton tends to hammer Fev. but Steve Ganson got to 12 and Nick Oddy 15 against them. Paul Lee and Colin Morris seem quite happy with them.

GATESHEAD: Ron Laughton (13), Russell Smith (11) weren't happy chappies, but Steve Presley (1) obviously was.

HUDDERSFIELD: Russell Smith and Steve Ganson give the Giants a bad time. Over familiarity from Super League days? They fare best with Julian King and Bob Connolly.

HULL KR: Steve Presley doesn't seem keen on the Robins and Ron Laughton (14) and Richard Silverwood (13) have also been known to take exception.

HUNSLET: Avoid Nick Oddy like the plague! Two matches, each with 15 penalties conceded.

KEIGHLEY: Frequently in double figures but Russell Smith hammered them for 18 penalties when he had them.

LEIGH: Won't be a fan of Peter Taberner after 11 and 19 penalties awarded against. Would have liked Stuart Cummings (tough that!) after only 5 and 2 conceded.

OLDHAM: Would you believe Colin Morris is best for the Roughyeds? I know you won't but we only conceded 2 and 5 penalties when he took us. Ron Laughton, Steve Addy, Steve Nicholson and Steve Ganson have all done us for double figures.

ROCHDALE: Funnily enough the stats don't give them too much to complain about. Steve Addy did them for a 15 and Ben Thaler for 13. Colin Morris is quite lenient.

SWINTON: Beware Steve Addy and Ron Laughton. Paul Lee's the man for them

WHITEHAVEN: The only side with zero penalties conceded in a game referred by Paul Lee. Peter Taberner has had them twice and done them for 11 each time.

WORKINGTON: Paul Lee and Bob Connolly are good for Town, Steve Addy not so good.

2. REFEREE BY REFEREE

AVERAGE PENALTIES AWARDED PER MATCH

All games involving N.F.P. teams

BOB CONNOLLY	9.88	BEN THALER	15.1
COLIN MORRIS	10.1	KARL KIRKPATRICK	15.4
JULIAN KING	11.3	STUART CUMMINGS	16.3
PAUL LEE	12.4	PETER TABERNER	16.3
MICK DAWBER	12.8	STEVE GANSON	17.0
STUART LEE	12.9	RON LAUGHTON	17.2
IAN SMITH	13.2	NICK ODDY	18.2
STEVE NICHOLSON	14.3	STEVE ADDY	19.6
STEVE PRESLEY	14.4	RUSSELL SMITH	21.5
RICHARD SILVERWOOD	14.6		

So, as ever, you pays your money and you takes your choice. If you want a game to flow you want a low scoring ref and if you want to see infringements righty penalised you go for a high scoring ref. However, if you want a referee who penalises the opposition and not your own team, think again!

G.C.

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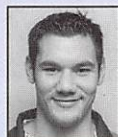
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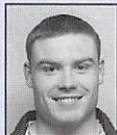
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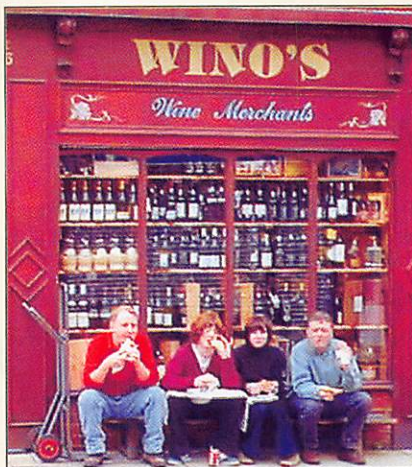
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Fixtures

Date Opponent Result Att

DECEMBER				
2	SWINTON LIONS	H	F - A P	
16	Hull K.R.	L	10-26	2032
30	Leigh	L	12-46	3388

JANUARY				
6	YORK	W	32-16	1130
13	Dewsbury Rams	L	6-30	1410
20	CHORLEY LYNX	W	34-2	1114
27	WEST HULL (C' Cup Rd3)	W	38-4	1131

FEBRUARY				
3	Workington	L	20-28	991
10	ST HELENS (C' Cup Rd4)	L	6-40	4089
17	GATESHEAD	W	54-2	931

MARCH				
3	Huddersfield	L	18-28	3191
10	DONCASTER DRAGONS	D	22-22	1067
15	Sheffield Eagles	W	25-6	1095
24	FEATHERSTONE	W	23-12	1533
29	Rochdale Hornets (NC)	L	13-14	2096

APRIL				
2	DEWSBURY R. (NC)	W	47-12	1056
7	Huddersfield G. (NC)	L	16-44	2687
21	Hunslet Hawks (NC)	W	56-10	747

MAY				
5	BATLEY B. (NC)	W	40-16	1204
12	HUDDERSFIELD (NC/F)	L	16-36	1699
23	ROCHDALE HORNETS	L	24-28	1050

JUNE				
2	Keighley Cougars	W	34-32	1188
9	WHITEHAVEN	W	46-12	867
16	Barrow	W	27-25	791
23	BATLEY BULLDOGS	L	26-34	1058
30	Hunslet Hawks	W	34-20	679

JULY				
7	LEIGH	L	22-26	1,526
14	Chorley Lynx	W	52-10	605
21	Whitehaven	L	17-20	1,010
28	HUDDERSFIELD	L	30-32	1,339

AUGUST				
4	HUNSLET HAWKS	W	24-16	907
11	Batley Bulldogs	D	20-20	1,013
18	Rochdale Hornets	L	17-18	1,980
25	WORKINGTON	W	35-10	1042
28	DEWSBURY RAMS	H	K.O. 7.45pm	

SEPTEMBER				
8	KEIGHLEY COUGARS	H		

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Jason CLEGG

Lee DORAN

Bryan HENARE

John HOUGH

Mark SIBSON

Gavin JOHNSON

Chris CAMPBELL

Danny GUEST



DEWSBURY

Coach: Andy FISHER

Nathan BATTY

Craig MILES

Jamie BENN

Kevin CROUTHERS

Adrian FLYNN

Chris REDFEARN

Jimmy ELSTON

Frank WATENE

Danny BROUGH

Paul HICKS

Jim LEATHEM

Andy FISHER

Richard SLATER

Brad HEPI

Chris CHAPMAN

Tony FELLA

Ryan HARDY

TODAY'S

REFEREE: B. THALER

M. SEDDON



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P. SMITH

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