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SATURDAY, SEPT. 12th, 1959, at THRUM HALL—

HALIFAX "A"

v.

YORK "A"

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

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HALIFAX

VERSUS

OLDHAM

Kick-off — 3-0 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th, 1959.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

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Finance: R. Marshall (Chairman), E. Rushworth, H. Webster,
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Ground: A. Johnson (Chairman), J. C. Stacey, S. W. Heppenstall,
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Sports Chat

TO-DAY'S VISITORS.

OLDHAM.

Quite a few of the Oldham stars are missing from today's line-up. Wingman Cracknell has reached the veteran stage while Etty has joined Wakefield Trinity. Ken Jackson, their tourist prop forward, is out of action through a broken thumb. Expensive signing McIntyre from Barrow has not found his form and Jack Keith in his benefit year continues as Oldham's hooker. Sid Little, their outstanding prop forward, has retired from the game. Charlie Winslade is out through injury and loose forward Derek Turner is in Wakefield's ranks.

No team can be without so many of its regulars and yet maintain the high standard that they have set over the past five seasons. The departures have been tempered by the signing of Southward from Workington and Robinson from Whitehaven. But never mind how many top-class players you introduce into your side they still need time to settle down and blend into a team.

The Oldham side at the moment is in the transitional stage. Time alone will get them back to where they want to be. But in this process it does not mean that they are a side that can be ignored. Far be it from this. They still are capable of testing and beating the best. The effort will be there. It will only be in team work and understanding of one another's play that they will fall short of their standards.

With the return of Pitchford and Southward the Oldham back division looks much more stable. Here Oldham have got the right blend. It is in the pack that the Watersheddings committee have their greatest concern. They are on the look-out for forwards. It is their intention to strengthen this department as soon as possible and their intentions were put into action when they signed Robinson from Whitehaven at a huge fee.

Whatever the circumstances we always look forward to the visit of Oldham. They are an attractive side to watch and they are always well supported. It is with pleasure that we welcome you all to Thrum Hall and trust that this afternoon we shall witness a match that will be a delight to one and all.

WELCOME TO THRUM HALL.

MIXED FEELINGS.

I should imagine that Oldham's supporters today will watch with intensity our play. They will be wondering what mark Griff Jenkins' coaching has left on our team. On the other hand I am sure that Mr. Jenkins will be wondering how Oldham are faring under Frank Stirrup. Perhaps it is a bit early yet to judge what effect the respective influences have had on their teams.

* * * *

OLDHAM have won two of their four League matches to date, lost one and drawn one.

We have only won one of our four League matches. The two League matches played at home have both been lost.

Smith at open side prop for Oldham plays his second senior game. His other appearance for the Watersheddings side was against Dewsbury.

Goddard at No. 10 was signed by Oldham as a hooker but this season has made the blind side prop position his own.

In the absence of Winslade, Oldham have moved Robinson into the second row and brought in Bob Pugsley, the former Bridgend player, at loose forward. Partnering Robinson in the second row is Dufty, who used to play for London Irish. When I saw Oldham lose to Warrington last week I was surprised to find how this player had shed so much weight and how fast he moved in the open.

Appearance Counts! *send your cleaning to -*

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HALIFAX hope to be unchanged for today's match. The team that defeated Wakefield Trinity in the first round of the Yorkshire Challenge Cup is expected to do duty again this afternoon. Palmer who had a bruised shoulder is responding to treatment and we hopeful that Snowden's cold will have cleared up. Jack Scroby is available for the match and flies over from Belfast.

We were very pleased with our showing against Wakefield. Our first half display was top-class. What we want now is a consistent display for the full eighty minutes. Against York we reserved our best for the second half. Against Wakefield it was the first half that showed us in an outstanding light. Today we hope that both halves will be good, and that there will be consistency and stability throughout the game.

Congratulations to Alan Snowden on being selected to play for Yorkshire against Cumberland at Hull on Wednesday, September 16th.

* * * *

RETURN MATCH.

On Tuesday next, September 8th, we travel to Oldham in the return League Match. This match was originally scheduled to be played on January 1st, 1960, but to meet Oldham's requirements we agreed to play the match next Tuesday. The time of kick-off will be 6-30 p.m.

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(Oldham)



ALAN DAVIES
(Oldham)



KEN JACKSON
(Oldham)

* * * *

A LONG TIME.

We have to go back as far as December 8th, 1951, before we can find a victory over Oldham in our record books. On that occasion we beat Oldham by 17pts. to nil at Thrum Hall. Ken Dean is the only player that took part in that match and is still playing for us, although Ackerley plays for Hull K.R. and Broadhurst plays for Hull. Bowen, Daniels, Bradley, Creeney, Cook, Condon, Illingworth, White, Fearnley and Palin, the other players in that team, have all retired from football.

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R A M S D E N S

S T O N E T R O U G H	HALIFAX	OLDHAM	R I D D I N G A L E
	1.—OWEN	1.—GANLEY	
	2.—SNOWDEN	2.—SOUTHWARD	
	3.—BURNETT	3.—DAVIES	
	4.—PALMER	4.—NOON	
	5.—FREEMAN	5.—SIMS	
	6.—DEAN	6.—KELLETT	
	7.—JONES	7.—PITCHFORD	
	8.—THORLEY	8.—SMITH	
	9.—TAYLOR	9.—KEITH	
	10.—FOX	10.—GODDARD	
	11.—SPARKS	11.—ROBINSON	
	12.—SCROBY	12.—DUFTY	
	14.—CLIFFT	13.—PUGSLEY	

Referee: Mr. K. R. RATHBONE (St. Helens).
 Touch-Judges: H. Bradshaw (Cerise); W. Crossland (Lemon)

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BRITISH RAILWAYS

Pitchford, who at the beginning of the season intended to take a long rest from football, has apparently settled his differences with Oldham and played his first game at Whitehaven last Saturday. He resumes his partnership with Alan Kellett again today.

* * * *

Oldham are captained by Test centre threequarter Alan Davies. He was unable, owing to work commitments, to play at Whitehaven last Saturday.

* * * *

Jack Scroby is due for demobilisation during the first week in March, 1960. His regiment, now stationed in Northern Ireland, expects to move to England at the end of October.

* * * *

Two stand-off halves or centre threequarters were transferred this week. They were Gibson of Leigh and Skeels of Barrow. Skeels is heavily priced at £3,500 and Leigh are asking £750 for Gibson.

* * * *

Billy Pratt has still not reported here for training. He is our only player that has not signed on for the season.

* * * *

Sims who today plays on Oldham's left wing once played for us. When we played Oldham at Oldham at the end of last season in Daley's benefit match, we were one player short, and Sims turned out for us. He played on the left wing with Johnny Freeman as his centre. Sims is a former Leigh junior.

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GRANTS.

This week we made grants of £15 each to every Open Age and Under 19 team in the Halifax and District Junior League. No grant was made to the Under 17 teams as these teams qualify for grants from the Rugby League. However, we shall bear the position of these Under 17 teams in mind and if the circumstances demand it we shall review their case later in the season.

* * * *

DEPUTATIONS.

The hunting and searching season has started. Already we have watched other players in action. Travelling and watching will take up a lot of the time of our Directors and Scouts in their quest for players during the next eight months.

* * * *

MORAL SUPPORT REQUIRED.

After their great win over Wakefield I am sure that our supporters will give every encouragement today to our team to record its first home League win. The Blue and Whites deserve loyal support. Enthusiasm from our supporters will be reflected on the field. So what about getting those vocal organs into trim and shouting "UP THE FAX." Let us give encouragement for good play and sympathy for mistakes. With efforts all round we shall soon be back in our rightful place.



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UPSETTING.

I understand that Mr. J. W. Lewthwaite, a prominent member of Oldham's committee, has resigned for personal reasons.

• • •

SEASON TICKETS.

The sale of our Season Tickets are considerably down compared with last year's sales. There is still time for the leeway to be made up so please get yours today. Tickets are on sale at the ENQUIRY OFFICE in the MAIN DRIVE and at the SECRETARY'S OFFICE in the PAVILION.

Prices :

Ground, Paddock & Bottom Stand: Adults £2; O.A.P. £1; Boys 10/-

Ground, A or C Stand: Adults £3; Boys £1.

Ground and B Stand: Adults £4; Boys £1.

Patrons Ticket (with reserved seat in B Stand): £5/5/-.

• • •



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COURSE.

The coaching course for youngsters now taking place at Thrum Hall at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings, last Sunday attracted 90 youngsters. The oldest of these would-be Rugby League stars was 19 years and the youngest 6 years. The six year old enthusiast was so small that he had to be helped out of the bath, which is like a miniature swimming pool, at the finish. Undismayed, the young lad stated that next week he was going to have a shower as he thought he could manage a shower better than the bath if only somebody would turn the shower on and off for him. I am sure that next Sunday there will be plenty of volunteers to turn on the showers for our young lad, and also to see that he does not get washed away. We want to keep and preserve such enthusiasm.

The course organiser is Mr. T. G. Fellowes, a local referee, who recently qualified as a coach at Lilleshall.



FIRST TEAM FIXTURES, 1959-60.

1959.					
Aug.	8—HUDDERSFIELD (C.C.)	...	away		
	15—FEATHERSTONE R.	...	home		
	17—HULL	...	away		
	22—LEEDS	...	away		
	26—YORK (6-45)	...	home		
	29—WAKEFIELD (Yorks. Cup)	...	home		
Sept.	5—OLDHAM	...	home		
	8—OLDHAM (6-30)	...	away		
	12—HULL K.R.	...	away		
	19—SWINTON	...	home		
	26—BRADFORD N.	...	away		
Oct.	3—DONCASTER	...	home		
	10—BATLEY	...	away		
	17—HULL K.R.	...	home		
	24—DONCASTER	...	away		
	31—ST. HELENS	...	home		
Nov.	7—AUSTRALIANS	...	home		
	14—KEIGHLEY	...	home		
	21—ST. HELENS	...	away		
	28—WIGAN	...	home		
Dec.	5—BRADFORD N.	...	home		
	12—WAKEFIELD T.	...	away		
	19—LEEDS	...	home		
	25—HUDDERSFIELD	...	home		
	26—HUDDERSFIELD	...	away		
1960.					
Jan.	2—KEIGHLEY	...	away		
	9—BATLEY	...	home		
	16—HUNSLET	...	away		
	23—HUNSLET	...	home		
	30—CASTLEFORD	...	away		
Feb.	6—BRAMLEY	...	home		
	13—1st Rd. R.L. Cup	...	...		
	20—SWINTON	...	away		
	27—2nd Rd. R.L. Cup	...	...		
Mar.	5—FEATHERSTONE F.	...	away		
	12—DEWSBURY	...	home		
	19—3rd Rd. R.L. Cup	...	...		
	26—WIGAN	...	away		
Apr.	2—DEWSBURY	...	away		
	9—CASTLEFORD	...	home		
	16—YORK	...	away		
	18—(E.M.) BRAMLEY	...	away		
	19—(E.T.) HULL	...	home		
	23—WAKEFIELD T.	...	home		

"A" TEAM FIXTURES 1959-60.

1959.					
Aug.	15—FEATHERSTONE R.	...	away		
	19—HUNSLET (6-30)	...	away		
	23—DONCASTER	...	home		
	29—HULL	...	away		
Sept.	5—LEEDS	...	away		
	12—YORK	...	home		
	19—BRADFORD N.	...	away		
	26—HUNSLET	...	home		
Oct.	3—BATLEY	...	away		
	10—HULL K.R.	...	home		
	17—YORK	...	away		
	24—BARROW	...	home		
	31—BARROW	...	away		
Nov.	14—DONCASTER	...	away		
	21—BATLEY	...	home		
	28—HUDDERSFIELD	...	away		
Dec.	5—DEWSBURY	...	away		
	12—FEATHERSTONE R.	...	home		
	19—BRAMLEY	...	away		
	26—LEEDS	...	home		
1960.					
Jan.	2—WAKEFIELD T.	...	home		
	16—HUDDERSFIELD	...	home		
	23—LIVERPOOL C.	...	away		
	30—LEIGH	...	home		
Feb.	6—LEIGH	...	away		
	20—HULL	...	home		
Mar.	5—DEWSBURY	...	home		
	12—HUDDERSFIELD (Y.S.C. 1st Rd.)	...	away		
	19—HULL K.R.	...	away		
	26—BRAMLEY	...	home		
Apr.	2—BRADFORD N.	...	home		
	9—CASTLEFORD	...	away		
	16—CASTLEFORD	...	home		
	18—LIVERPOOL C.	...	home		
	23—WAKEFIELD T.	...	away		

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