

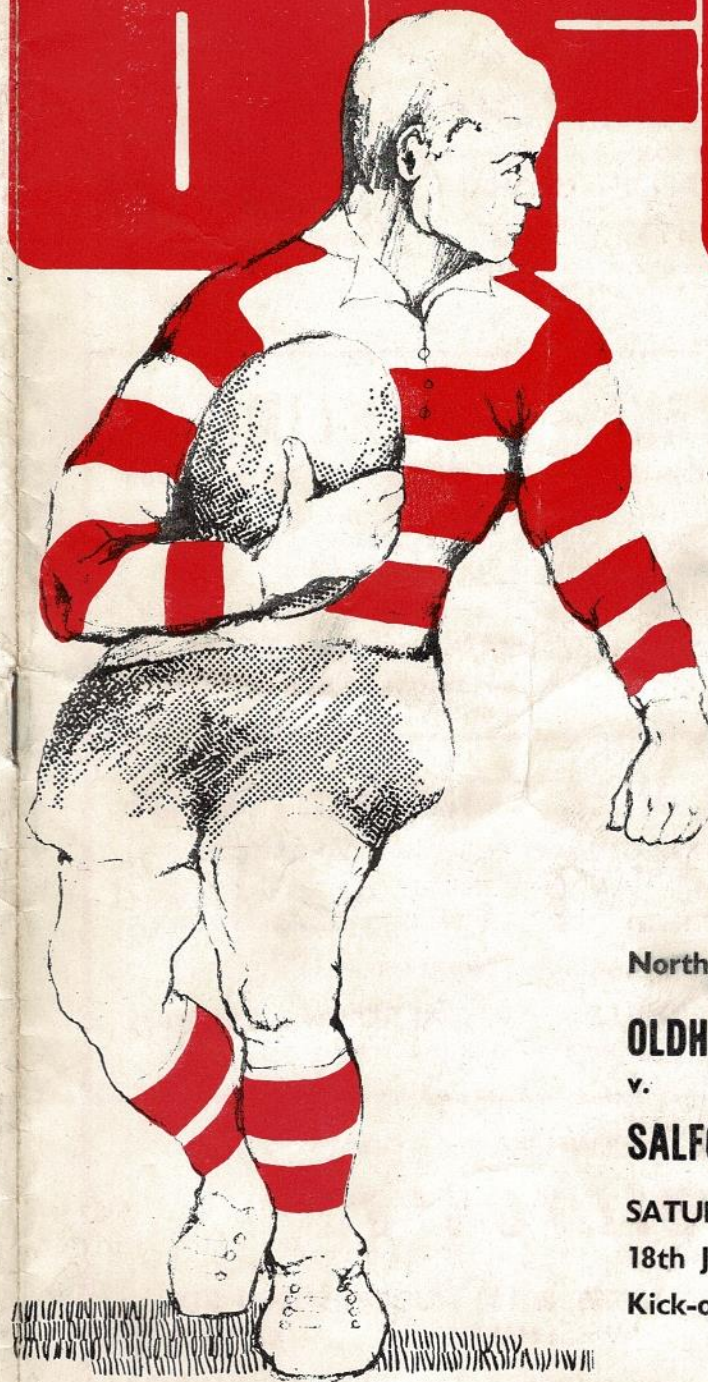


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Northern League Match

OLDHAM 22

v.

SALFORD 12

SATURDAY,
18th JANUARY, 1969
Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME • SIXPENCE •

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The tremendous win at Wilderspool, Warrington last Wednesday was sandwiched between two performances against Huyton which were in complete contrast to the one against the 'Wires'. The question being asked by supporters now is "What is the reason for this Jekyll & Hyde football?"

Is it that the opposition had contrasting styles of play which affected our flow of football which we saw at Warrington, or is it simply that the side didn't get into their stride in the games against Huyton and the more they tried the more things went wrong?

I personally consider that Huyton are a far better team than their League position suggests. They played really attractive football throughout at Widnes, their defence was absolutely first rate and their handling was slick and sure, and although it would be difficult to admit they were a good bet for the Cup I wouldn't be at all surprised to see them get a shock 1st round victory against Warrington.

The Heesom brothers both figured in the 'player of the match' awards with Ged Smith getting second place.

Contrary to the Oldham Chronicle report I felt the performance of Derek Whitehead was most encouraging. He tackled his task of replacement for Martin Murphy (a position he is bound to keep in the cup-tie) well. His tackling was sound and his ability to run out the

ball and link up with his three-quarters was pleasing. His only weakness was his inability to find touch when he attempted to do so after the third tackle.

However, if we return to something like our old form this afternoon we could have a good chance to beat this afternoon's 'Red Devils'.

OUR VISITORS

It is a pleasure this afternoon to welcome our friends from Salford.

Salford, like ourselves, have had an up and down season so far, but at present are doing quite well.

In their last match however, they 'scraped' a point from Leigh, who had scored two tries against three Salford goals, but prior to this game they had outstanding victories over Blackpool Borough and Wakefield Trinity.

Salford also won the mid-week seven-a-side tournament sponsored by Players No. 6, which was a foregone conclusion even before it commenced.

With players like Bill Burgess, David Watkins, Colin Dixon, Jack Brennan, Stuart Whitehead, Mike Coulman and Chris Hesketh in the side the book-makers would not have given very attractive odds to the punter against them winning the tourney.

To go further. If the bookmaker had got a glimpse of the 'order of matches' from the programme beforehand I dare gamble that he would not have taken any money at all.

It meant that Salford were able to rest for 15 minutes between each game they played, consequently they were able to keep an unchanged team throughout the competition, whereas other teams had to make as many as five changes to take on Salford as they had to return to the field immediately after a match while the Salford team were able to discuss in the dressing room how, in fact, they were going to win their next game.

Full credit to Salford however for the way they played on Thursday night. It is not surprising they failed in their task to notch two home League points from Leigh the evening following, after those energy-sapping sevens.

Colin Dixon has added the zest to the Salford pack which it needed and they are now certainly a force to be reckoned with.

A good pack is essential for Cup-tie football and Salford in my opinion will take some stopping.

They take on Batley in the 1st rnd. and although you can never be sure in Cup football, there should be no doubt at all about the eventual winners of this first round match.

Salford are certainly attractive opposition these days and they should bring in the crowds wherever they play.

We extend a special welcome this afternoon to the Oldham boys in the Salford side who have now to be on

their toes all the time to retain their places. Charlie Bott, Stuart Whitehead, Peter Smethurst and Terry Ogden have all done well at the Willows and we wish them and the rest of the team a successful run in the Cup competition, they certainly deserve it.

OUR CUP TIE

Next Saturday, kick-off 3 p.m., we entertain Hull Kingston Rovers in the first round of the R.L. Challenge Cup Competition. Tickets at 7/6 and 8/- are now on general sale for this match and can be purchased from the Secretary's office.

P.A. ANNOUNCEMENT

Today is a voting day for the Players No. 6 Player of the Year Awards.

In your programme you will find a Player's No. 6 voting slip.

What you have to do is write down the names of the top six players of the year. The choice is up to you. Put down the names of the players who, in your opinion, are the best in Rugby League this season whether they play for our club or not. At the end of the match post it into the special Player's No. 6 voting boxes near the exits to the ground.

The top six "Players of the Year" will share £600 in prize money, so don't forget to buy a programme and vote to ensure that your top six players figure in the Awards.

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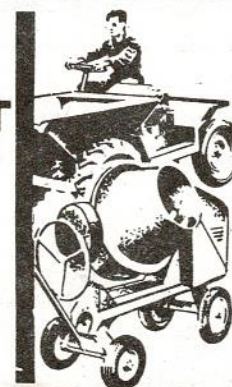
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- 8—WILSON
- 9—TAYLOR
- 10—FLETCHER
- 11—IRVING
- 12—McCOURT
- 13—CLARKE

Substitutes :

- 14—SMITH
- 15—OGDEN

Referee :

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- 1—HILL, D.
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- 3—McINNES
- 4—HILL, R.
- 5—HESKETH
- 6—WATKINS
- 7—RABBITT
- 8—OGDEN
- 9—BURDELL
- 10—BOTT
- 11—COULMAN
- 12—WHITEHEAD
- 13—DIXON

Substitutes :

- 14—JACKSON
- 15—

Touch Judges :

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GOLDEN BALL WON BY HUYTON Oldham fail at first trophy challenge

Huyton made a successful bid to win the Mackeson Golden Ball at their first attempt, when they completed a shock league 'double' over the holders Oldham, by 7-3 at Widnes. Huyton, who had previously beaten Oldham at Watersheddings by 13-5, lifted themselves from the bottom of the league table with the win.

The Huyton club (formerly known as Liverpool City), and currently without a ground due to pitch difficulties at their new Alt Park Stadium, are playing their 'home' fixtures at the Naughton Park home of neighbours Widnes.

They now have a chance to earn valuable funds with the Mackeson tro-

phy, starting with £50 in the ball for their 'Widnes-based' home fixture with Barrow on Friday night (Jan. 19). A win then would leave them to face Mackeson regulars Warrington in round one of the Challenge Cup on January 25th.

THE 'B' TEAM

The Oldham 'B' team, under the guiding hand of coach Harold Entwistle are improving week by week. Last Saturday in the first round of a Cup competition the 'B' team won its first match against Broadwater of Rochdale by 44 points to 3.

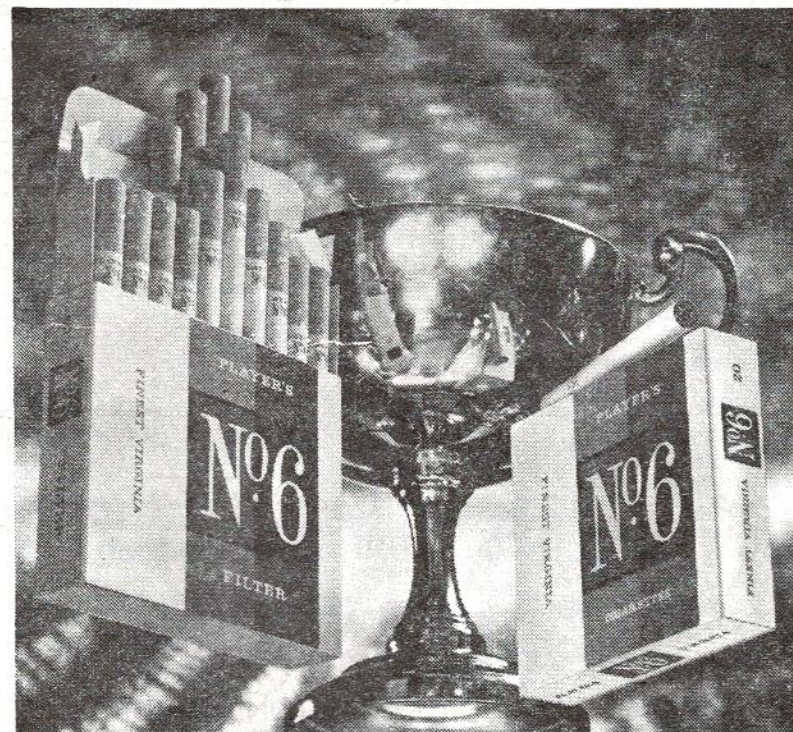
Brian Clarke, who recently turned professional for Oldham kicked 10 goals in this match. Good performances were also turned in from Reddyoff, Baldwin and Dowd.

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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES					'A' TEAM FIXTURES				
Date	Club	Grd.	F	A	Date	Club	Grd.	F	A
Aug. 10	Blackpool (friendly) ...	home	37...	27	Aug. 31	Workington 'A'	home		
17	Huddersfield	away	14...	19	Sept. 7	Rochdale 'A' (Shield)	away	.....	
19	Blackpool	home	29...	5	14	Rochdale 'A' (Shield)	home	.....	
24	Featherstone R.	home	22...	24	21	Wigan 'A'	away	.....	
28	Rochdale H.	away	14...	22	Oct. 12	Rochdale 'A'	home	.....	
31	Workington T.	away	10...	29	19	Widnes 'A'	away	.....	
Sept. 6	Rochdale (Lancs. Cup)	away	17...	5	26	Salford 'A'	home	.....	
9	Blackpool B.	away	44...	10	Nov. 2	Whitehaven 'A'	away	.....	
14	Hunslet	away	22...	14	9	Wigan 'A'	home	.....	
21	Wigan	home	4...	9	16	Warrington 'A'	away	.....	
28	Doncaster	away	26...	10	23	Whitehaven 'A'	home	.....	
Oct. 5	Huddersfield	home	15...	13	30	St. Helens 'A'	home	.....	
12	Featherstone R.	away	12...	23	Dec. 14	Leigh 'A'	away	.....	
19	Widnes	home	17...	9	21	Widnes 'A'	home	.....	
25	Salford	away	2...	4	28	Warrington 'A'	home	.....	
Nov. 11	Wigan	away	3...	50	Jan. 4	Huyton 'A'	away	.....	
15	Warrington	home	14...	10	11	Huyton 'A'	home	.....	
30	St. Helens	away	.....		18	Salford 'A'	away	.....	
Dec. 1	Whitehaven	away	15...	6	Feb. 1	Leigh 'A'	home	.....	
7	Hunslet	home	30...	13	8	St. Helens 'A'	away	.....	
14	Leigh	home	.....		Mar. 1	Workington T. 'A' ...	away	.....	
20	Widnes	away	5	26	8	Barrow 'A'	away	.....	
22	Whitehaven	home	17...	7	21	Swinton 'A'	away	.....	
26	Swinton	home	.....		Apr. 7	Rochdale 'A'	away	.....	
Jan. 4	Huyton	home	5	13	12	Barrow 'A'	home	.....	
8	Warrington	away	19...	10	19	Swinton 'A'	home	.....	
11	Huyton	away	3	7					
18	Salford	home	.....						
Feb. 1	Leigh	away	.....						
8	St. Helens	home	.....						
Mar. 1	Workington T.	home	.....						
8	Barrow	home	.....						
15	Doncaster	home	.....						
Apr. 4	Swinton (G.F.)	away	.....						
7	Rochdale H. (E.M.) ...	home	.....						
11	Barrow	away	.....						

Times of Kick-off

All Saturday games at home k.o. 3 p.m. Evening k.o.'s as advertised. All 1st & 'A' team matches.

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