

Salford 41

(Red with white V)

1. PAUL CHARLTON *2 tries*
2. TONY COLLOBY *2 tries*
3. DAVID WATKINS *try 10 goals*
4. CHRIS HESKETH
5. MAURICE RICHARDS
6. KEN GILL
7. PETER BANNER
8. TERRY RAMSHAW
9. DEREK CLARKE *try*
10. MIKE COULMAN
11. DOUG DAVIES
12. BILL KIRKBRIDE
13. COLIN DIXON *try*
14. BOB PROSSER
15. STUART WHITEHEAD

Referee:

W. H. THOMPSON of Huddersfield

Oldham 17

(Cherry and White, Blue Shorts)

1. MARTIN MURPHY *try*
2. MIKE ELLIOTT
3. PHIL LARDER *3 goals*
4. TOMMY DAVIES *try*
5. NORMAN HODGKINSON
6. CLIFF HILL
7. MICK McCONE
8. KEN WILSON *try*
9. KEVIN TAYLOR
10. FRANK FOSTER *goal*
11. BOB IRVING
12. BILL CHURM
13. JIM REYNOLDS
14. CHRIS O'BRIEN
15. JEFF MUNRO

Touch Judges:

Mr. P. Dennett, Mr. E. Glazebrook

SALFORD PLAYER OF THE MATCH

COMPLETE the coupon at the foot of this page to nominate the Salford player who, in your opinion was the most outstanding (for skill, entertainment, workrate, etc.) in this match.

Drop your voting slip in at the Secretary's office on your way home, or post it—to reach us no later than three days after the game—to "Player of the Match", Salford Football Club, Willows Road, Weaste, Salford 5, Lancs.

Name

Address

In my opinion, Salford's Player of the Match against OLDHAM was :

Paul Charlton

SALFORD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

AT THE END of the season, the player who has received the most Player of the Match votes over the whole season will be Salford's Player of the Year.

ALL voting slips will be kept and the Player of the Year will be asked to draw one when he receives his award. The lucky voter will receive a cash prize, so don't forget your name and address when you cast your vote—YOU could be on a winner, as well as the player for whom you vote.

These competitions are being organised entirely by "Salford Scene" and the player's award and the voter's prize will be determined by the sales of your new match magazine.

Salford Player of the Match against Leeds on August 19 was

COLIN DIXON

● We regret that we can only accept voting slips from "Salford Scene"—plain paper votes will not be considered.

Printed by JOHN ROBERTS & SONS, 172 Chapel Street, Salford M3 6BG

SALFORD 41 Oldham 17 SCENE

No. 3
1.9.72

6p



◀ David Watkins

Back in Centre

See back page

Ankle Injury

See page 5

Phil Ward ▼



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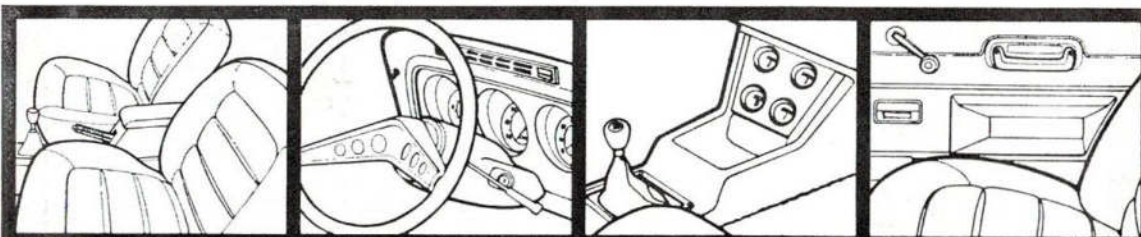
Oldham Scene — p. 18



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It's not the end of the world

By BERT HUGHES

... though you would think it was from the criticisms I have listened to since last Monday's defeat at the hands of Swinton (writes Bert Hughes).

Okay, it was a disappointing result and an even more disappointing performance by the Salford team.

But the players know it—there won't be many smiles when they receive their pay packets, which will be considerably thinner than the ones they received for the win at Whitehaven two days previously.

And the management know it—even before this match, negotiations had been taking place in an effort to strengthen the first team pool.

As we went to press, a reply was awaited from Wakefield Trinity to our considerable offer for Great Britain and Yorkshire prop forward David Jeanes.

Terms had been agreed with Huddersfield for the Fartowners' goalkicking front- or second-row forward. Part of the deal was that Salford's transfer-listed (and absentee) front row forward Johnny Ward should move to the Yorkshire club, but he turned down the move which would have brought him back into first-class football.

Finally, an offer had been made to Bradford Northern for their Hull-based hooker, Peter Walker, and terms agreed in principle. We were expecting a reply from the player to our terms.

FACTS

Memories play some funny tricks, though, and "our worst start in years" is nothing of the sort—not, at least, if you go back more than one year.

Just take a look at the facts:

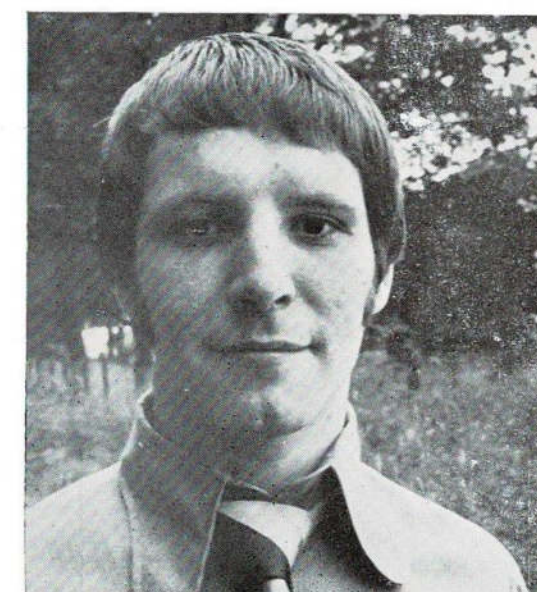
At the moment we have won just one of the first **four** Championship games.

At the start of the 1970-71 season we only managed one from the first **five**.

Two years previously—at the start of the season in which we went to Wembley—we lost three of the first six, a start which can still be equalled, even though not improved on.

And the year before that, 1967-68, only one match was won from the first **six**—and this was made up for by an undefeated run of 11 League games and the first round of the Challenge Cup.

Of course it's been a disappointing start, but here's one person who won't be walking round with sandwich boards proclaiming doom—not yet, anyway!



KEN GILL has recovered from the shoulder injury he sustained in the pre-season charity match against St. Helens and makes a return to the team tonight.

Man in the Middle

BILLY THOMPSON

BILLY THOMPSON this year celebrates ten years of Rugby League refereeing—ten years in which he has shot to the top of his chosen sporting career and a decade in which trouble and controversy have never been far away.

He has been stoned, spat on, pushed and pulled by upset spectators; he refereed the France v. England match at Perpignan only two months after fellow official Dickie Thomas (Oldham) had been badly beaten up there and, with the aid of a helpful French team, ran a gauntlet of bottle-throwing home supporters; and his name went in the record books last year as the first man to send off a player at Wembley—a decision which is still hotly disputed whenever Rugby League followers get together.

Rugby League runs in Thompson's blood: his



father, Arthur Willie, played wing three-quarter for Huddersfield and Wakefield Trinity and his uncle Ernest Thompson played for Huddersfield, Wakefield and then captained Broughton Rangers.

But young Billy Thompson turned to soccer and was establishing a promising career when injury brought a halt to it.

He took the referees examination to enter the local rugby league in January, 1962, and now has an impressive list of top-class games behind him:—

Internationals: England v. Wales, France v. England, Great Britain v. France.

World Cup, 1970: Australia v. New Zealand, Australia v. France, New Zealand v. France.

Finals: Floodlit 1969; Lancashire Cup 1968, 1970, 1971; Championship 1969, 1970; Challenge Cup 1971.

For his most enjoyable matches, though, he plumps for the 1964 Yorkshire Senior Competition Cup semi-final between Leeds 'A' and Castleford 'A' and the championship play-off second round tie at Central Park in 1969 when Salford beat Wigan 26—21.

Thompson is a 38-year-old engineer at David Brown Tractors and is married with three daughters aged 10, 11 and 13.

He has no hobbies as such—"Sport takes up all my spare time" but is interested in all kinds of sport and determined to stay at the top of the Rugby League referees' tree.

He has little trouble in keeping fit for his home is at Linthwaite, Huddersfield, in an area not renowned for flat, open spaces, and Billy puts the Pennines to good use in his training sessions.

An extension of international rugby involving clubs themselves would, he feels, be of great benefit to the game.

"Exchange visits with top Australian clubs is a must for Rugby League in the future" he explains.

"As I see it, club personalities from both countries would be in opposition—and that is what supporters of Rugby League football want to see."

AMATEUR SCENE

by PETER MASSEY

ONE OF the top amateur teams in Lancashire for many years, Langworthy Juniors lost their home at Moor Lane at the end of last season.

A great deal of money, time and effort had been put into making this the best amateur ground in the area, with changing, club and bar facilities second to none, though they knew they would have to quit the site sooner or later due to redevelopment.

Now starting from scratch again, Langworthy, in the 1st Division of the South-West Lancashire League, will play their home games at Scott Lane next season.

Their arch-rivals, Salford Juniors, another well-established team who play at Duncan Mathieson Playing Fields, Lancaster Road, are in the 2nd Division of the League.

Salford and Swinton colts teams will play in the new Colts League, the first games of which are to be played on September 1.



Organiser Peter Massey, Whitbread PR manager J. A. Kilner and Oakwood licensee Joe Dalton (who donated the trophy) form a backcloth to the Heineken Trophy.

Sunday League

This is a new league consisting at the moment of six teams—Dog & Partridge, Nags Head, Spa, Oakwood, Bolton, and Peter Green YC.

Other teams wishing to join may contact me through the Salford Scene or at home.

The final of the 11-a-side knockout competition for the Heineken Trophy will take place at the Willows on Sunday, September 10 (11.30 a.m.). The Trophy, kindly donated by Joe Dalton, licensee of the Oakwood Hotel, will be presented to the winners by the Mayor of Salford, Councillor Joe Hardman.

The finalists were not due to be decided until last night, too late for us to include the news, but Whitbread (West Pennine) Ltd., are taking an interest in pub teams playing friendly games and offered to help the amateur game by presenting tankards to the last two teams.

'A' TEAM WIN

AFTER JUST failing to win the final of the Lancashire Combination Shield last season, our 'A' team travelled to Rochdale on Wednesday in the first round, first leg of this season's competition and were too good for a Hornets side which included former Salford scrum-half Trevor Rabbitt and Lancashire prop Eddie Brown.

Phil Ward sustained an ankle injury and is unlikely to be fit for tonight's game, while prop Peter Frodsham received a cut over his left eye which required a couple of stitches—an injury accidentally inflicted by teammate Phil Hurst!

Colt Mike Lacey had a good game at stand-off and is expected to turn out again tomorrow when the 'A' are at Swinton in the Combination league. Ellis Devlin's 3-1 supremacy in the scrums was a telling factor in the 22-13 victory.

Team.—Stead (t); Jackson (t), P. Ward, J. Taylor, MacCorquodale (5 g); Lacey, M. Taylor; Frodsham, Devlin, Grice, Hurst (t), Mather, Knighton (t). Subs: Delves, Hardacre.

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Spotlight

TUG WILSON

GOOD NUMBER EIGHTS in Rugby seldom get headline treatment in match reports. They are usually the biggest men on the field, but do their job quietly and very effectively.

Oldham prop "Tug" Wilson is such a man. At six foot three inches tall and built to match, he has been seasoned by nine years in the professional game to a pitch of hardness and ability which commands respect from teammates and opponents alike.

Kenneth James Wilson is 33 years old and a West Countryman, but he started playing rugby at Kings School, in Grantham, Lincolnshire.

He continued during his service in the RAF—where Alex Murphy was one of his teammates—and also played for the Combined Services XV.

Wilson gained county honours with Gloucestershire and in 1963 was selected to play for England against France at Twickenham.

In June of that year, when he was due for demob, physical training instructor Wilson was approached by Oldham and signed for the Watersheddings club for a fee reported to be £5,000.

Three years later St. Helens began to take an interest in him but nothing came of it.

Although he is a one-club man, Wilson and Oldham have had their moments of discord. In April 1966 he threatened to quit playing not just for Oldham but altogether and 12 months later, after being dropped—also after being made captain—came another threat of retirement.

Luckily for Rugby League and Oldham, these differences were eventually settled and these days he ranks among the best clubmen in the game.

The most memorable match for Wilson was the 1964 Cup semi-final against Hull Kingston Rovers. The first match was a draw (5—5) and



(picture: Edward Woolley)

the re-play at Swinton resulted in a 14-all stalemate after 80 minutes.

Oldham were 17—14 ahead in extra time when the game was called off because of poor light. The second re-play, at Huddersfield, resulted in Oldham losing 2—12 to Rovers.

A stock controller for the electronics firm of Ferranti Limited, Wilson is a widower and the father of an eight-year-old girl and a boy aged six.

When he is not playing rugby he enjoys golf, badminton and boxing—a former RAF champion, he fought Billy Walker and Bob Foster in their amateur days—while for relaxation, he likes reading.

Ken Wilson has never played at Wembley and his greatest ambition is to go there with Oldham.

With the little bit of luck necessary for all finalists, that ambition could be realised this season and bring just reward to a fine player and a great club man.

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Don't let the 'bullies' take over

By **TOM BERGIN**

Editor, "Salford City Reporter"

The scene was Wembley and the occasion was the Challenge Cup Final. The result was in doubt when the referee awarded a penalty in front of the goals.

Thousands of spectators were convinced that the official had made a grave mistake and the players must have felt the same. Yet there was not the slightest show of resentment or bad temper; they just got "stuck in" to the task of wiping out the deficit.

A distinguished writer from a national newspaper based on London turned to me and said, "That is the great difference between Rugby and soccer. Had that decision been made at the F.A. final last week the referee would have been surrounded by bawling players and their fans would have been on the pitch."

After the match I was a member of the long queue patiently inching its way to the station at Wembley and we came to a halt alongside a mounted policeman. "Won't you be glad to get home?" I said to him.

"I'm quite happy," he replied. "We get no trouble at the Rugby League Final and we get no trouble from the Rugby Union followers at Twickenham. It's the soccer louts who give us the headaches."

In May, after the St. Helens-Leeds final I saw the same policeman at the entrance to the Stadium and recalled our previous conversation. "There'll be no trouble," he said.

He was right but there are disconcerting signs that the hooligans are trying their strong arm tactics at Rugby League and it is up to all clubs to take strong counter-measures.

Last week there was the report of a coachload of Widnes supporters being stoned by Warrington fans, Salford followers were hustled and punched at Featherstone. An increase in this sort of violence will lead to a fall in support.

The ideal—as at soccer—is to have complete seating at all grounds but this is less likely at Rugby where most clubs are operating on a shoestring and where even the wealthiest clubs can not afford this luxury. The alternative is for the regular fans to discipline the wrongdoers.

It can be done. Some years ago at Liverpool City's old Knotty Ash ground a dozen young louts, escapees from Anfield perhaps, started their chanting and howling. In next to no time stewards and members hustled them out of the ground and sent them packing.

During the summer there have been signs of a Rugby League revival in this area at the amateur, or "junior" level but too many matches have been marred by the antics of the "bully-boy" type of player. We had a similar situation before the war when workshops competitions were all the rage and the result was that the skilled player either turned to Rugby Union or packed up playing.

It would be a pity if history repeated itself and here the solution is in the hands of the club officials, who should throw out the "bullies".

Rugby League is a great game—perhaps the greatest—but only as long as all connected with it obey the rules.

HOME IN SECOND ROUND

The winners of tonight's match will be at home to Whitehaven or Rochdale Hornets in the second round of the Lancashire County Tetley Cup. The full draw is:—

Leigh or Widnes v Warrington or St. Helens
Salford or Oldham v Whitehaven or Rochdale H.
Huyton or Barrow v Swinton or Blackpool B
Bye: Wigan or Workington T.

“Bittermen” sweeten County Cup Competition

● Lancashire County Rugby League secretary **Bill Johnson** outlines the role of the county League and introduces the County Cup sponsors.

FOR THE FIRST TIME in its long history the Lancashire Cup competition will be played under sponsorship with the attractive and valuable support of £5,000 provided by Joshua Tetley & Son, Limited, the brewers whose name is a household word in the North.

The County Committee has felt for some time that a fillip was needed to keep the competition to the forefront and comparable with other knock-out competitions which had the stimulus of prize money, and they feel that the incentive provided by the sponsors will do just that.

The interest and co-operation of the Tetley directors is much appreciated and if all parties are satisfied with the results of this season's venture then discussions will take place later this year to finalise a further three-year sponsorship agreement at a fee negotiable each year.

We require only the full co-operation of all the participating clubs to ensure the future of this sponsorship and additional ones planned for the future.

RIGHT TYPE

The County Committee always appears to claim the right type of man to represent the various clubs in membership. They are invariably willing to sink individual interests for the good of the game and the county, and ever keen to try any new and worthwhile proposal.

During the past season, in addition to pursuing the sponsorship idea to fruition, they pioneered the six tackles rule for an extended trial in Combination matches covering half the season, and its undoubted success now sees the rule in operation for all grades of Rugby League this term.

The Committee readily agreed to put forward an augmented 'A' team programme, which was endorsed by the clubs, to offset the growing

apathy among reserve team players unable to play regular weekly football consequent upon a very restricted fixture list.

The wise guidance of dedicated officials in the past has placed the county organisation on a solid foundation, both financially and administratively. The Committee's reputation for impartiality in its consideration of domestic discipline and decisions on differences of opinion between clubs are traditionally and invariably accepted without question.

The County's practical help to the Amateur and Schools Rugby League has continued down the years and the financial support given to the Schools for Referees furthers the aspirations of up and coming officials.

Each season a panel of approximately 25 young referees are given extended trials culminating in the recommendation of the most consistent—based on club reports—to the Rugby League Management Committee for promotion. All 'A' team appointments for referees and touch judges in Lancashire and Cumberland are issued by the County Combination Committee.

OFFICIAL COACH

Teams for the inter-county Championship matches with Cumberland and Yorkshire are selected by the County Committee from players recommended by clubs in the county and this season an official coach has been appointed to handle the tactical side and advise on team selection. He is Wigan's Eric Ashton, whose ability and reputation need no enhancement from me.

The work of the County Committee goes on without a great deal of publicity, but its positive contribution to the furtherance of the game should always ensure its place in the Rugby League administrative structure.

Colliers are tops in this Tourney

THIS EVENING sees the start of the 60th Lancashire Cup knock-out tournament—a competition in which the undoubted success team has been Wigan.

As well as being the first winners, the Colliers have lifted the title 14 times from a total of 25 appearances in the final.

Oldham and St. Helens share second place for the number of finals contested—though Saints have the edge over our opponents with 10 wins to Oldham's nine. The full honours list reads:—

	Winners	Runners-up
Wigan	14	11
St. Helens.....	10	6
OLDHAM.....	9	7
Warrington.....	6	4
Swinton	4	7
SALFORD	4	2
Leigh	3	8
Rochdale H.	3	4
Broughton R/Belle Vue R	2	3
St. Helens Rec	2	3
Widnes	1	3
Barrow	1	1

Four current Lancashire League sides have yet to appear in the final: Blackpool Borough, Huyton, and the two Cumberland clubs, Whitehaven and Workington Town.

The longest winning sequence was from 1946 to 1951 when Wigan won the Cup six years running.

The longest losing sequence of finals is shared by Wigan, whom Salford beat 21-12 in 1934,

15-7 in 1935 and 5-2 in 1936, and Swinton, who lost to St. Helens in 1960-1-2.

TWO DRAWS

Two finals have been drawn, both at Wigan. In the first one in 1905 Wigan won the replay against Leigh at Broughton (8-0) after a scoreless first attempt; and in the second Warrington held St. Helens (2-2) before going down 10-13 at Swinton.

In 1940 the final was a two-legged affair in which Swinton went to Widnes and beat the Chemics 5-4 before rubbing it in 16-11 at home.

Highest score in a final was four years ago when St. Helens beat Oldham 30-2 at Central Park, Wigan. This was Oldham's last final appearance.

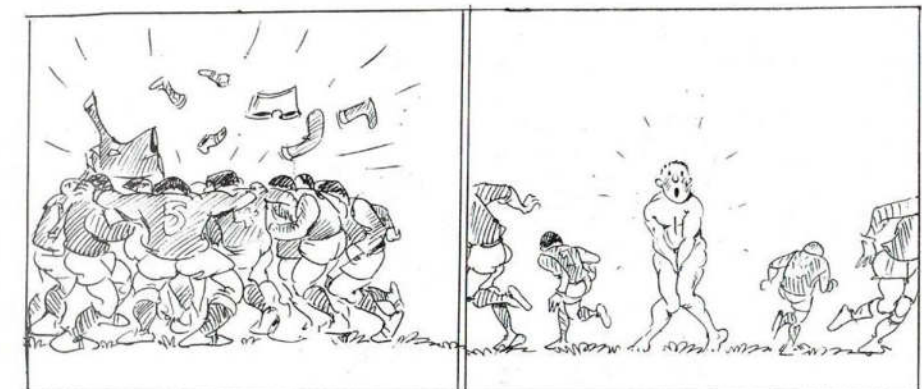
Oldham hold the record of having made the highest single score by a losing finalist (13-16 v Wigan at Swinton two years previously).

Salford has been the venue of six finals, the last in 1924 when Oldham beat St. Helens Rec. 10-0.

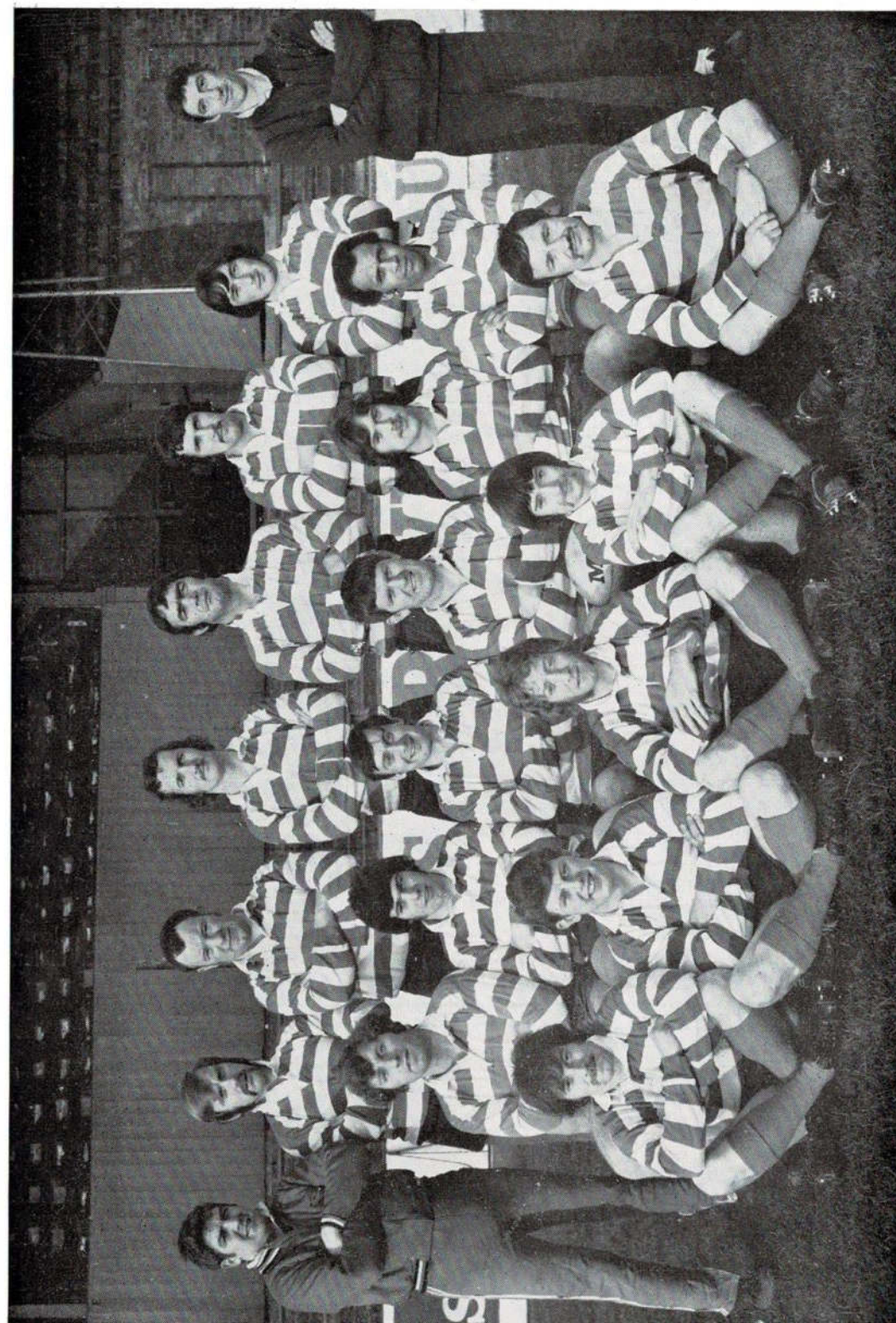
Only one final has been played at Oldham—Swinton 5, Wigan 2, three years later.

Salford last won the Cup in 1936 when they beat Wigan 5-2 at Warrington. Last final appearance was in 1938 at Swinton when Wigan won 10-7.

Oldham's last success was in 1958—also at Station Road. Their victims were St. Helens (12-2).



8-2-76



OLDHAM R.F.C.

Left to right, back row: Cliff Hill, Bill Churm, Keith Ashcroft, Norman Hodgkinson, Ken Wilson, Arthur Daley, Geoff Munro, Graham Starkey (coach). Centre: Kevin Taylor, Jim Reynolds, Phil Larder, Frank Foster, Keith Jackson, Mike Elliott. Front row: Mick McCone, John Blair, Martin Murphy, Mick Siddall, Tom Davies.

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Fixtures

First Team

1972		F	A
Fri. Aug. 4	Dewsbury (7.30) H	14	15
Fri. 11	St. Helens (Friendly) H	12	12
Sat. 19	Leeds (3.00) H	10	15
Wed. 23	Featherstone R. (7.00) ...A	15	27
Sat. 26	Whitehaven (3.00) A	32	17
Mon. 28	Swinton (7.00) H	8	13
Fri. Sept. 1	Oldham (7.30) H (1st Rd. Lancs. Cup)		
Sat. 9	Leeds (3.00) A		
Sun. 17	Leigh (3.30) A		
Sat. 23	Players No. 6—1st Rd.		
Fri. 29	Huyton (7.30) H		
Sun. Oct. 8	Blackpool B. (3.00) A		
Fri. 13	Blackpool B. (7.30) H		
Sun. 22	Dewsbury (3.00) A		
Fri. 27	Oldham (7.30) H		
Sun. Nov. 5	Huyton (3.00) A		
Fri. 10	Rochdale H. (7.30) H		
Fri. 17	Warrington (7.30) A		
Sun. 19	New Zealand (3.30) ...H		
Fri. 24	Workington T. (7.30) ...H		
Fri. Dec. 1	Barrow (7.30) H		
Sun. 10	Oldham (3.00) A		
Fri. 15	Leigh (7.30) H		
Sun. 24	Bradford N. (2.30) A		
Tues. 26	Workington T. (3.00) ...A		
Sun. 31	Bradford N. (3.00) H		
Sun. 1973			
Sun. Jan. 7	Rochdale H. (3.00) A		
Fri. 12	Featherstone R. (7.30) ...H		
Sun. 21	Widnes (3.00) A		
Sat. 27	R.L. Challenge Cup—1st Rd.		
Fri. Feb. 2	Whitehaven (7.30) H		
Sun. 11	Barrow (2.30) A		
Sat. 17	R.L. Challenge Cup—2nd Rd.		
Fri. 23	St. Helens (7.30) H		
Fri. Mar. 2	Wigan (7.30) A		
Sat. 3	R.L. Challenge Cup—3rd Rd.		
Fri. 9	Dewsbury (7.30) H		
Fri. 16	St. Helens (7.30) A		
Fri. 30	Warrington (7.30) H		
Fri. Apr. 6	Widnes (7.30) H		
Fri. 20	Swinton (3.00) A		
Mon. 23	Wigan (3.00) H		
Sat. 7	R.L. Challenge Cup—Semi-Final		
Sat. 14	R.L. Challenge Cup—Semi-Final		

League Championship Play-off:

Sat. Apr. 28	Top Sixteen Play-off—1st Rd.
Wed. May 2	2nd Rd.
Sat. 5	Semi-Finals
Sat. 12	R.L. Cup Final
Sat. 19	Championship Final

'A' Team

1972		p
Sat. Aug. 19	Workington T. 'A' (3.00) A	22
Wed. 30	Rochdale H. 'A' (7.30) ...A (Lancashire Shield—1st Leg)	13
Sat. Sept. 2	Swinton 'A' (3.00) A	
Sat. 16	Workington T. 'A' (3.00) H	
Fri. 22	Rochdale H. 'A' (7.30) H (Lancashire Shield)—2nd Leg	
Sat. 30	Huyton 'A' (3.00) A	
Fri. Oct. 6	Widnes 'A' (7.30) H	
Tues. 10	Swinton 'A' (7.30) H	
Fri. 20	Warrington 'A' (7.30) ...H	
Sat. 28	Oldham 'A' (3.00) A	
Fri. Nov. 3	Huyton 'A' (7.30) H	
Fri. 10	Rochdale H. 'A' (7.30) ...A	
Tues. 14	Warrington 'A' (7.30) ...H	
Sat. 25	Workington T. 'A' (3.00) A	
Sat. Dec. 2	Workington 'A' (3.00) H	
Fri. 8	Oldham 'A' (7.30) H	
Sat. 16	Leigh 'A' (3.00) A	
Sat. 30	Barrow 'A' (3.00) A	
Sun. 1973		
Fri. Jan. 5	Rochdale H. 'A' (7.30) H	
Fri. 19	St. Helens 'A' (7.30) ...H	
Sat. 27	Huyton 'A' (3.00) A	
Fri. Feb. 2	Widnes 'A' (7.30) A	
Sat. 10	Barrow 'A' (3.00) H	
Fri. 16	Warrington 'A' (7.30) ...A	
Fri. 23	St. Helens 'A' (7.30) A	
Fri. Mar. 2	Wigan 'A' (7.30) H	
Fri. 16	Leigh 'A' (7.30) H	
Fri. 23	Widnes 'A' (7.30) H	
Fri. 30	Warrington 'A' (7.30) ...A	
Fri. Apr. 6	Widnes 'A' (7.30) A	
Fri. 13	Huyton 'A' (7.30) H	
Mon. 23	Wigan 'A' (3.00) A	

Fixtures Copyright, The Rugby Football League

Results in Detail

Saturday 26 August	League	Monday 28 August	League
WHITEHAVEN 3-4-17 SALFORD 8-4-32		SALFORD 2-1-8 SWINTON 1-5-13	
Team.—Charlton (3 t); Watkins (2 t, 4 g), Hesketh (t), P. Ward, Richards (t); Prosser, Banner (t); Ramshaw, Devlin, Frodsham, Knighton, Whitehead, Dixon. Subs: Colloby, Coulman (both played). H.T. 5-21. Att. 1,100.			
Team.—Charlton; Watkins (g), Hesketh (t), Colloby (t), Richards; Prosser, Banner; Ramshaw, Clarke, Coulman, Whitehead, Kirkbride, Dixon. Subs: P. Ward, Davies (both played). H.T. 0-4. Att. 6,369.			

CURSE

I have just returned from Salford's game at Featherstone. The quality of play does not concern me here, but I arrived home with my nose swollen to twice its normal size, two black eyes, and bruises on my arm, legs and back—all caused by a large gang of Featherstone "supporters". I owe it to a large friend of mine that I returned home at all.

Without blaming the Featherstone club for this incident, may I ask when our grounds will be rid of the curse of young men who pay 30p to 40p simply to fight with lovers of the game? Until my visit to Featherstone I had only seen this kind of trouble at soccer matches. Now hooliganism has moved into Rugby League.

Will it continue to develop, or will someone put an end to it while we are still relatively sane?

P. J. Gray,
Murray Street, Salford 7.

RUBBISH

As an ardent Rugby fan for many years I have been disgusted with the performances of Salford this season. The first match against Dewsbury should have been a show of what we could expect this season—and that is how it turned out. We are being asked to pay an increased admittance charge of 40p and most fans are willing to pay this if they see some rugby, but the rubbish we have seen so far will just about finish Salford as a team. The extensions to the social club might just as well be carried onto the pitch and a block of flats built, which would at least be of some use to the people of Salford.

Come on, Salford, let us see a game of rugby next time, or there may be no fans to play to in the near future.

Joan Brownbill, fan (or ex-fan),
5 Barff Road, Weaste, Salford 5.

COUNTY TEAM

LANCASHIRE play Cumberland at Warrington on the 27th of September in the County Championship and the team, selected on Wednesday, is:—

Whitehead (Warrington); Wright (Wigan), Benyon (St. Helens), Walsh (St. Helens), Hughes (Widnes); O'Neill (Widnes), Gordon (Warrington); Halsall (Swinton), Karalius (St. Helens), Chisnall (St. Helens), Prescott (St. Helens), Ashurst (Wigan), Nicholls (Widnes).

The Swinton team picture in our last issue was by courtesy of the Salford City Reporter.

KEEP UP-TO-DATE AND READ

TOM BERGIN

on Salford Matches and Matters

in the

Salford City Reporter

Fullst Reports — Exclusive News — Photographs

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Social Club Scene— Forthcoming Attractions

Wednesday 6 September

FILM NIGHT

The Salford 'B' and 'C' teams' Easter tour of France

Cup Final—1969

There are still some people who have not yet seen the film of that Wembley game between Salford and Castleford.

PRESENTATIONS

Several of our young players represented Lancashire last season and will officially receive their plaques and badges.

Tickets 10p.

Thursday 7 September

**EARLY EXPRESSION
TONY LAREN
SUE CARROLL**

Tickets 30p.

OUR NEXT HOME GAMES

Saturday 16 September 1972 Combination
SALFORD 'A' versus WORKINGTON 'A'
k.o. 3 p.m.

Friday, 22 September 1972 Combination
SALFORD 'A' versus ROCHDALE H. 'A'
k.o. 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 14 September

CABARET SHOW

Wednesday 20 September

CABARET and DANCE

Thursday 21 September

**AL ROBBINS
THE ALBINO GOBLET
TRACEY WILLIAMS**

Tickets 25p.

Wednesday 27 September

**MR. ACKER BILK
and his
PARAMOUNT JAZZ BAND**

Tickets 75p.

SEASON TICKETS

	£
*Vice-President	6.75
*New North Stand.....	5.75
*Ground and Popular Side Stand.....	4.25
*O.A.P.	2.50
Ground—Boy	1.25

* Social Club membership included

Resurgent "Roughheads" are looking good

By BERT HUGHES

IT IS FOUR YEARS since Oldham won a match at the Willows and the occasion was the third round of the Lancashire Cup competition.

That same season (1968-69) they also won the League encounter at Watersheddings and were unlucky not to share the points at Salford.

Since then, Salford have enjoyed distinct mastery over a team which has staggered along from crisis to crisis, both on and off the field.

In 1969-70 the Reds took all four League points, 20-11 at Oldham and 30-3 at home, while the following season the 'Sheddings side were stopped 35-12 at the first stage of the county cup.

The teams have not met in the League for the last two seasons due to the suspension of the county leagues fixture system and the fact that Salford were in the top half while Oldham were in the bottom half of the League tables the previous seasons.

CONFIDENCE

Tonight, though, the "Roughheads" return to Weaste with a great deal more confidence than they have been able to feel for quite some time.

It is not misplaced, either, when one remembers that they have lost only two League matches out of a total of 19 this year—including a current run of 13 consecutive successes.

Compare that with 1971 when the most wins they could muster was eight from 32 matches—though they augmented their League points tally with five draws.

Their winning ways returned at about the same time as they persuaded Frank Foster to team up in the front row with Ken Wilson and Kevin Taylor.

Experienced Foster, a former Cumberland and Great Britain back row forward, is a ball-handler supreme and a very capable goal-kicker.

Between him and Oldham 'fixture' Wilson, England and Lancashire hooker Taylor has ample opportunity to display his undoubted talent in the scrums.

Behind this formidable trio, one can perm from at least four good 'uns, with Great Britain tourist Bob Irving; former Oldham junior Geoff Munro; ex-Leigh Miners Welfare and England Under-19 Jim Reynolds; and former Warrington and Salford second-row live-wire Bill Churm all fighting for places.

BACKS

Martin Murphy, particularly, has gone through some bad times in the recent poor seasons due to weaknesses up front.

Now, however, we can watch for fireworks from this fine attacking full-back whose style in the past has evoked the admiration of many Salford supporters.

Three-quarters of the three-quarters (think about it!) are former Rugby Union men.

Mike Elliott went to Oldham from Cardiff nine years ago and lines up against fellow-Welshman Maurice Richards.

On the left flank is 6 ft 2 in speedman Norman Hodgkinson whom Oldham signed last September. The son of a former Swinton second-row forward, he played for Wilmslow, Cheshire County and Streatham RU teams.

Phil Larder, ex-Broughton Park, Manchester and Sale, appears to have settled down in the centre after being listed early this year at his own request.

Centre Mick Siddall made a try-scoring debut last December in the 14-7 win over Bradford Northern at Odsal. He comes from Overden amateur club, near Halifax.

Three into two won't go, so there's a battle on for the half-back positions.

Current pairing is former Wigan half Hill and ex-Doncaster scrum-half Mick McCone. The former broke a thumb against Warrington in April and Tommy Davies stepped back into his old number six spot.

Hill is back in action again but if he or McCone, who signed in March after a two-month trial, slip up, Davies can take either place.

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