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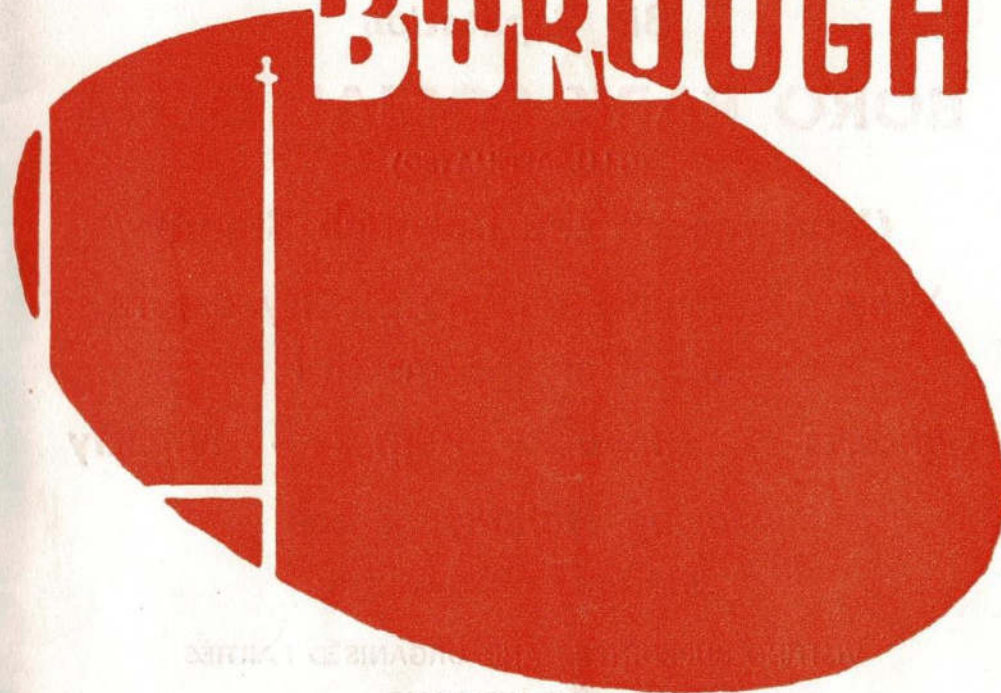
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BLACKPOOL BOROUGH



RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

BLACKPOOL BOROUGH 3

OLDHAM 55

5p.

SUNDAY, 18th MARCH. 1973 - Kick-off 3-00 p.m.

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OPINION

Boro were certainly in the news last weekend but not, unfortunately, for having gained a victory. The transfer market was busy with first Terry Cassidy moving to his home club Wigan, next Tom Warburton unexpectedly signed for Widnes closely followed by Alan Bishop being taken on trials by the same side. As they no longer had their hearts in matches played by Boro recently these transactions will benefit both Club and player but it now leaves the team even more depleted of experience. Indeed only 5 of last season's team now remain and of these Graham Seddon was a comparative late signing.

Compare last Sunday's team with that which opened the season against Batley; Cadman; Johnson, Warburton, Cassidy Kollios; Marsh, Bishop; Loughlin, Farrell, Gundry, Walker, Hall, Seddon; Jackson, Egan, and it can be seen that only 4 of the 15 now remain. Six of these have been transferred to other clubs, Jackson (Barrow), Farrel and Hall (Oldham), plus the 3 previously mentioned and 3 other former regulars are still on offer, Darbyshire, Marsh and Martland. Many fans say that so many players should not have been transferred but have the results really been that much worse with the inclusion of so many youngsters? Refer again to the 3 opening fixtures and reflect that Boro's teams contained fully experienced players with perhaps 3 exceptions. With results such as these something drastic needed to be, and was, done and with 2 divisions due to operate a welcome settling in period should take place. Surprisingly morale at present is not at the expected low ebb but a win before the close would be of immense value to their confidence.

There will probably be 2 or 3 new additions by today's game but at the time of writing names cannot be revealed.

Last Sunday saw another defeat which would have been higher but for some extraordinary goal attempts. The Boro were outclassed but not demoralised and showed signs of good attacking play but, again, lack of penetration was all too obvious. The fact that the half-time score was only 2-17 was a source of wonder as the Lions won every scrum. The second period showed some slight improvement but the leadership of an old head was sadly lacking. New skipper Joe Egan kicked the lone goal and now has a 50 per cent. success rate, 2 from 4 attempts! One sour note was the use of some tactics adopted by the visitors

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(and they are not alone in this) particularly a blatant trip in full view of everyone. At one time such an offence brought instant dismissal but on this occasion there was not even a reprimand. All too often it is the retaliator who is penalised whilst the initial offender goes unpunished. There are only 3 persons who can rectify this but rarely does it happen, more so at Princess Street.

On the injuries front prop Fred Fletcher is out for the remainder of the season and requires an operation on his knee but Doug Robinson should have recovered from his cut head.

Today sees the temporary return of Fred Hall and John Farrell to the Club that introduced them to R.L. and doubtless they will both want to be at their best against their old mates (though few of these are now left). A warm welcome is extended to them by Boro fans.

Next Sunday, 25th March, the visitors are companions in distress Huyton, another club that contains a former Boro player, winger David Leatherbarrow. Kick-off is at 3.30.
G.S.

Publications

Copies of Rugby Leager and Proball, the sports weekly newspapers, can be obtained from the Secretary's office price 4p and 5p respectively.

Points Scorers

75 Tom Warburton (Widnes) 9 goals, 19 tries; 46 Ged Marsh 17 goals, 4 tries; 45 Dave Hallas 21 goals, 1 try; 18 J.J. 6 tries; 15 Alan Bishop (Widnes) and Don Walker 5 tries each.

TODAY'S VISITORS — OLDHAM

This afternoon we welcome our friends from Watersheddings in a return fixture. In February our visitors were successful by 24 points to 5 in a fairly close fought game. They are having a good season, being in the top 10 in the league and reaching the 3rd round of the Rugby League Cup before losing to Castleford, two weeks ago.

The coach to our visitors is Graham Starkey, who was formerly a player with Rochdale and Huddersfield, being a successful goalkicker. His assistant is Terry Gorman, who has been with 4 other clubs in his career and once played a trial at Borough Park. He replaced the new Keighley coach Alan Kellet who resigned at the end of last season.

Regular full back ginger-haired Martin Murphy, is unlikely to be fit and will probably be replaced by utility player Wiganer Tommy Davies. Wingers should be Welshman Mike Elliott and ex Streatham R.U.F.C. and Cheshire Schoolboy Norman Hodgkinson or youngster

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West Lancs Evening Gazette

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RESULTS . REPORTS . COMMENTS

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Referee :

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Tangerine, Black & White

1—HALLAS

2—JOHNSON *Lewis*

3—MOLYNEUX

4—ROBINSON

5—GUEST/LEWIS

6—MARSH

7—LOWE *try*

8—SINGLETON

9—EGAN

10—McCANN

11—SEDDON

12—HOLLAND

13—WALKER

14—CRANK, P.

15—*Gamble*

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QLDHAM 55

Red & White Jerseys
Blue Shorts

1—DAVIES

2—ELLIOTT *try*

3—LARDER *11goals*

4—WAINWRIGHT *try*

5—O'BRYEN *2tries*

6—HILL *try*

7—McCONE *2tries*

8—WILSON

9—TAYLOR *try*

10—FOSTER

11—ERVING *try*

12—HALL *try*

13—FARRELL *try*

14—*Gorman*

15—*Daly*

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Chris O'Brien. Former Leeds star Tony Wainwright and goalkicker ex Sale player Phil Larder should be in the centre. Half backs should be Cliff Hill signed from Wigan and Mick McCone from Doncaster.

The pack is led by Cumbrian star Frank Foster, who with Kevin Taylor and ex England Rugby Union star Ken Wilson will form the front row. Bob Irving the Great Britain star and Fred Hall will form the second row with John Farrell at loose forward. John signed for the Borough in March 1966 from Wigan St. Patricks as a stand off and during his time with the club played in every position but prop. He made over 150 appearances in his 6 seasons and signed for Oldham in January. Fred came to this club in September 1969 from a junior club after a short career as a soccer player. He started as a centre and then switched to the second row, but played his last game for the club at Wigan in November in the centre position signing for Oldham in February for a small fee.

Other possibles for selection are backs Mick Siddall, from Halifax, John Blair, with Keith Ashcroft, Arthur Daly, Gareth Owen and Jim Reynolds in the forwards.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

Chairman: A. TAYLOR, 25 Walmer Road, St. Annes.

Treasurer: J. HARGREAVES, 15 Cherrytree Road, Blackpool.

Secretary: R. M. SPOWART, 16 Tithebarn Place, Poulton-le-Fylde. Tel. Poulton 2300

Committee J. STOTT, N. SHAW, P. WEBB.

The Queen Dance was held on March 1st when the Blackpool Borough R.L.S.C. Queen was chosen. The winner this year being Brenda Mills of Waterloo Road, Blackpool.

A preliminary word about the Seven-a-Side competition which this year will take place on Saturday, May 26th. There will be some new teams taking part this year and from the list of entries received the competition should be of a high standard.

The A.G.M. will take place on Tuesday week — March 27th — at Borough Park and all members are requested to make a note of this date.

On sale from the Supporters' Club are ties (77½p), lapel badges (15p), blazer badges and back number programmes. R.M.S.

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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES, 1972-73

1972	F	A
AUGUST		
20—Batley	H	7 - 25
26—Wigan	H	8 - 46
28—Dewsbury	A	13 - 41
SEPTEMBER		
3—Swinton	A	25 - 28
(1st Round Lancs. Cup)		
10—Warrington	H	8 - 42
13—Hunslet	A	11 - 20
17—Rochdale	A	7 - 34
23—1st Rd. Players No. 6 Comp.		
LEEDS	H	9 - 51
OCTOBER		
1—Doncaster	A	30 - 17
8—Salford	H	10 - 37
13—Salford	A	13 - 43
22—Barrow	H	15 - 11
29—Leigh	A	11 - 23
NOVEMBER		
3—Wigan	A	13 - 23
12—Dewsbury	H	10 - 11
19—Huyton	A	7 - 14
26—Doncaster	H	11 - 24
DECEMBER		
3—Whitehaven	A	15 - 17
10—Hunslet	H	12 - 10
17—Widnes	A	6 - 37
24—St. Helens	H	14 - 33
31—Batley	A	5 - 47

1973	F	A
JANUARY		
6—Workington	A	13 - 55
14—Whitehaven	H	14 - 21
21—Swinton	A	5 - 11
27—1st Rd. Challenge Cup		
Widnes	A	3 - 53
FEBRUARY		
4—Widnes	H	8 - 35
11—Oldham	A	5 - 24
17—2nd Rd. Challenge Cup		
25—Workington	H	6 - 30
MARCH		
2—St. Helens	A	0 - 29
11—Swinton	H	2 - 30
18—Oldham	H	
25—Huyton	H	
APRIL		
8—Rochdale	H	
15—Warrington	A	
21—Leigh	H	
23—Barrow	A	

All Home Matches Kick-off 3-00 p.m. unless otherwise stated

BOROUGH'S NEXT HOME MATCH

Sunday, 25th March v Huyton Kick-off 3-00 p.m.

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