

# Oldham

11

- 1 BLAIR, J.
- 2 ELLIOTT, M.
- 3 LARDER, P. *4 goals try*
- 4 WAINWRIGHT, T.
- 5 HOLLAND, I.
- 6 TREASURE, D.
- 7 PATERSON, J.
- 8 CLAWSON, T.
- 9 TAYLOR, K.
- 10 HALL, F.
- 11 HUGHES, B.
- 12 GREGORY, B.
- 13 FARRELL, J.
- 14 JACKSON, K.
- 15 MAYE, J.

# Huddersfield

15

- 1 LEAGHLEY, T.
- 2 HOOSON, D.
- 3 DOYLE T.
- 4 CHAMBERLAIN, M.
- 5 ELLIS, M.
- 6 HARTLEY, J. *6 goals*
- 7 SHEPHERD, M.
- 8 VAN-BELLEN, I.
- 9 MILLER, A.
- 10 WEAVILL, D.
- 11 TOMLINSON, R.
- 12 WELSH, C. *try*
- 13 DOYLE, J.
- 14
- 15 *Heppleston*

## Referee:

G. F. Lindop (Wakefield)

K. Ashall (Prescot)

Red

T. Clayton (Widnes)

Orange

## OLDHAM MAN OF MATCH

Fill in the coupon below to nominate the Oldham player, who in your opinion was the most outstanding in today's match,

Drop your voting slip in at the Secretary's office, or Souvenir Shop, on your way home, or post it to reach us no later than 3 days after the game to "Man of the Match" The Pavilion Watersheddings, Oldham.

Name .....

Address .....

The Man of the Match  
v- HUDDERSFIELD

was *Tony Wainwright*

## OLDHAM PLAYER OF YEAR

At the end of the season, the player who has received most Man of the Match votes over the whole season will become Oldham's Player of the Year.

All voting slips will be kept, and the Player of the Year will be asked to draw one out at random when he receives his award. The lucky voter will receive a £20 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.

xx Only voting slips from the Oldham programme will be accepted —plain paper votes will be void.

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# OLDHAM

11

V

# HUDDERSFIELD

15



—Photo by courtesy of The Evening Chronicle.

TERRY CLAWSON . . . back in the fold after the Australian tour.

Saturday 14th SEPTEMBER  
kick-off 3.00 pm **8p**

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## OLDHAM OUTLOOK

AFTER our confrontation with Hull K.R. on Tuesday night in the preliminary round of the Floodlit Trophy — a competition which provided us with our one and only cup success last season — we return today, with the visit of neighbours Huddersfield, to the bread-and-butter Second Division campaign.

A little research into last season's records proves the wisdom of what Jim Challinor was saying in Tuesday's programme.

The top four in Division Two finished like this:

|                 | P  | W  | D | L | Pts |
|-----------------|----|----|---|---|-----|
| BRADFORD N. ... | 26 | 24 | 0 | 2 | 48  |
| YORK .....      | 26 | 21 | 0 | 5 | 42  |
| KEIGHLEY .....  | 26 | 20 | 0 | 6 | 40  |
| HALIFAX .....   | 26 | 18 | 0 | 8 | 36  |

Close behind — on 34 and 32 points respectively — were Workington Town and Hull.

This season there are already indications that the competition could be even more severe than last time, with Huyton (coached by our former 'A' team man Terry Gorman) already making the Rugby League sit up with their county cup defeat of Whitehaven, their 20-points spree at Batley, and their sensational second-round Lancashire Cup performance at Salford which they lost by only two points after leading for much of the way.

**That being so, Oldham must be looking for 40 points, at least — and that means they mustn't slip up in more than six league games all season.**

Available today are two points from Huddersfield, who are making their first visit to Watersheddings since the 1972-3 season.

Remembering the great days of the past, and the super players associated with the Fartown club, it is one of Rugby League's tragedies to see Huddersfield struggling, as they have done for the past few seasons.

Like us, they are one of the few members' clubs in the Northern League and we extend to their officials and players a big welcome today — and all good wishes for the future.

One qualifies that, of course, with the hope that they return over the hills pointless this evening.

But, having said that, we all sincerely hope that Huddersfield can rise again and provide once more the superb entertainment that was once a hallmark of their game.

May we take this opportunity of thanking all those supporters who cheered us on at Blackpool last Sunday. Blackpool are always glad to see Oldham on their fixture list — particularly at September week-end — because the match always provides them with one of their best gates of the season.

True to form, our support at Borough Park was first class, and one could have excused the casual observer for believing that we, not Blackpool, were the home side.

Mention must be made, too, of the good crowd we received for the visit of Widnes. The 3-15 kick-off was, in many ways, by means of an experiment, but it seemed to go down very well indeed.

We are here, after all, to try and meet the needs of our supporters, and we trust the later kick-off met with everyone's satisfaction.

May we extend a hearty welcome to the club for young Gordon Pollard, the Huddersfield lad we signed recently in face of stiff opposition.

Gordon, a full back, made his professional debut in the 'A' team last week-end and had a most satisfying first game.

If he does half as well as our other big capture from St. Joseph's — Bobby Irving — Gordon will be in for a splendid professional career.

**NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY: OUR FIRST-ROUND MATCH AGAINST WORKINGTON IN THE PLAYER'S No. 6 TROPHY WILL BE HELD AT WATERSHEDDINGS ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th (KICK-OFF 3-15 p.m.).**



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ONE of the major problems facing the Rugby League in their efforts to speed up play and make the game more attractive for spectators is the need to reduce the number of stoppages.

Play-the-ball, for instance, ought not to constitute a stoppage. But it very often does because attacking players do not get to their feet quickly or, more to the point, they are not allowed to by defenders who persist in holding them down until their colleagues are back in position.

Rarely, too, do we see a scrum formed and the ball got away to the backs at the first time of asking.

All these are problems that, hopefully, will be solved by the new moves towards liaison between referees and coaches.

But there is another kind of stoppage I would dearly love to see receiving some attention by the game's planners and administrators.

I refer to the countless stoppages we get in nearly every game when players go down injured.

In the Blackpool match last Sunday, when Bob Welding, Brian Gregory, David Treasure, and Tony Wainwright all received attention on the field from our physiotherapist Dennis Wright, the game was punctured with unnatural stoppages — and that's to say nothing of the times when the Borough medical man, Mel Meek, was also on the pitch.

**Wouldn't it be better if, in the case of niggling, little injuries, the trainer was allowed on the pitch while play continued?**

As things stand at present an injured player cannot receive attention until the referee blows for a stoppage.

But in the country games in Australia a trainer is allowed to run on to the pitch immediately a player is injured . . . while the game continues!

As the "sponge man" with the tourists, I was tremendously impressed at the way the system worked.

The player received IMMEDIATE treatment and the spectator was not subjected to yet another unnecessary halt in play.

You may say that there would be a tendency for the trainer to be always on the pitch. In practice this does not apply. For the very reason that the game is continuing, a trainer will not go on unless his intervention is warranted.

There would be a possibility, it is true, that the trainer might interfere with play. But during all our matches in Australia it never happened once.

And my inquiries among the locals revealed that only twice in the whole season had a trainer got himself inadvertently involved in the play.

I believe it is a sound, sensible, and practicable idea — and one well worth considering for the English game.

# OUR VISITORS

BY DON YATES

IT HAS been a mixed season so far for Huddersfield whose two Second Division matches have resulted in a home defeat by Whitehaven 10-14 and an away win at New Hunslet 12-10.

In the Yorkshire Cup the Fartowners had to visit Odsal where, predictably, Bradford Northern scored a comfortable 49-5 win. Huddersfield's other match this season was the annual pre-season friendly when they scored a 14-5 win over First Division Halifax.

The last two visits to Watersheddings in league football by Huddersfield have both resulted in draws. In season 1972-73 the score was 7-7 whilst previous to that in season 1970-71 the sides were level 9-9. In season 1972-73 Oldham had won 25-7 at Huddersfield whilst in 1970-71 the league match at Fartown had resulted in a 9-4 victory for Huddersfield.

The Yorkshiremen also knocked Oldham out of the Floodlit Cup in 1970-71 as well as winning here 18-4 in a pre-season friendly, so they travelled over in February, 1971 hoping to record their fourth victory of the season against Oldham.

For that midweek clash Oldham had full-back Tommy Leyland making his debut in what was a tough encounter watched by a crowd of 2,079. There wasn't much to choose between the sides, who were level 2-2 at half-time, and a draw was a fair result. Phil Larder scored Oldham's try and Terry Garrett kicked 3 goals. Dick Wallace (2) and Frank Davies kicked goals for Huddersfield and their try was scored by Ken Senior.

The teams were:

**OLDHAM:** Tommy Leyland; Mike Elliott, Phil Larder, Cliff Hill, Terry Garrett; Wilf Briggs, Cliff Sayer; Ken Wilson, Kevin Taylor, Keith Ashcroft,

Bob Irving, Dick Bonser and John Alchin. Substitutes: Tommy Davies and Arthur Daley.

**HUDDERSFIELD:** Trevor Bedford; David Hooson, Dick Wallace, Billy Pickup, Ken Senior; Martin Calvert, Ken Loxton; Dave Heppleston, John Irving, Dave Weavill, Frank Davies, Graham Naylor and Bob Tomlinson. Substitutes: Graham Evans and Arnold Long.

Both sides have changed since then, of course, and Huddersfield had rather a hard time of things last season when they ended the season in 10th position in Division Two. They won only 9 league matches all season with their only away league victories coming at Huyton 7-4, Doncaster 11-0 and a very good 16-13 win at Halifax.

They will be hoping to do much better this season when the main aim of every Second Division side will be promotion plus a lucrative run in one of the knockout competitions.

Huddersfield, like Oldham, are already out of the County Cup and both face tough hurdles in the BBC TV Floodlit Cup. Last Wednesday Huddersfield met Castleford and, as home supporters will know, Oldham faced the vastly improved Hull Kingston Rovers side last Tuesday. The second leg is next Tuesday at Craven Park.

Last Wednesday the draw was made for the John Player Trophy and both Huddersfield and Oldham will have to work very hard in their first round matches in order to win through to the second round. Oldham have been drawn at home to Workington Town whilst Huddersfield travel to Huyton.

Before these two sides do battle in that competition, though, the Second Division promotion scramble will be foremost in the players' minds with this afternoon's match points being vital to both Oldham and Huddersfield.



Photo by courtesy of Huddersfield Examiner.

Back Row: R. Tomlinson, F. Davies, I. Van Bellen, C. Welsh, D. Weavill, D. Wroe, M. Branch, T. Doyle. Front Row: G. Knight, D. Hooson, L. Shaw, T. Leathley, K. Senior, T. Bedford, J. Hartley. In front: Mascot, M. Kaye.



## BRIAN BATTY OF THE MAIL

The decision of Featherstone Rovers to seek the earth for Steve Nash emphasises the financial gulf that exists between the English and Australian clubs.

The £40,000 fee that Rovers have placed on Nash's head would be sufficient to buy a complete team from 75 per cent of the clubs in this country.

We have had to accept how much we have become the poor relations in the past 12 months as Sydney clubs continue to whip the cream of our talent.

Nash was easily Britain's outstanding back on the tour of Australia and New Zealand and is entitled to seek the chance of financial security for himself and family.

After all, the boy who was born within a goal-kick of the Post Office Road ground received a mere £100 when he first signed in 1967.

He collected a further £150 after ten first team appearances and Yorkshire and Great Britain honours helped bring his total to £750.

Featherstone have wisely qualified their admission that they will sell Nash by stating that the £40,000 tag is 'the opening figure.'

With Tommy Bishop now in Brisbane and Billy Smith about to retire, there is a glaring lack of halfback talent in Sydney at the moment.

Since the British party returned home from Australia Sydney columnist Keith Barnes has urged Balmain to splash as much as 50,000 dollars, if necessary, on Nash.

'I think it will be money well spent. I rate Nash the equal of Bobby Fulton and Artie Beetsen,' says Barnes.

'As a link man Nash has no peer and is a tremendous inspiration. Go and get him and to hell with the cost,' adds Barnes.

As early as the First Test in Brisbane last June, Artie Beetsen was telling me of his admiration for Nash's ability and courage.

Beetsen has also gone into print by informing Balmain that if they get Nash they will be helping English rugby.

'Every time a Sydney club buys an English player it is boosting the playing strength of English clubs,' claims Artie.

'The English clubs can turn round and buy a couple of Welsh and Scottish Rugby Union stars,' he argues.

Well Artie, there are a lot of people in this country who will not agree with that view, including me.

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## FIXTURES 1974-75

|                                             |                                          |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Aug. 17—Rochdale (Law Cup) ..... Home 27-15 | Aug. 24—Blackpool ..... Away 28-2        |
| " 24—Blackpool ..... Home 17-13             | " 30—Widnes (7-30 p.m.) ..... Away 13-10 |
| Sept. 1—Widnes (3-15 p.m.) ..... Home 9-14  | Sept. 7—Blackpool ..... Home             |
| " 8—Blackpool ..... Away                    | " 13—Salford (7-30 p.m.) ..... Away      |
| " 14—Huddersfield ..... Home                | Oct. 5—Rochdale ..... Home               |
| " 20—Hull K.R. (7-30 p.m.) ..... Away       | " 12—Wigan ..... Away                    |
| " 28—Player's No. 6 (1st Rnd.) ..... Home   | " 19—St. Helens ..... Away               |
| " Lancs. Cup, Rnd. 1 ..... Home             | " 26—Huyton ..... Away                   |
| Oct. 6—N. Hunslet (3-30 p.m.) ..... Home    | Nov. 2—Swinton ..... Home                |
| " 12—Hull ..... Home                        | " 8—Warrington (7-30 p.m.) ..... Away    |
| " 18—Whitehaven (7-00 p.m.) ..... Home      | " 23—Widnes ..... Home                   |
| " 26—Huyton ..... Home                      | " 30—                                    |
| Nov. 3—Swinton ..... Away                   | " 14—                                    |
| " 9—Player's No. 6 (2nd Rnd.) ..... Home    | " 21—                                    |
| " 16—Workington ..... Home                  | " 26—                                    |
| " 24—Doncaster (2-30 p.m.) ..... Away       | " 28—Huyton ..... Home                   |
| " 30—Batley ..... Home                      | Jan. 4—                                  |
| Dec. 8—Workington (2-30 p.m.) ..... Away    | " 11—                                    |
| " 14—Hull K.R. ..... Home                   | " 18—Barrow ..... Home                   |
| " 21—                                       | " 25—Swinton ..... Away                  |
| " 26—Huddersfield ..... Away                | Feb. 1—                                  |
| " 29—Huyton (2-30 p.m.) ..... Away          | " 8—St. Helens ..... Home                |
| Jan. 4—New Hunslet ..... Home               | " 15—Leigh ..... Home                    |
| " 11—Doncaster ..... Home                   | " 22—Salford ..... Home                  |
| " 17—Barrow (7-00 p.m.) ..... Away          | Mar. 1—                                  |
| " 25—Swinton ..... Home                     | " 8—                                     |
| Feb. 1—                                     | " 15—Leigh ..... Away                    |
| " 8—Challenge Cup (1st Rnd.) ..... Home     | " 21—Rochdale (7-30 p.m.) ..... Away     |
| " 15—Leigh (3-45 p.m.) ..... Away           | " 29—                                    |
| " 22—Challenge Cup (2nd Rnd.) ..... Home    | Apr. 5—Barrow ..... Away                 |
| Mar. 1—Whitehaven ..... Home                | " 12—Warrington ..... Home               |
| " 8—                                        | " 19—Wigan ..... Home                    |
| " 15—Leigh ..... Home                       |                                          |
| " 23—Batley ..... Away                      |                                          |
| " 30—Hull ..... Away                        |                                          |
| Apr. 5—Barrow ..... Home                    |                                          |
| " 12—                                       |                                          |
| " 19—                                       |                                          |

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