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HULL KINGSTON ROVERS 17

versus

OLDHAM 8

NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL
LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION
CHAMPIONSHIP

FRIDAY, 20th SEPTEMBER, 1974
Craven Park, Hull Kick-off 7-30 p.m.



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OUR VISITORS AND OUR PERFORMANCES

The Oldham officials and players are now becoming familiar opponents, and we greet them again tonight for our third meeting in ten days, and our second at Craven Park this week.

We made hard work of our win last Tuesday and since then Oldham have suffered a setback with the news that our former player and Great Britain first choice prop **Terry Clawson**, who did not play in Tuesday's match has "lost his appetite" for the game.

Even though we started the season in a reasonably successful manner the general form of our team has been a little disappointing. It was to be expected that a number of new players coming together would need a little time to blend, but it has been in the forwards where the greatest lack of cohesion has been evident, culminating in our one point defeat against an enthusiastic but not especially skilful Huyton side. Ample opportunities were there for us to win the game comfortably, but a combination of squandered chances and bad defence, particularly near our line, spelled defeat, for all four of the Huyton tries were scored by forwards barging at our line.

No clear pattern of play has emerged amongst our forwards, and in the indisposition of **Joe Brown** last Tuesday, it was felt that **Neil Fox's** vast experience could help to knit the pack together.

Earlier the first half of the Bramley game had given hints of possible team potential, when our side produced the best 40 minutes football seen at Craven Park for some time, but then let it all slip in a niggling and frustrating second half.

Similar glimpses of this form were shown with the visit of Workington when we were opposed by one of our probable rivals for promotion. The dour Cumbrian side showed a lot of good handling ability but not once during the game did they really threaten our line.

Drawn at Oldham for the first leg of the Preliminary Round of the B.B.C. 2 Trophy, our team's idea was to go to Watersheddings and play a holding game. The result achieved was quite satisfactory but it didn't appear to be sufficient at threequarter time in the second leg on Tuesday last when we were trailing by 11-7 and consequently five points down on aggregate. At long last after a series of frustrating handling errors our passes began to stick and we scored two good tries both converted by Millward who also kicked a penalty during this period for us to run out comfortable winners.



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'A' TEAM REPORT—Our 'A' team remains undefeated but received quite a scare last Saturday when trailing 16-10 against a very lively Dewsbury side, but the introduction of **Steve Hartley** for the out-of-town R.U. trialist turned the tables in our favour in the later stages of the game and we ran out 25-16 winners. The trialist off half, having made two appearances, is not to be retained.

COLTS COLUMN—our Colts suffered their heaviest defeat since their formation when they were beaten 38-14 by a brilliant Castleford team last Saturday. The Colts, already weakened in the forwards by the absence of pack leader Blackwell and second rowers Holbrook and Foot, suffered further injury blows early in the match when they lost Marrow with a dislocated shoulder and Edmonds and Thompson with concussion. Playing a man short for much of the game the already depleted team proved no match for their West Riding opponents who look like being one of the top teams in the competition.

CUP DRAW—With seemingly an abundance of cup competitions at this stage of the season it is perhaps worthwhile to summarise our progress in order to clarify the situation.

In the Yorkshire Cup we have reached the semi-final stage, but are drawn away to the winners of last night's Bradford Northern v. York tie. No date has yet been arranged.

Our victory in the Preliminary Round of the B.B.C. 2 Floodlit Trophy means we entertain Wigan; again no date has been fixed yet but it is certain that the match will NOT be televised.

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The First Round of the Players' No. 6 Competition has seen us paired with Rochdale Hornets away, and this tie will be played on Sunday, 29th September (3 p.m.).

SCHOOLS' COMPETITION—Tonight sees the commencement of a new Schoolboy Knock-Out Competition in the under 11 years group. This competition will be played at first team home games throughout the season. The games will be of 14 minutes duration, with the first half played before the senior teams kick off and the second half during the interval. Tonight's game is between **Maybury** and **Ald. Cogan** Schools.

PLAYERS UNDER REVIEW—The names of goal kicking centre or off half **Bruce Burton** (Halifax) and prop **Harold McCourt** (Workington) have been linked with the club and it is our full intention to watch and vet both players before any possible further steps are taken. A number of other players are under review in this manner and whilst admitting that a certain amount of priority should always be given to certain positions, it is our opinion that whenever really class players become available they have to be considered whatever their position.

NEWS OF LOWE—News from Australia is that **Phil Lowe** has done exceptionally well with his club Manly, following an earlier settling-in period during which he was heavily criticised in the Australian Press. After this he began to reveal his true form and has proved himself one of the stars of the Sydney Competition, but his team have failed to make the Championship Grand Final after being Champions for the past two seasons.

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FIRST TEAM FIXTURE LIST 1974/75

1974		Venue	Result	Score	Att.	Receipts
Aug.	25—Doncaster	A	W	33- 3	—	—
	30—Batley (Yorks Cup I)	H	W	16- 0	3,151	£1,025
Sept.	4—Bramley (Yorks Cup II)	H	W	23-10	3,086	£995
	6—Workington	H	W	15- 8	3,090	£756
	10—Oldham (Floodlit Cup Prelim. I)	A	L	7- 8	—	—
	14—Huyton	A	L	20-21	—	—
	17—Oldham (Floodlit Cup Prelim. II)	H	W	19-11	2,752	£885
	18—Yorkshire v. Other Nationalities	....				
	20—Oldham	H				
	29—Rochdale Players No. 6 (Rnd. I)	A				
Oct.	6—Blackpool	A				
	11—Whitehaven	H				
	20—Swinton	A				
	25—New Hunslet	H				
Nov.	3—Huddersfield	A				
	9—Players No. 6 (Rnd. II)	....				
	17—Batley	H				
	23—Leigh	A				
Dec.	1—Blackpool	H				
	8—Barrow	H				
	14—Oldham	A				
	26—Hull (11-30 a.m.)	H				

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SUNDAYS 7.00 - 10.00

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1975

Jan.	1—Hull				A
	5—Leigh				H
	10—Whitehaven				A
	19—Huyton				H
	26—New Hunslet				A
Feb.	8—R.L. Challenge Cup I				H
	16—Huddersfield	....	....	....	....H
	22—R.L. Challenge Cup II	....	....	....	....H
March	2—Swinton	....	....	....	....H
	8—R.L. Challenge Cup III	....	....	....	....A
	9—Batley	....	....	....	....H
	21—Doncaster	....	....	....	....H
	22—R.L. Challenge Cup Semi-Final (1)	....	....	....	....A
	28—Barrow	....	....	....	....A
April	5—R.L. Challenge Cup Semi-Final (2)	....	....	....	....A
	6—Workington	....	....	....	....A
May	10—R.L. Challenge Cup Final	....	....	....	....

FRIDAY, 11th OCTOBER

SECOND DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP

ROVERS v. WHITEHAVEN

kick-off 7-30 p.m.



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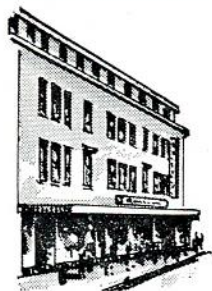
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ROVERS

17

Blue and White

- 1—Bob SMITHIES
- 2—Ged DUNN *try*
- 3—Bernard WATSON
- 4—David HALL
- 5—George KIRKPATRICK
- 6—Roger MILLWARD *try*
- 7—Mike STEPHENSON *try*
- 8—Terry RAMSHAW
- 9—David HESLOP
- 10—John MILLINGTON
- 11—Gordon YOUNG
- 12—Paul ROSE
- 13—Neil FOX *4 goals*
- 14—Terry HUDSON
- 15—Cliff WALLIS

Full Back
Right Wing
Right Centre
Left Centre
Left Wing
Stand Off
Scrum Half
Field Prop
Hooker
Blind Prop
Second Row
Second Row
Loose Forward

Referee—S. WALL

OLDHAM

8

Red and White

Coach—Jim CHALLINOR

- 1—John BLAIR
- 2—Mike ELLIOTT
- 3—Phil LARDER *4 goals*
- 4—Tony WAINWRIGHT *Eddie Benton*
- 5—Ian HOLLAND
- 6—David TREASURE *Tony Wainwright*
- 7—John PATTERSON
- 8—Keith ASHCROFT
- 9—Kevin TAYLOR
- 10—Fred HALL
- 11—Brian HUGHES
- 12—Brian GREGORY
- 13—John FARRELL
- 14—David Treasure
- 15—Jim Reynolds

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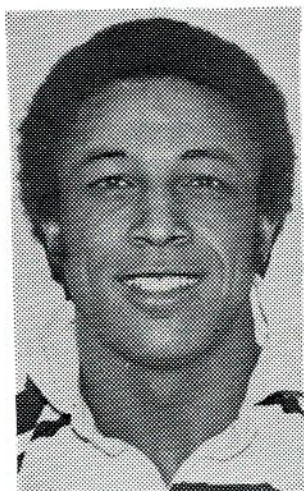
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PEN PORTRAIT OF CLIVE SULLIVAN

Position—Right Wing

Age—31 Ht.—5ft. 9½ins. Wt.—12st. 7 lbs.

Occupation—Hotel Manager



*Photograph by kind permission of
HULL DAILY MAIL*

Rovers recent wing signing was born in April 1943 and hails from Tiger Bay, Cardiff. He learned Rugby Union at school, where he was also a first class sprinter. After leaving school he joined the Regular Army and with the Royal Corps of Signals played in Army R.U. football, though he had no big time experience. Whilst at Catterick he played a trial for Bradford Northern, but was not retained. His unit moved South, and Hull F.C. contacted him to bring him to the Boulevard.

As an un-named trialist Clive scored a hat-trick of tries from the left wing in a 29-9 win over Bramley on 9th December, 1961, and was fully signed the next day.

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More than once his playing career has been threatened by serious injuries. Until he gained his release from the Army Clive missed more matches than he played in, and in his first three seasons played only 32 games, his career being interrupted by cartilage operations on both knees and severe injuries received in a car crash.

These setbacks were overcome, and Clive played once for the British Under 24 side and once for the Rest of the League versus Australia. In 1966-67 he made his Great Britain debut with a last minute winning try against France, but the 1967-68 season saw more surgery on both legs, but he came back, set up a new club record of most tries in a game, seven versus Doncaster on 15th April, 1968, and starred in the 1968 World Cup series in Australia.

In 1968-69 he switched to the right wing, and early in March 1969 asked for a transfer, being listed at what would then have been a World record fee of £15,000. During the summer Bradford made a number of steadily increasing offers for him, none of which reached Hull's valuation, and in mid October 1969 Clive was taken off transfer at his own request.

Clive became joint holder with Keith Bowman of Hull's "Most tries in a post-war season" with 33 in 1970-71, and in 1972 he captained Britain's World Cup winning side in France. He has 16 Great Britain caps, has been 5 times capped by Wales, and also made 8 non-international appearances for Great Britain.

Late February 1973 saw Ivor Watts resign as Hull coach, and Clive was appointed captain-coach. This year started with Clive awarded the M.B.E. in the Queen's New Year's Honours List, one of the very few R.L. players to

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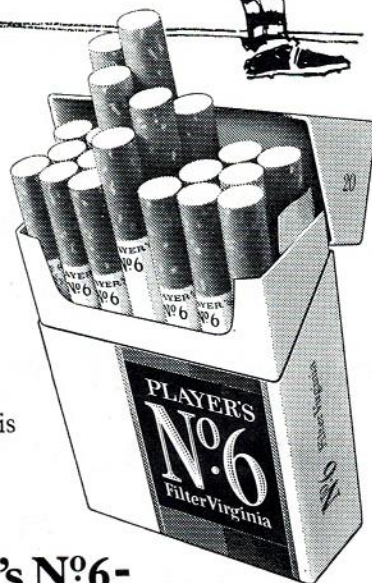
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be honoured in this way, but the following day was something of an anticlimax when he lost the captaincy of Great Britain and was left out of the side.

His investiture at Buckingham Palace in mid March was immediately followed on 21st March by his resignation as coach and a transfer request. On 24th March his resignation was accepted and he was listed at £8,000. Later the club agreed to accept a "reasonable offer."

Our original offer of £2,000 plus winger Mike Stephenson currently listed at £2,500 failed when our player declined a move to Hull, and Division Two Champions Bradford repeated their interest shown five years earlier with an offer of £3,000 plus centre Jack Marston. The clubs agreed terms but Sullivan rejected a move to Odsal. Our increased offer of £3,250 was accepted and Clive, who has scored 247 tries in 337 appearances for Hull, joined us on 27th April.

Clive made his debut in our first match of the season at Doncaster and at home against Batley scored a try with the first pass he received on Craven Park as a Rovers' player. He is currently the manager of the Hawthorn Hotel in Hawthorn Avenue.

PASSHOLDERS DRAW—Anyone who is contemplating buying a season pass will be interested to know that all passholders will take part in a free Draw. At the first six League games a pass number will be drawn; the lucky holder will win seat tickets for the Rugby League Challenge Cup Final at Wembley next May.

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SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

Tonight we welcome once again this week our friends from Oldham and trust, once again, the Oldham supporters will visit us before and after the match.

The Committee this year have agreed to arrange outings to away matches if sufficient members are interested, but we must know by at least 3 days before the match to give us the time to arrange a Coach etc. So members wishing to go on outings please contact the Clubhouse early and thus avoid disappointment.

Members visiting the Clubhouse have passed complimentary remarks about the decorating of the Club which now looks very smart. While the decorating was done by contractors who are also by the way good members a lot of hard work concerning the walls and the new door was done by one committee man Sid Robinson (Robbie) and I think all committee members will agree that Sid has done a splendid job and thank him for the hard work and the long hours he put in. Once again, thank you very much, Sid.

During the season we often fear about the lack of publicity, given to R.L. Whilst this is very true nationally, locally the game is given very good coverage both in the press and on Radio Humberside especially last Tuesday evening when Hull played Leeds and Rovers played Oldham—the broadcasts were very good and kept a few people very much glued to the radio in the Supporters Club so take a pat on the back Radio Humberside.

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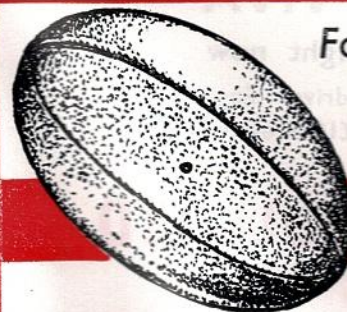
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