

Oldham

- 1 MURPHY, M.
- 2 ELLIOTT, M.
- 3 LARDER, P.
- 4 WAINWRIGHT, A.
- 5 BARTON, E.
- 6 TREASURE, D.
- 7 McCONE, M.
- 8 HUGHES, B.
- 9 TAYLOR, K.
- 10 WELDING, R.
- 11 HALL, F.
- 12 KEAR B.
- 13 REYNOLDS, J.

14
15

Referee:

D. G. Kershaw (York)

Huddersfield

- 1 BEDFORD, T.
- 2 HOOSON, D.
- 3 LEATHLEY, T.
- 4 DOYLE, T.
- 5 CYRUS, J.
- 6 CLEGG, A.
- 7 HARTLEY, J.
- 8 HEPPLESTON, D.
- 9 NELMES, T.
- 10 WEAVILL, D.
- 11 TOMLINSON, R.
- 12 FORSTER, A.
- 13 WELCH, C.
- 14 SHEPHERD, M.
- 15 VAN-BELLEN, I

F. J. Tomlinson(Widnes) Red
T. A. Rynn (Wigan) 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

HUDDERSFIELD

was

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.

VOTED MAN OF MATCH

v WIDNES
M. McCONE

Printed by Neil Simmonds, Clarkes Lane Works, Rochdale

OLDHAM

V

HUDDERSFIELD

SUNDAY 12th OCTOBER

Kick Off 3.30 p.m.



Ouch! Oldham full-back Martin Murphy takes a tackle around the shoulders in helping us to our creditable win against Widnes in the Floodlit Trophy.
Picture by courtesy of the Evening Chronicle.

TODAY'S MATCH BALL
presented by
North West Storage Ltd
Redcross Street Works
Rochdale
Tel. 38975

8p

People like you are changing to N°6



5 Player's
vouchers

EVERY PACKET
CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

PNS718D

OLDHAM OUTLOOK

TODAY'S game against Huddersfield gives us a very real chance of consolidating our position in the Division One table.

Our win at Keighley last Sunday provided us with the double over the men from Lawkholme Lane, gave us four League points, and took us just out of reach of the relegation zone.

Huddersfield, promoted like us at the end of last season, have been struggling so far and it is imperative that we pick up points from those teams beneath us.

Despite a lot of reports in the Press it is by no means sure that there will be a return to a one-division scheme next year.

Some clubs who think the future lies in a one-division arrangement will meet at Rochdale next Wednesday to thrash out their programme, plan their strategy, and discuss alternative fixture schemes to the two-divisions presently operating.

Like several other clubs Oldham will not be represented — not necessarily because we believe that two divisions should continue but because we emphatically take the view that matters of this nature should be discussed in the Rugby League Council chamber.

It appears that the crucial vote, when it comes, will rest on the opinions of seven clubs who are still undecided.

At the time of writing these notes, Oldham's committee had not discussed this vital issue and were, therefore, listed among the undecided.

Our view in the first instance was that two divisions should operate for three seasons — at least — before any thought was given to a change.

The three seasons will expire at the end of the current campaign so the club committee will shortly have to decide which way it is going to vote.

Twelve clubs have already stated they are opposed to the present two divisions. Eleven will opt for the status quo, which leaves the other seven still to reach their verdict.

For such a massive change to be instituted there has to be a three-fifths majority vote in Council, equivalent to 18 clubs.

So it doesn't need a mathematician to work out that, unless they are some changes of mind before the big decision is taken, six of the seven who are still undecided will have to go for a one-division fixture scheme if two divisions are to be scrapped.

It does seem, therefore, that there is a very good chance indeed of two divisions staying with us. So that brings us back to today's game—and the real significance of the quest for League match points.

Huddersfield did it on us last season on their way to winning the Second Division title.

They beat us 15-11 at Watersheddings and pipped us 12-11 at Fartown on Boxing Day in a real top-of-the-table thriller which ended our win of four consecutive wins against Doncaster, Batley, Workington and Hull K.R.

We have, therefore, every reason to seek revenge today against a side still seeking its first win in Division One.

That must not fool us! Huddersfield whipped Warrington in a cup tie recently and were apparently in splendid form.

They usually do well at Watersheddings and it was their win here last season, of course, which set them off on a great run of success that ultimately led them to the Second Division championship.

Injury-wise we are not having the best of luck this season and our sympathies must go to Keith Ashcroft who, in only his third game back, had his jaw smashed against Widnes.

At the same time congratulations must be offered to the side for their cup wins against Huyton and Widnes and the League victory at Keighley.

Perhaps things are on the up-and-up. Let's hope today's game proves it.

The Hot Potato

By JOHN HUXLEY
Huddersfield Daily Examiner

Two divisions ... currently the hottest potato on the Rugby League administrator's books.

Although the two-tier system has been in full swing for three seasons the controversy continues to rage. Is the two-tier system the best way of conducting a highly competitive sport like professional Rugby League or should we go back to the old ways to save some of the struggling clubs?

League chairman, Brian Snape, has already gone on record as saying that he thinks the League will go back to one division. If a man of his standing in the game thinks like that what does the future hold for the game?

Huddersfield are a classic example of what can happen to a side who do well in the Second Division and then try to break into the top grade.

After a magnificent run to the Second Division title they have struggled to find their feet and, in these days of crippling inflation, there's no likelihood of them buying their way to success.

Here is the crux of the argument. The majority of clubs who battle their way out of the Second Division have not usually made enough money to strengthen their team enough to stand a good chance of First Division survival.

It's all a question of economics. There is no doubt that the First Division, arguably the best Rugby League competition of its kind in the world, could and should survive.

But in the Second Division where gates of less than 1,000 are quite common financial survival of even the stronger clubs is put at risk.

Can the game afford the luxury of a Second Division?

Barrow do not appear to think so as they are behind plans for a meeting of clubs at Rochdale in October to discuss a possible switch back to one division.

Life up in Cumbria has been hard for the Craven Park club for the last couple of seasons and it is their contention that their public prefer to watch the bigger clubs in action — something they rarely get in the Second Division.

While they put up a very good case for yet another change in policy it must be remembered that Rugby League is just starting to sell itself in a better light and it would be hard to justify outside the sport why it was necessary to step back into the past.

So over the next couple of months the wise men of Rugby League must give careful consideration to both sides of the case because what they decide could well settle the future of the sport as we know it today.

SOMETHING to think about ... just what would happen in years to come if the Rugby League and the Rugby Union's proposed League joined together — would there be THREE divisions?

HIRE OUR

VICE-PRESIDENTS' ROOM

for your Private Parties — Weddings — Birthdays, etc.

PRIVATE BAR—BUFFET IF REQUIRED

Telephone: 652 4668 for further details

OLDHAM MOTOR CO. LTD.



MAIN FORD DEALER
SINCE 1911

TEL.: 061-652 2411

WEATHERSEAL



A true luxury conversion

WEATHERSEAL WINDOWS LTD.

TURNER STREET, LEES, OLDHAM.

Telephone: 061-624 3005/6999

STILL THE GREATEST NAME IN DOUBLE GLAZING!

Arthur Goss & Son

"THE MAN'S SHOP"

- ☆ Quality Men's Wear by Best Makers
- ☆ Ready to Wear Suits by "Daks", "Maenson" and "Sumrie"
- ☆ Raincoats by "Burberry", "Driway"

RHODES BANK, OLDHAM
Tel.: 624 2086

Greenwood St. Stores

(behind Hill Stores)

FOR THE BEST IN 2nd-HAND
FURNITURE AT PRICES YOU
CAN AFFORD

PHONE: 624 3642



Mike Elliott (No. 2) and Phil Larder race in to snap up a loose ball in the win against Widnes ... a victory which will give us another televised match in the second round of the Floodlit Trophy.

Picture by courtesy of the Evening Chronicle.

MAN IN THE MIDDLE

GERRY KERSHAW. Born 24-10-1943. Height: 5ft. 8½ins. Weight: 11½ stones. Hobbies: Skiing, Walking Brass Band Music. Occupation: Schoolmaster with responsibility for Youth Centre and outdoor pursuits. Married—no children.

Passed Referees' Exam. at 18, promoted to Grade 2 at approximately 23 years of age and upgraded to Grade 1 after one season. He is Secretary of the R.L. Senior Referees' Association. Honours include Player's No. 6 Final 1973/74 and the Floodlit Final in the same season.

TRAVEL AS THE TEAM DOES

by ...

G. BARLOW & SONS LTD.

19 UNION STREET WEST — OLDHAM

Telephone: 624 4301

OUR VISITORS BY DON YATES

Following the thrill-packed win over Widnes and an important victory at Keighley, Oldham return to Watersheddings today to face the Yorkshire challenge provided by Second Division Champions, Huddersfield, who have found this ground quite a successful one in recent seasons.

This afternoon Oldham will be hoping to defeat Huddersfield at Watersheddings for the first time since their 15-13 win in season 1968-69. Since then the Fartowners have visited Oldham on four occasions and have won twice with two matches drawn. Last season Huddersfield pulled off a League double victory at Oldham's expense with an early season 15-11 win here followed by a 12-11 win at Fartown. In season 1972-73 Oldham did manage to beat Huddersfield, and easily enough by 25-7, but that was at Fartown and when these two sides met at Watersheddings the result was a 7-7 draw. The sides also drew here in 1970-71 (9-9) with Huddersfield winning at home 9-4 and the previous season Oldham fell to another double defeat, by 14-6 at home and 17-0 away. The last time Oldham scored a League double at Huddersfield's expense was way back in season 1964-65 when Oldham won 12-2 at home and 12-10 away.

One of the most exciting of recent clashes between Oldham and Huddersfield was the match played here at Watersheddings in November, 1972. It was a close fought affair which saw the sides level 2-2 at half-time but in the second-half Oldham looked as if they had done enough to win when Tony Wainwright's try and two goals from Phil Larder left them 7-2 in front. Huddersfield, however, were not to be denied and a try from Billy Pickup, which Jim Hall converted with his second goal, gave Huddersfield a 7-7 draw which most people in the 1,922 crowd considered to be a fair result. The teams lined up for that match as follows:

Oldham — Martin Murphy; Mike Elliot, Phil Larder, Tony Wainwright, Norman Hodgkinson; Cliff Hill, Mick McCone; Ken Wilson, Kevin Taylor, Frank Foster, Geoff Munro, Keith Ashcroft and Jim Reynolds. Substitutes: Tommy Davies and Keith Jackson.

Huddersfield—Trevor Bedford; Dave Hooson, Wayne Bennett, Billy Pickup, Ken Senior; Mick Shepherd, Ken Loxton; Dave Heppleston, Dave Weavill, Jim Hall, Greg Viewers, Trevor Chawner and Ray Clark. Substitutes: Graham Evans and Chris Wilde.

An added attraction to that match was the appearance in the Huddersfield pack of Australian test star Greg Viewers and the former Oldham loose-forward Ray Clark who now stars in Oldham junior football.

Huddersfield's League form this season has been a big disappointment to their supporters who have seen them slide to the foot of the table with five defeats in five outings. The Fartowners have lost at home to Hull Kingston Rovers 16-26, Saint Helens 21-22, and Wakefield Trinity 13-30 whilst away from home they have met with defeat at Dewsbury 17-16 and Widnes 21-9. In cup football, Huddersfield could not have been satisfied with their 19-7 home reverse against Featherstone Rovers in the Yorkshire Cup, particularly as they led 4-3 at half-time. The only victory gained so far this season by the Fartowners was in the Player's Trophy when they played exceptionally well to dispose of Warrington at Fartown by 20-12. Huddersfield now play Barrow at home in the second round so should qualify for the quarter-finals and so pick up at least £600 in prize money.

Before thinking about cup cash, however, Huddersfield will have to concentrate on improving their poor League record and so should visit Oldham in a determined mood this afternoon. On the other hand, Oldham will be looking for their fourth successive victory and their confidence should carry them through to record another First Division success today.

— FOR BEER AT ITS BEST —
EILEEN & BERT INVITE YOU TO CALL AT
THE PUB THE PLAYERS USE

PRINTERS ARMS

OLDHAM ROAD — DENSCHAW
Telephone: Saddleworth 4248

(Two miles from motorway on the way to the Ground)

GEORGE HILL (Oldham) LTD.

TIMBER MERCHANTS AND WALLBOARD DISTRIBUTORS

Imported Softwoods — Hardwoods — Plywoods — Formica
Mouldings; Doors; Dowels. — Stockists of "Weyroc" and Interwoven Fencing.

SAWING, PLANING & MOULDING MILLS

TIMBER ROT-PROOFED BY OUR CUPRINOL DELUGING PLANT

SCOTTFIELD SAWMILLS — ASHTON ROAD — OLDHAM

Telephone: 061-652 7421

also branch at Glebelands Road, Sale. Tel.: 061-969 7543

The SPORTS FINAL for all local sport

Norman Lester & Co

ESTATE AGENTS & VALUERS

9 UNION STREET — OLDHAM

Telephone: 061-620 2235/6 (Evenings Saddleworth 2794)

Chat with Challinor

AN awful lot of publicity has been given recently to the more physical aspects of Rugby League football. To hear some people talk you would think the "rough stuff" was worse now than it has ever been.

That, in my honest opinion, couldn't be further than the truth.

There have always been hard players and rough players and there were just as many in the old days as there are now.

Don't think for one moment I am condoning dirty play or foul actions. You all know my feelings on that score — and so do the players!

But I hate to see anything bad or critical said about a sport I still believe to be one of the best in the world ... and I think it should be put in its right perspective, namely, that the very nature of rugby football — in either code — lends itself to rough play if not properly controlled.

We must not turn a blind eye to it and I think this week's publicity in the Press proves that that is the last thing we are doing.

At the same time we mustn't run away with the idea that suddenly the game has become a place for hooligans. It just isn't true.

Turning to a more pleasing topic we are, of course, seeking our fourth consecutive win against Huddersfield today.

Three wins on the bounce, including two away from home, is good by any standards and it is very satisfying to know that we are in the second round of both the Player's No. 6 Trophy and the Floodlit Trophy.

I suppose our trio of victories doesn't meant a lot in the long-term because we still have a lot of work to do. I would say there was only one really outstanding win in the three — that against Widnes.

Everyone on the ground that night would surely have left for home well satisfied and in the knowledge that they had got their money's worth.

And many, many people who saw our display on television have said how entertaining it was.

Full marks, then, for that performance. We did well at Keighley, too, considering that we had to spend so much of the second half chasing and tackling because of our possession problems in the scrum.

That brings us to the Huyton game. I know it wasn't our best form by a long chalk but we won and, believe me, if a side goes to Huyton and wins it has done its job.

I have been there with Warrington, Barrow and St. Helens and it has always been a struggle. It didn't help matters when we conceded that early try. It made Huyton all the keener and, in the end, we were thankful to come away with our interest still in the competition.

I well remember in Warrington's glory years — we won four cups in one season — going to the old Liverpool City ground and getting beaten! And they still talk at Watersheddings of when the great fifties side went there, paid to go in to help the Liverpool side's desperate finances — and lost!

The talk of the club after our latest match there was of the supporters' teddy bear which fell to sleep. I just hope it wasn't in bed, or having a picnic, when we took on Widnes two night's later!

Incidentally, several supporters have seen us having a light run-out on the training pitch before the last few home games and have asked me about it.

It is nothing new in Rugby League for a team to have a pre-match work-out. The French, particularly, are very keen on this sort of thing and their international sides will sometimes be out for nearly an hour before the kick-off.

I don't believe in players going out there absolutely stone cold and I think it does help — if only to soothe pre-match nerves — to run about a bit first and get the feel of the ball.

There can be no positive proof one way or the other as to whether the pre-game run-out does much good or not but it certainly does no harm and it provides us with an opportunity of loosening up, running through one or two moves, and building up some "feeling" for the match.

The theory behind it is that when the first whistle goes the side is into its stride right away.

We won't always have the opportunity to do it, of course, and this applies particularly on away grounds. The only thing one can do when playing away from home is to try and get out a few minutes early and have a run-around on the pitch.

Why Not? We've Heard About it, Let's Try it!

OLDHAM RUGBY SOCIAL CLUB

Top-Line Cabaret every Friday and Saturday — First-Class Meals at very competitive prices — Open till 2 a.m.

Next Week's Cabaret
Fabulous Group—VELVET BLUE
plus other artistes

Party Groups made very welcome
Telephone: 061-624 0365
Anyone wishing to book parties for Xmas should contact:
MRS. BOWDEN as early as possible.

WHY NOT BECOME A POOLS AGENT?

AND RECEIVE

- ☆ A FREE SEASON TICKET ☆
- ☆ GENEROUS COMMISSION ☆
- ☆ FREE WEEKLY AGENTS' DRAW ☆
- ☆ BONUS ON WINS ☆

YOU CAN BE AN AGENT FOR EITHER OF 2 GREAT POOLS
THE THREE N'EASY — OVER £300 PRIZE MONEY WEEKLY

OR

THE NEW BIG BINGO TICKET — OVER £420 IN PRIZES WEEKLY

To:

ALAN TAYLOR, THE PAVILION, WATERSHEDDINGS, OLDHAM

I would like further details of becoming a POOLS AGENT. I am over 18 years of age. I understand that I am under no obligation.

Name

Address

OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

(The Pavilion, Watersheddings, Oldham)

President: H. V. ASHWORTH

Vice-Chairman: J. HALL

Chairman: A. WALKER

Treasurer: R. HARTLEY

Committee:

A. ADLER, J. BOWDEN, K. BROADBENT, R. HATTON, D. HULME, K. POTTER.

Secretary: K. WILKINSON

Promotions Manager: A. TAYLOR

Coach: J. CHALLINOR

Assistant Coach: K. WILSON

Physiotherapist: D. WRIGHT

Assistant Physiotherapist: B. CHURM

Groundsman: W. BUCKLEY

Assistant Groundsman: A. WOOLEY

FIXTURES 1975-76

1975

Aug. 10	— Rochdale (Law Cup)	A
17	— Warrington	A
24	— Keighley	H
31	— St. Helens (Lancs. Cup)	H
Sept. 7	— Featherstone	A
14	— Lancashire Cup—round 2	H
21	— Wigan	A
28	— Player's No. 6—Huyton	A
Oct. 5	— Keighley	H
12	— Huddersfield	H
18	— Leeds	A
26	— Wakefield	A
Nov. 2	— Dewsbury	H
9	— Players' No. 6—round 2	H
16	— Salford	A
22	— Huddersfield	A
30	— Leeds	H
Dec. 14	— St. Helens	H
21	— Bradford	A
26	— Swinton	H
Jan. 1	— Salford	A
4	— Castleford	H
11	— Hull K.R.	H
18	— Dewsbury	A
25	— Widnes	H
Feb. 8	— St. Helens	A
15	— Challenge Cup (1)	A
21	— Wigan	A
29	— Challenge Cup (2)	H
Mar. 7	— Wakefield	H
12	— Castleford	A
21	— Widnes	A
28	— Featherstone	H
Apr. 7	— Warrington	H
11	— Bradford	H
16	— Hull K.R.	A
19	— Swinton	A

F. A. 1975

29-2 Aug.	30—Swinton (Lancs. Shield)...	A	12-7
— Sept.	6—Swinton (Lancs. Shield) ...	H	29-10
13-12	20—Wigan	A	
17-19 Oct.	4—Swinton	H	
5-27	18—Warrington	H	
—	25—Leigh	H	
10-24 Nov.	14—Salford	A	
17-8	29—Rochdale	A	
Dec.	6—Salford	H	
	13—St. Helens	A	
	20—Huyton	H	
	27—Barrow	H	
1976			
Jan.	10—Swinton	A	
	23—Widnes	A	
	31—Rochdale	H	
Feb.	7—St. Helens	H	
	21—Wigan	H	
Mar.	5—Warrington	A	
	13—Leigh	H	
	20—Widnes	H	
Apr.	3—Huyton	A	

DIAL-A-CAR

633 2101

121 YORKSHIRE STREET, OLDHAM

Telephone: 633 2101

Home or away you're on a winner
with DIAL-A-CAR 633 2101
Matching Cars and Mini Coaches
for the larger parties 624 1159
Day and Night 24-hour Service
Any Distance — Any Time
Weddings a Speciality — Contract
Work