

Warrington

Jerseys: Blue
Shorts: Blue
Stockings: Blue with Yellow Turnover

1—FINNIGAN, D.

2—CURLING, D.

3—HESFORD, S.

4—CLARK, R.

5—BEVAN, J.

6—GORDON, P.

7—GWILLIAM, A.

8—BUTLER, B.

9—PRICE, J.

10—WANBON, R.

11—MARTYN, T.

12—NICHOLAS, M.

13—POTTER, I.

Substitutes:

14—SUTTON, D.

15—PEERS, M.

Referee: Mr. J. E. Jackson (Pudsey)

Touch Judges: Mr. E. Glazebrook (Wigan) Pink Flag
Mr. W. J. Greenhalgh (Ashton) Orange Flag

Oldham

Jersey: Red & White
Shorts: White
Stockings: Red & White

1—MURPHY, M.

2—ELLIOTT, M.

3—BARTON, E.

4—LARDER, P.

5—LUND, S.

6—TREASURE, D.

7—McCONE, M.

8—RAMSHAW, T.

9—TAYLOR, M.

10—KEAR, B.

11—HALL, F.

12—FLANNIGAN, K.

13—PETERS, T.

Substitutes:

14—BLAIR, J.

15—HERBERT, S.

Next Match at Wilderspool:

WARRINGTON v. ST. HELENS

First Division Fixture

SUNDAY, 4th APRIL, 1976 Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

(This fixture definitely stands in spite of St. Helens being involved in the semi-final of the Cup the previous day).

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WILDERSPOOL STADIUM, TUESDAY, 30th MARCH, 1976

'WIRE' VERSUS

OLDHAM

FIRST DIVISION FIXTURE

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.



WARRINGTON

**RUGBY LEAGUE
FOOTBALL CLUB**

Official
Programme

8p

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Season 1975/76

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**Glen Knight was our other try scorer—but
alas we won't be seeing him for some time,
as he received a nasty hand injury in training.**

Photo by Eddie Fuller (Warrington Guardian)

The **ALEX MURPHY COLUMN**

After our cup exit against Widnes a fortnight ago—and I'm the first to congratulate them on their performance against Featherstone last Saturday in winning through to Wembley for the second successive occasion—it has been most pleasing to at least dispel any thoughts of relegation and follow up with two good wins against Wakefield at home and against Keighley away two days ago. In both these games we have really shown some of our character and in the second half of each game having been behind have stuck firmly to our task and at the end of eighty minutes taken the points.

Ironically, with seven games to go—five being at home—it would quite stagger some of our critics if I said I thought we had a fair chance of finishing in the top eight and thus qualifying for the play-off! This I feel, however, just goes to show the knife-edge on which several of the teams live. With 25% of the teams relegated each season there is little room for slips or failure of any kind and in welcoming tonight's visitors OLDHAM both their Chairman Arthur Walker and Coach Jim Challinor know just what I'm talking about. This evening's game should have been our opening fixture to the season but at the time—way back last August—the Oldham players were in dispute with the Club's management and consequently it was postponed. However, games between the two Clubs have always been of the highest footballing standards and tonight's should prove to be no exception. They have a number of players such as Martin Murphy at full back, Dave Treasure at stand-off, and Terry Ramshaw at open-side prop who have all made the international grade whilst experience abounds in other positions. Both winger Mike Elliott and hooker Kevin Taylor have enjoyed Testimonials with the Watersheddings Club whilst centre Phill Larder, scrum-half Mick McCone, prop Barry Kear and back three Fred Hall, Kevin Flannigan and Tony Peters have all been around in first team football with their various Clubs to know all too well what first team football is all about. Two comparative newcomers which could be included in tonight's side are centre Eddie Barton—a relation of our own former player Connie Barton—who has been signed from University and left wing local junior and schoolboy international Steve Lund. This youngster is only 18 years of age and was the only player to score a try against the famous Australian Schoolboy Tourists who toured here just two years ago. All round therefore a line-up quite capable of getting a result although in fairness like ourselves they have proved very unpredictable at times.

Cover

**John Bevan scores in the dying
seconds against Wakefield to put
the issue beyond doubt.**

*Photo by Eddie Fuller
(Warrington Guardian)*

G. A. MARSHALL

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Coaching Scheme. The Rugby League is staging three of its popular residential courses for coaches in the coming months. The rapid development of the National Coaching Scheme has been one of the highlights of the season and vacancies on the residential courses are still available to potential coaches or coaches wishing to be up-graded. The week long courses are staged at Crystal Palace, the country's top sports centre, at Lilleshall, one of the most popular venues deep in the heart of Shropshire countryside. For the teenage player, the course is to be staged at the Butlins Camp at Filey for the first time. Details of the courses are:—

Butlins, Filey—22nd May—29th May. Cost £25.00. Applicants to be under 20 years of age.

Crystal Palace—20th June—25th June. Cost £22.50.

Lilleshall—10th July—17th July. Cost £31.50.

Further details can be obtained from the Rugby Football League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, LS7 4HT.

Wembley Curtain Raiser. The showpiece curtain raiser prior to the Challenge Cup Final at Wembley on 8th May will this year be contested by Hull and Leeds Under-11 schoolboys. Last year's historic pipeopener between the Wigan and Widnes Schools captivated a live audience of 80,000 and captured the hearts of millions of television viewers. Schoolboy Rugby League is developing at a fast rate and schoolboy supporters will note that the match kicks off at 2.00 p.m. Schoolmasters wishing to take parties to the Final can obtain standing tickets at a reduced rate from Rugby League Headquarters, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, LS7 4HT.

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The shop is open before, at half-time, and after all home matches. Our prices are competitive. Here are a few examples of souvenirs available. They make excellent presents.

Rings	50p	Engraved Lighters	£3
Scarves	£3.00, £1.20, £1	Players' Photographs...	10p
Club Ties	£1.30	Bob Caps	70p
Metal Badges	50p	Ball Point Pens 5p, 12p, 15p	
Plastic Badges	5p	Coffee Beakers	40p
Pennants 20p, 25p, 30p, 35p		Crowd Raisers	60p
Car Stickers.....	10p and 15p	Sew-on-Patches	40p
Beer Tankards	60p	Pencils	6p
Key Rings	35p and 40p		

Why don't you help to spread this famous club's name still further by wearing a Warrington Souvenir in 1976

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

1975	Opponents	Ground	
Aug. 6	Wigan (7.30) (Locker Cup)	A	4-42
17	Oldham (3.00)	H	Post
22	Salford (7.30)	A	11-25
25	Widnes (7.30)	A	5-37
31	Wigan (3.00) (Lancs. Cup 1st Rd.)	H	14-39
Sep. 5	Castleford (7.30)	A	14-24
14	(County Cup 2nd Rd.)		
20	WALSLEY v. ENGLAND (3.00)	H	16-22
21	Keighley (3.00)	H	18-16
23	Swinton (7.30) (BBC 2. Comp.)	A	12-6
28	Huddersfield (Players No. 6 1st Rd.)	A	12-20
Oct. 4	Wigan (3.00)	A	Post.
12	Leeds (3.00)	H	12-29
19	Dewsbury (3.00)	H	11-11
26	Featherstone (3.00)	A	7-14
28	Wigan (7.25) (BBC2 Flood.)	H	8-14
Nov. 2	Wakefield (3.00)	A	4-47
9	(Players No. 6 2nd Rd.)		
16	Huddersfield (3.00)	H	23-17
23	Swinton (3.00)	A	17-6
30	Castleford (3.00)	H	Post.
30	Wigan (3.00)	A	7-18
Dec. 6	Huddersfield (3.00)	A	Post.
14	Hull K.R. (3.00)	H	23-11
21			
26	Bradford (3.00)	H	10-12
28	Huddersfield	A	3-17
1976			
Jan. 1	Wigan (3.00)	H	3-0
4	Dewsbury (3.30)	A	13-3
11	Salford (3.00)	H	8-7
18	Featherstone (3.00)	H	5-15
25	St. Helens (3.00)	A	9-3
Feb. 1	Wakefield (3.00)	H	Post.
7	Leeds (3.00)	A	13-25
15	Leigh Miners Welfare (R.L.C.C. 1st)	H	15-12
22	Hull K.R. (2.45)	A	17-13
29	New Hunslet (R.L.C.C. 2nd)	A	17-4
Mar. 13	Widnes (R.L.C.C. 3rd)	H	0-6
14	Swinton (3.00)	H	Post.
21	Wakefield T. (3.00)	H	16-10
28	Keighley (3.00)	A	9-5
30	Oldham	H	
Apr. 4	St. Helens (3.00)	H	
7	Oldham (7.30)	A	
11	Castleford	H	
16	Widnes (7.30)	H	
19	Bradford (3.00)	A	
25	Swinton	H	

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

1975	Opponents	Ground	
Aug. 8	Wigan (friendly) (7.30)	H	25-8
16			
23			
30			
Sep. 6	Barrow (3.00)	H	22-13
13			
17	Rochdale (7.30)	A	9-15
27			
Oct. 3	Wigan (7.30)	H	15-20
11	Barrow (3.00)	A	23-7
18	Oldham (3.00)	A	25-8
25			
31	Salford (7.30)	H	36-6
Nov. 8	Barrow (Shield 2nd rd, 1st Leg)	H	47-5
15	Wigan (3.00)	A	9-13
21	Swinton (7.30)	H	26-12
29			
Dec. 5	Leigh (7.30)	H	20-20
12	Widnes (7.30)	A	14-5
16	Salford (LCCS Semi-final 1st Leg)	H	10-7
20			
27			
1976			
Jan. 2	Widnes (7.30)	H	Post.
10	Huyton (2.30)	A	15-5
17			
23	St. Helens (7.30)	H	8-10
31			
Feb. 6	Huyton (7.30)	H	12-4
10	Salford (L.C.C.S. Semi-final 2nd Leg)	A	4-13
17	Salford (7.30)	A	7-22
20	Rochdale (7.30)	H	12-16
28			
Mar. 5	Oldham (7.30)	H	10-11
12	Swinton (3.00)	A	11-9
20	Leigh (3.00)	A	6-23
26	Widnes	H	
Apr. 2	St. Helens (7.30)	A	
May 8	R.L.C.C. Final at Wembley		
22	Premiership Final		

APPEARANCES, TRIES AND GOALS SCORED (up to and including Wakefield home)

	APPEAR'S	League	Locker Cup	Lancs. Cup	BBC2 Floodlit	Player's No. 6	R. L. Cup	Total
BEVAN, J.	25	12	—	—	1	—	1	15
BRADY, B.	11	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
BRIGGS, W.	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
BUTLER, B.	19	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
CASE, B.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CHISNALL, D.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CLARK, R.	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CONNELL, P.	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
CONROY, T.	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CURLING, D.	26	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
FINNEGAN, D.	18	3	—	—	—	—	1	4
GORDON, P.	14	1	—	—	1	1	—	3
GREEN, K.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GWILLIAM, A.	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
HESFORD, S.	14	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
JEWITT, P.	11	2	—	—	1	—	—	3
KNIGHT, G.	11	4	—	—	—	—	1	5
LOWE, J.	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
LYON, D.	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
MATHER, I.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MARTYN, T.	19	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
MILLER, A.	15	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
MIDDLEHURST, C.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MURPHY, A. J.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NICHOLAS, M.	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NOONAN, D.	13	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
PEERS, M.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
PHILBIN, B.	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
PHILBIN, M.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
POTTER, I.	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
PRICE, J.	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
REYNOLDS, F.	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
SMITH, R.	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
SUTTON, D.	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TURLEY, N.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
WALLER, A.	9	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
WANBON, R.	18	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
WHITEHEAD, D.	23	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
WHITTLE, A.	12	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
WRIGHT, G.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A. N. OTHER	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	47	—	—	4	4	2	5	62
Goals Scored								
BRIGGS, W.	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
HESFORD, S.	15	—	—	—	—	—	4	19
TURLEY, N.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
WHITEHEAD, D.	38 (1 drop)	1	—	—	3	3	5	50
WHITTLE, A.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
MILLER, A.	1 (drop)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	56	2	1	4	3	9	75	

Substitutes: The following players have taken part in a match whilst acting as a substitute but any points scored have been credited to the above appearances.

B. Brady (2), B. Butler (2), R. Clark (6), W. Briggs (1), T. Conroy (2), D. Cunliffe (2), D. Finnegan (2), S. Hesford (1), E. Hunter (2), P. Jewitt (2), D. Lyon (2), C. Middlehurst (1), M. Peers (1), I. Potter (7), J. Price (10), D. Sutton (4), A. Whittle (1), G. Wright (3).

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Mike Nicholas (*above left*) had a fine match against Wakefield. Behind Mike is Parry Gordon, who also made a great come back after a long injury. And (*right*) we see Bobby Wanbon in action during our second-half rally to overcome Trinity.

*Pictures by Eddie Fuller
(Warrington Guardian)*

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Batty's Column (Daily Mail)

The present situation in Soccer where English clubs are becoming aware of the threat of the American dollar is comparable to the position experienced in Rugby League a few seasons ago.

English Soccer clubs are suddenly finding that many players are being tempted to cross the Atlantic, lured by attractive contracts and living conditions.

At the moment, apart from such stars as Rodney Marsh and George Best, it is the lesser known type of players who are going.

This is, of course, in contrast to when the Australian dollar and the prospect of the sunnier side of life led to the English Rugby League losing around a dozen Test stars.

The sight of Jim Mills, Cliff Watson, Tommy Bishop, Mal Reilly, Phil Lowe, Mike Stephenson, Bill Ashurst, Alan Burwell, Brian Lockwood and John Gray settling in Sydney had English officials wondering when the player-drain would end.

There were also many other stars such as Alan Hardisty, Johnny Ward and Bill Kirkbride travelling to take up contracts in Queensland and it became a guessing game as to who would follow in their flight paths.

But the situation eased a great deal when Sydney clubs changed their signing conditions for players and also found fees rising faster than inflation in both countries.

Now the system has become one where the bulk of players on the move are those fulfilling the shorter close season contracts.

This clearly suits the Australian clubs but how it will effect the game in this country over a long spell will have to be seen.

With the World championship being held once again next summer, following a short tour of Australia and New Zealand there will only be a few of the lesser known English players going out to join Sydney clubs.

English skipper Roger Millward, Widnes internationals Mick Adams and Eric Hughes, Wakefield's brilliant Dave Topliss and team mate Henry Oulton and Castleford stars Steve Norton and Gary Stephens are among the top players now Sydney-bound.

Great Britain prop Terry Clawson is returning to South Newcastle and taking York's Terry Day while players like Saints winger Les Jones and forward Eddie Cunningham, Wigan's Brian Hogan and Bob Blackwood are hoping to make the trip, plus Terry Ramshaw (Oldham).

"It is going to be home from home out there", says, Millward, who is taking his family and has lined up the best deal of all financially.

There is no doubt that the Australian game is going to enjoy the best of both worlds for a lot of these English players will impress their fans.

ALEX MURPHY

HIS OPINIONS AND EXPERT COMMENT

EXCLUSIVELY IN THE

Manchester Evening News

COLTS IN ACTION

by John Huxley (Huddersfield Daily Examiner)

It was good to see that the Rugby League Colts final trial went down so well at the Fartown ground in Huddersfield.

Anybody who had any doubts about the future of Rugby League football should have seen those young men in action.

The Fartown fans were certainly impressed. One said: "If there are going to be more games like that you can put me down for a place on the terraces. I'll be watching Rugby League for years to come if lads like that go on to play professionally".

Certainly, coaches Graham Starkey and Garth Budge have done some tremendous work with the youngsters.

The fascinating thing was that, despite their inexperience and youth, the players showed a tremendous number of skills.

From various parts of the Rugby League world there are glad tidings that the schools and junior game is on the way back, and this can only be good news for the game in general.

At Oldham, for example, the schools game is booming after some magnificent ground work in the junior schools, while in Cumbrian youth rugby—which was virtually extinct 12 months ago—is well on the way back.

Attention to the grass roots of the game is essential if our game is going to survive. The Rugby League has recognized this fact, and produced a coaching wall chart for youth clubs and schools.

Officials of the British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA) have already said that one of the most important parts of their "five year plan" is the encouragement of young players.

The plan is about half-way to completion, and the youth game has increased by about 500 per cent. What about the price of Rugby League's future now!

As in Cumbria, the youth game in Lancashire was heading the same way as the dodo . . . but not any more. Things are definitely looking up on the Red Rose horizon.

Back at Fartown a schoolboy coaching course proved that the game can still attract interested youngsters. At the first meeting of the six-part course there were 80 young hopefuls. That figure has now topped the 100 mark.

This kind of activity is a "must" if Rugby League is to survive against the onslaught of soccer and Rugby Union.

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