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Teams

Watersheddings - Sunday 8th March, 1981.

OLDHAM

Cherry/White Hoops,
Blue Shorts.

1. Martin MURPHY
2. Geoff MUNRO
3. Clive HUNTER
4. Mick PARRISH
5. Eric FITZSIMONS
6. John PATTERSON
7. Paddy KIRWAN
8. Gareth OWEN
9. Ray MARTLAND
10. Billy HARRIS
11. Alan PLATT
12. Bob MORDELL
13. Terry FLANAGAN

- 14.
- 15.

Referee: Mr. S. Well (Leigh)

Touch Judges: D. Bowes (Swinton), E. Glazebrook (Wigan)

WARRINGTON

White Jersey/Primrose & Blue
White Shorts. Chevron,

1. Steve HESFORD
2. Philip FORD
3. Ian DUANE
4. John BEVAN
5. Mike KELLY
6. Ken KELLY
7. Alan GWILLIAM
8. Neil COURTNEY
9. Tony WALLER
10. Bob ECCLES
11. Ian POTTER
12. Tony WORRALL
13. Eddie HUNTER

- 14.
- 15.

NEXT MATCH AT WATERSHEDDINGS

Sunday 15th March, 1981 - ST. HELENS

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OLDHAM

V

WARRINGTON

Watersheddings - Sunday 8th March, 1981.

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Secretary: J. Chadwick

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Brian Gartland

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Michael Coombes - Mike Cowley - Pasquale D'Adamo - Stephen Dobb - Eric Fitzsimmons -
Terry Flanagan - Alan Forster - Andrew Goodway - Ken Gwilliam - Billy Harris -
Colin Hawkyard - Steve Herbert - Clive Hunter - Clive Jones - Paddy Kirwan - Steve Littler -
Paul Lowndes - John Mantle - Ray Martland - Bob Mordell - Geoff Munro - Martin Murphy -
Gerrard Nolan - Tony Ogden - Ian Ogden - Roger O'Mahoney - Mike O'Rourke -
Gareth Owen - Mick Parrish - Johnny Patterson - Alan Platt - Gordon Pollard - Ian Radcliffe -
Warren Ryans - Derek Seabrook - Clive Sullivan - Dave Taylor - Garry Walczak - John Walls -
Dave Walker - Joe Warburton - Phil Ward - Mike Worrall

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Official Time Keeper: J. Roscoe

CLUB RECORDS

Record Victory	67-6 against Liverpool City April 59
Record defeat	11-67 by Hull K.R. Sept. 78
Record attendance	28,000 v Huddersfield Feb 24th 1912
Record receipts	£9,100 v Wakefield 24th Feb. 1980.
Record transfer fee paid	£18,500 to Hunslet for Mick Parrish Sept. 1980
Record transfer fee received	£11,002: 10s from Workington for Ike Southward Jan 62
Record try scorer	Reg Farrar 49 tries 1921/22 season
Record goal scorer	Bernard Ganley 224 goals 1957/58 season
Record point scorer	Bernard Ganley 28 pts v Liverpool City April 59
First game	October 21 1876 v Stalybridge
Highest number of Points Scored	Bernard Ganley 2881
Most Appearances	Joe Ferguson 685
Most Tries	Pre 1900 Jack Hirst 233 Since 1900 Alan Davies 182

CLUB HONOURS

Rugby League Championship Play-off winners:	1909-10, 1910-11 and 1956-57
Runners-up:	1906-07, 1907-08, 1908-09, 1921-22 and 1954-55
First Division Champions:	1904-05
Second Division Champions:	1963-64
Rugby League Challenge Cup winners:	1898-99, 1924-25, 1926-27
Runners-up:	1906-07, 1911-12, 1923-24 and 1925-26
Lancashire Cup winners:	1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-24, 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59
Runners-up:	1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67 and 1968-69
Lancashire Championship winners:	1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57 and 1957-58
Runners-up:	1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24 and 1954-55
Lancashire Shield winners:	1975-76 1979-80
Colts Premiership Trophy:	1979-80

WIRES - TEAM OF THE SEASON

There is no doubt that Warrington, today's visitors to Watersheddings, are already qualifying for the title "team of the season".

Billy Benyon's men from Wilderspool have not only won the Forshaw's Lancashire Cup and the Player's Trophy this season, but they are well on target for the Slalom Lager Championship title.

Moreover, it is widely agreed within the game that the Wires are the strongest and best team in League at present, though some critics say they should be capable of playing in a more attractive style.

These notes were written before their second-round Three Fives Challenge Cup-tie at Dewsbury, but it says much for the strength and consistency of the Warrington side that they are also favourites to lift the cup at Wembley.

They come to Oldham today with only four defeats from 18 First Division matches and handily placed for a final run-in to the league championship.

At present Wakefield Trinity top the table with 29 points from 21 games, followed by the Wires with 28 points from only 18 games and Bradford Northern with 27 points from 22 games.

With games in hand on their nearest challengers, Warrington must also be favourites to take the league title as well.

They have been fortunate for most of the season in that they have not had to endure a crippling injury list like many clubs. However, England prop Brian Case was injured in the international with France at Headingley and that is going to be a big blow to the Wires at the worst possible time.

Young winger Rick Thackray was also doubtful for last week's cup-tie with an ankle injury and with the experienced Tommy Martyn ruled out because of a one-match suspension the Wires had some problems.

To make matters worse John Whittaker, Case's possible replacement, was himself ruled out with hamstring trouble.

However, it says much for Warrington's strength in depth that the pack replacements for Martyn and Case were forwards of the calibre of Bob Eccles, an under-24 international, and Tony Worrall, elder brother of our own Mick Worrall.

The Warrington side is a classic mixture of youth and experience. They do not come more experienced than Martyn, the old head in the forwards, or those talented half-backs Alan Gwilliam and Ken Kelly.

Stand-off Kelly, the Warrington skipper, played Test football against the New Zealanders last autumn and represented England against France two weeks ago, keeping out the speedy and highly-talented Leigh stand-off John Woods.

Men of great promise and potential in the side are youngsters Thackray, Ian Duane at centre, and forwards Case, Eccles, Hunter and Potter.

Eccles has played under-24 football; Case and Potter, who is valued at £50,000, were both in the England team against France.

Then there is the strong and irrepressible Welshman John Bevan to say nothing of that accurate goalkicker Steve Hesford.

All in all Warrington are a very strong side, indeed. They have beaten us twice already this season, though they did not have it all their own way here in the Lancashire Cup semi-final.

They won only 11-2 and a much-changed Oldham side will be out to improve on that today.

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TRY NEUTRAL REFEREES BATH!

By Roger Halstead

(Oldham Evening Chronicle)

IMPARTIALITY or a lack of it was a burning topic after the way in which French referee Guy Cattaneo handled the England - France European triangular tournament tussle at Headingley.

France won 5 - 1 to clinch the title, having previously beaten Wales in Narbonne, but M. Cattaneo came in for the most severe criticism ever levelled at a match official.

I did not see the game so I cannot comment at first hand but the English press solidly backed claims from manager Colin Hutton and coach Johnnie Whiteley that the referee was unfair while League secretary David Oxley took the unprecedented step of going to the referee's dressing room at half-time to discuss "certain things that had cropped up".

Later an angry Hutton said: "It was the worst display of refereeing I have ever seen a display from start to finish that was disgraceful". **So where do we go from here?**

When French referees handle games over there we worry about the safety of our players and point to the causes of John Wood at Albi and Keith Rayne at Narbonne, both of whom were seriously injured by foul play.

When English referees take charge in France we worry about their safety and possible attack by the volatile home crowds. Oldham's Dickie Thomas sampled this many years ago and, more recently, so did Billy Thompson.

When French referees officiate in England we rarely get a decent game.

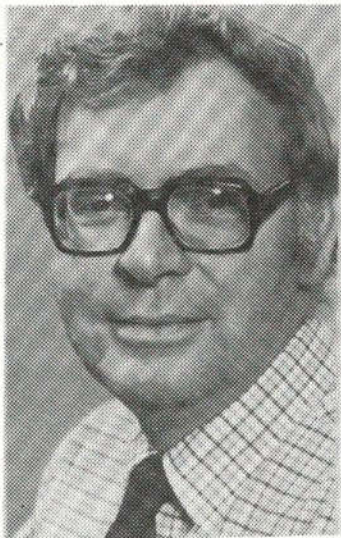
Only a few months ago, in London, top league officials from England and France had talks to try and ease the tension. There were even some leading figures here who favoured abolishing internationals with France.

The French temperament is such that games with England are always going to be hard to handle. Isn't that all the more reason why there should at least be a neutral referee.

In the past few years the game has advanced a great deal in its bid to move towards uniformity of refereeing throughout the world.

Australian and New Zealand referees have taken charge of domestic matches in England; top English referees have done likewise in Sydney and Auckland. So, for what it will cost, why on earth can't the international board insist that all matches involving France are handled by a referee from the southern hemisphere?

It may not solve the problem. But logic tells me it is worth a try.



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WEMBLEY 1981

The programme of events for Rugby League's premier occasion - The Three Fives Challenge Cup Final - is building up to one of the most exciting presentations in recent years. The traditional community singing between 2.30 p.m. and 2.50 p.m. will be led by television stars **CANNON AND BALL**, the Oldham based comedy duo just voted Male Entertainers of the Year for the third successive time.

The schoolboy Under-11s curtain raiser, being staged for the 7th year, will be contested by Castleford and Salford, from 2.00 p.m. to 2.25 p.m. The ball boys for the Final itself will be provided by Batley and Dewsbury Under-13s. The commemorative plaques will be presented to the Under-11 teams by former Crackerjack star, **BERNIE CLIFTON**.



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NEWS FROM THE RUGBY LEAGUE

There is Standing Room only for the 1981 Final. Standing Tickets, priced only £3.00, are now available from every professional club or by post from:

The Rugby Football League
Ticket Department
180, Chapeltown Road
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MARCH 'OPEN RUGBY'

Rugby League's only magazine 'OPEN RUGBY' should not be missed by anyone interested in the game. The March edition, now available, continues 'Open Rugby's' reputation for providing the very best in Rugby League action photography.

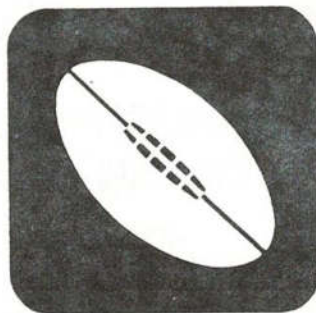
There are features on Leigh's John Woods, Barrow's Ian Ball, York's John Crossley, and Whitehaven's Brian Rose. This month's 'Open Rugby' interview is with Tommy Bishop.

There's an in-depth look at what amateur RL players can achieve today, plus many more features from all around the Rugby League world. Order 'OPEN RUGBY' this month, and every month, from your newsagent. To obtain by post, send 65 pence to:

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CLUB NEWS

WHAT A TIE!

TODAY'S game sees the start of a two-month period in which we will have no fewer than seven vital matches here at Watersheddings -- St. Helens in the third round of the Three Fives Challenge Cup next Sunday followed by five more home First Division games between now and the end of the season.

With interest in both cup and league -- and a key battle to earn enough points to keep us in the First Division -- we have to take each match as it comes and treat each one with the same degree of importance.

The build-up this week has been centred upon preparing for the visit of Warrington today but once the final whistle blows we will be getting ready for the cup-tie against Saints next Sunday -- and what a cracker that should be! You will already have read in the Press that we are increasing the prices for this very attractive third-round tie in what, after all, is Rugby League's top competition.

We do this for one reason and one reason only - because we believe it is in the best interests of the club.

Ground admission for the tie will cost £1.80 and seats are on sale at £2.20 for the wing stands on the pavilion side and £2.50 for the centre stand and E stand on the popular side.

We have not increased the prices for pensioners and boys which remain the same as for the second-round tie, namely £1 by ticket bought at the kiosk on the car park.

As each round progresses our expenses and overheads are increased enormously and the fact is that, although we have reached the quarter-final stage, we have still not made any money out of the competition.

It has to be considered that cup-ties are split gates with the opposing club and also that 15 per cent goes out in VAT and another 10 per cent in the cup levy. We actually lost a considerable sum of money out of first-round win at Blackpool and all these facts are considered by the committee when fixing cup-tie prices.

Tickets for the cup-tie are on sale today in the Social Club ONLY and members will have until noon tomorrow (Monday) to claim their seats.

Afternoon tomorrow all seat tickets will go on general sale and they will be available in the Social Club each night next week and at the office each day.

It will interest you to know, too, that the experiment we tried against Workington, when we had turnstile tickets at £1.50 on sale in the Social Club before the match, will be operated at each home game - cup and league - for the rest of the season.

The experiment was a huge success and helped greatly to speed up the flow of people into the ground.

Next Sunday, for the cup-tie, there will be THREE ticket-only gates open, two at the pavilion corner and one at the Waterhead Park end of the ground, near to the entrance to the greyhound stadium.

We again appeal to all our fans to get here in good time next Sunday and also to take advantage of buying ground tickets beforehand.

We anticipate one of our biggest crowds for years and if as many people as possible buy their tickets in advance it will make a vast difference in getting people into the ground so that they will not miss the kick-off.



Magic moment for Oldham as John Patterson and Billy Harris congratulate Paddy Kirwan after he had scored our first try in the cup win over Workington.



**It's Local Time
in Greenall Whitley Land**



ALEX RULES O.K.

By Alex Givvons
(RL Grade 1 Referee)

The referee has a code of signals to indicate to spectators his reason for stopping play. He will always explain his decision to the players in close proximity.

What are the signals for the following:-

1. Play on
2. Scrum half dummies
3. Hooker loose arm
4. Prop strikes for the ball
5. Handling in the scrum
6. Count of tackles cancelled
7. Tackled player delays regaining his feet
8. Tackler delays releasing tackled player

It is a point to note that the referee will always endeavour to mime the offence in an exaggerated manner.

1. Wave hands chest high, palms facing away from the chest, across and in front of the body.
2. Mime the action of the scrum half, emphasise the backward motion of the hands.
3. Raise one arm sideways with elbow bent so that the hand hangs downwards.
4. Raise leg sideways from the body.
5. Backward scooping action with the hand.
6. Clenched fist waved sideways above the head.
7. Flick the hand in an upward direction.
8. A downward movement with the hands in front of the body below the waist.

Answers

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'COLTS UNIQUE TREBLE'

OUR colts moved into the semi-finals of the Colts Challenge Cup with a 22-7 win at Rochdale last Saturday and that puts us still in line for a unique treble. Hull are a very powerful side in colts football this season but we are still in with a chance of three trophies to follow the two we picked up last season at under-19 level.

We are now in the last four of the cup and the only trophy to elude us last year and we are handily placed in the league to take full advantage of any Hull slip-up and also to figure in the top-four-play-off at the end of the season.

The win at Rochdale was particularly pleasing because everyone concerned with our colts this year would love nothing better than to lift the challenge cup. The match was played at Firgrove on a bitterly-cold afternoon and in constant sleet and rain. But forwards and backs alike handled beautifully and we scored four tries two in each half.

The first came after 20 minutes when Les Chadwick, a hard-working forward and a terrific tackler, put in Derek Seabrook.

Ten minutes later Stephen Dobb finished off in the corner after good handling by Joe Warburton and Paul Lowndes.

In the second-half centre Mick O'Rourke scored two cracking tries. The first finished off an excellent move from the scrum in which Seabrook and centre Chris Willis produced some beautiful handling.

The second of O'Rourke's tries followed a superb break from the Great Britain centre who saw a gap on the home 25 and had the strength and pace to go through it.

In the forwards there were inspired displays from five-goal Worrall and Chadwick, ably supported by Lowndes and Warburton.

The previous week-end we had five colts in the Great Britain side which lost 25-12 in Cavaillon. Seabrook, Lowndes, O'Rourke, Dobb and Alan Platt. As Worrall was sub forward for the first international at Leeds it gave us a total of six Oldham youngsters on duty for the two matches a League record.

Platt, now in our first-team squad, had an outstanding game and won the man-of-the-match title.



SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

Anyone wishing to become a member of the Supporters Club may do so at any Canteen or in the Social Club. **Price:** £1.00 (including a Diary)

Forthcoming events in our Social Club, run by the Supporters Club.

An Easter Bonnet Parade - on Saturday 18th April, 1981. Admission Adults £1.00, Children 60p. 8 p.m. - 12 Midnight (including supper)

The Player of The Year Dance on Friday 24th April, 1981. Cabaret & Disco By Vic Preston. Admission £1.00 8 p.m. - 12 Midnight.

Annual Pram Race on Monday 25th May, 1981. To leave the Social Club at 7 p.m. Followed by a Disco & Presentation from 9 p.m. - 12 midnight Admission 50p.

Lancashire Federation of Rugby League Supporters Club Annual Player of the Year Awards and Rugby League Queen Competition. In our Social Club on Friday May 29th, 1981 8 p.m. - 1 a.m. Cabaret & Dancing. Tickets £1.00 each. From any Supporters Club Committee Member.
(A number of Star Player's in attendance)

Wembley Draw on Tuesday 21st April, 1981 - Draw at 9 p.m. Potato Pie Supper **Free to all Supporters Club Members.** Small charge to non-members. Buy your Draw Tickets in our Canteens today or in the Social Club.
Prizes: Cup Winners £25.00 Runners up £10.00 Losing semi-finalists £2.50 All other teams £1.00 **Tickets** 50p per book.

The Trumanns Man of Steel to be held at the **Golden Garter** on Wednesday 13th May, 1981. Tickets may be ordered from any Canteens or the Social Club.

Metal Supporters Club Badges are on sale at **60p**, **Blazer Badges £7.50** each. **Oldham R.L.F.C. Sweaters** sizes are 34, 36, 38, 40 in red, these are priced at **£10** each. **Red & White Rugby Shirts** sizes 30, 32 **£6.50** each, 34, 36 **£8.75** 40, 42 **£10.35**. **Red & White Scarves** at **£1.75**. **Bobhats £1.25** each. **Colts Car Stickers 45p** each. All items can be bought from any canteen or in the Social Club at any time.

Anyone interested in going to the Colts cup-tie v Hull on Saturday 14th March, please book at the Canteen or the Social Club on Sunday.

The cup winner.



Slalom Lager

Brewed by Matthew Brown



"ITV's RL. O.K."

Brian Batty

Daily Mail

Only the odd voice has jarred the warm response to ITV's new Monday night programme on Rugby League.

It seems safe to claim that it has been generally well received for its refreshing approach, particularly in trying to lift image of the game to a level it deserves.

There is no disputing that Independent television struck gold with their first game - a snowstorm thriller between Salford and Castleford - and they made the most of it. They still have to smooth off some of the remaining rough edges, tighten up on the editing and strike a finer balance.

But I enjoyed the professional approach of presenter Bob Hall and Keith Macklin's commentary as he captured the excitement of the exchanges and the build up to the moves.

This view was supported by one of my Soccer colleagues at the Daily Mail who can look back on links with Rugby League for almost half a century and felt this new programme has a lot to commend it.

I was glad the commentary never attempted to become patronising in the manner of those we hear on the Rugby Union internationals, was honest enough to recognise a mistake as well as the need for a note of humour.

At the same time there is no doubt that independent television have an advantage over BBC with their live Saturday afternoon programmes.

They can edit to the point where a boring game - and we have our share - can be overcome and features and discussions can complete the programme.

I had been a little sceptical that they would score so successfully with a recorded game more than 24 hours after it had been played.

There is nothing like healthy competition between the channels for stepping up the standards so we must hope it promises well for the future.

Both of the independent producers - Paul Doherty and Lawrie Higgins - on different sides of the Pennines - have pledged to treat the game seriously.

That very quality comes through most strongly and it is to be hoped they have a success on their hands that rubs off on the code itself.



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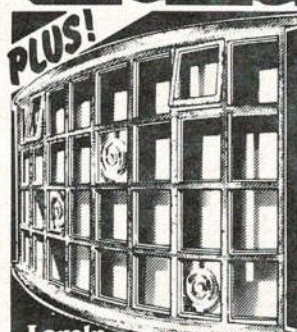
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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES 1980/81

Date	Opponent	F. A.
H Aug. 3 Sun.	Rochdale (Charity Match)	32 - 15
A Aug. 10 Sun.	St. Helens (Friendly)	12 - 30
A Aug. 17 Sun.	Swinton (County Cup)	11 - 5
A Aug. 24 Sun.	County Cup 2nd Round	15 - 13
A Aug. 31 Sun.	Castleford	14 - 14
H Sept. 7 Sun.	Bradford	10 - 21
H Sept. 14 Sun.	Featherstone	17 - 32
H Sept. 21 Sun.	Hull	11 - 16
A Sept. 28 Sun.	Leeds	14 - 16
H Oct. 5 Sun.	Leigh	15 - 12
A Oct. 12 Sun.	Widnes	18 - 28
A Oct. 19 Sun.	Workington	18 - 10
H Oct. 26 Sun.	Widnes	10 - 31
A Nov. 2 Sun.	Featherstone	9 - 2
A Nov. 9 Sun.	Bradford	22 - 7
A Nov. 16 Sun.	Salford	9 - 11
A Nov. 23 Sun.	John Player York	15 - 24
A Nov. 30 Sun.	Wakefield	4 - 25
H Dec. 7 Sun.	Workington	9 - 27
H Dec. 14 Sun.	Widnes	10 - 11
H Dec. 21 Sun.	Hull K.R.	2 - 1
A Dec. 28 Sun.	St. Helens	2 - 30
H Jan. 4 Sun.	Hull	11 - 27
A Jan. 11 Sun.	Warrington	19 - 12
A Jan. 18 Sun.	Leeds	20 - 11
A Jan. 25 Sun.	Castleford	8 - 15
H Feb. 1 Sun.	Barrow	13 - 10
H Feb. 8 Sun.	Halifax	11 - 2
A Feb. 15 Sun.	Challenge Cup Blackpool	
A Feb. 22 Sun.	Hull K.R.	
A Mar. 1 Sun.	Challenge Cup 2nd Round	
A Mar. 8 Sun.	Warrington	
A Mar. 15 Sun.	Halifax	
A Mar. 22 Sun.	Leigh	
A Mar. 29 Sun.	Wakefield	
H Apr. 5 Sun.	St. Helens	
H Apr. 12 Sun.	Salford	
H Apr. 19 Sun.	Good Friday	
H Apr. 26 Sun.	Easter Monday	

'A' TEAM FIXTURES 1980/81

Date	Opponent	F. A.
H Aug. 7 Thurs.	Higginshaw (Friendly)	26 - 2
H Aug. 14 Thurs.	Saddleworth Rangers	6 - 13
A Sept. 3 Wed.	Salford	2 - 8
A Sept. 9 Fri.	Warrington L.C.C.S.	27 - 23
H Sept. 18 Thurs.	Swinton	6 - 15
H Sept. 25 Thurs.	St. Helens	10 - 23
A Oct. 2 Thurs.	Leigh	16 - 13
H Oct. 9 Thurs.	Rochdale Hornets	12 - 11
H Oct. 16 Thurs.	Widnes	18 - 10
H Oct. 18 Sat.	Whitehaven	20 - 14
A Oct. 25 Sat.	Workington	15 - 29
A Oct. 30 Thurs.	Wigan	7 - 8
A Nov. 8 Sat.	Blackpool	
A Nov. 14 Fri.	Salford	16 - 11
H Nov. 20 Thurs.	Swinton	14 - 13
A Nov. 27 Thurs.	Wigan	18 - 7
A Dec. 4 Thurs.	Widnes	10 - 8
A Dec. 11 Thurs.	Barrow	5 - 16
H Jan. 3 Sat.	St. Helens	7 - 0
A Jan. 9 Fri.	Whitehaven	21 - 9
H Jan. 17 Sat.	Barrow	8 - 14
A Jan. 31 Sat.	Warrington	11 - 0
H Feb. 5 Thurs.	Blackpool	
H Feb. 19 Thurs.	Warrington	
A Mar. 6 Fri.	Workington	
A Mar. 14 Sat.	Rochdale	
A Mar. 19 Thurs.	Leigh	

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THE GROWTH OF YOUTH

Alan Burke

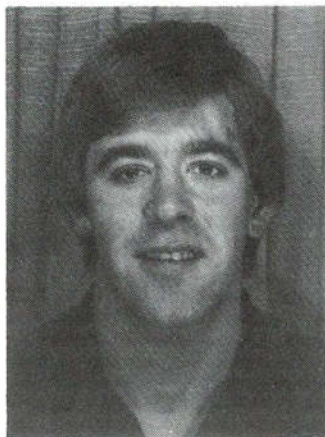
Public Relations Officer,
Oldham Amateur Rugby League.

The Greater Manchester Youth League, which was only formed at the beginning of the current season, is already making a large impact on the Amateur Rugby League scene at youth level in the Lancashire area, as junior rugby in the region continues to go from strength to strength. Although the league currently only has six teams in both its divisions, at under-15s and under-17s age-groups, the extensive interest shown in its development this season has already brought enquiries from several other local sides with a view to joining next term.

Due to youth teams in the Oldham and Rochdale area having to travel either into Yorkshire or West Lancashire for their fixtures, a local league was originally organised four seasons ago, but it was not until last year that any substantial progress was made, when officials of the Oldham Amateur League decided to take charge of the local youth set-up. An early sign of the success to come for the Greater Manchester League was the sponsorship given to both the under-15 and under-17 League Championships by the local Oldham Exhausts company. Since then, former Saint Anne's player and official, Peter Brown, and the Tormen sheet metal company have given their financial backing to the knockout cup competitions. The go-ahead style of the league was further shown when a subsidiary handicap competition was organised to give its teams more matches. Other youth leagues have also approached local officials in a bid to organise matches against the Greater Manchester League sides, and the first ever Lancashire Cup at under-17 level has already started with the quarter-finals to be played on March 29. This competition has been organised jointly with officials of the North-West Counties League, while there is also a suggestion that for next year an end-of-season play-off should take place between the top four sides in the Greater Manchester League, and the top four in the Yorkshire side of the Pennine area. This weekend has seen the opening round matches being staged in the two local cup events, with the under-15s contesting the Howell Cup and under-17s playing for the Summerscales Cup.

This weekend has also been an important time for the Oldham Amateur Rugby League town-teams with both their open-age and under-19s being at home in the semi-finals of their respective Inter-League events. Yesterday the senior side were due to entertain Allerdale, while today the youth team are playing hosts to Saint Helens. The Oldham under-17s side will be playing in the quarter-final of their Inter-League tournament on March 22, when they will visit Widnes.

An exciting end to the season seems to be in store for local amateur league supporters, with local events also to be decided. Last Saturday saw Saddleworth Rangers, the current holders of the Oldham Standard Cup, winning their way through to this season's Final by gaining a 12-0 success in their semi-final against Higginshaw. Saddleworth now meet Waterhead, who themselves have never won the trophy, in the Final at Watersheddings, on Good Friday morning (11am). However, all local interest has now gone in the BARLA Stimorol National Cup events, with our one remaining team, Saint Anne's, losing away to Underbank last week.



FOR ALL THE LOCAL AMATEUR RUGBY LEAGUE NEWS:
B.B.C Radio Manchester (206 medium wave; 95.1 v.h.f.)

BARLA REPORTS Every Friday 6.30 pm
RUGBY LEAGUE SPECIAL Every Sunday 3.30 pm - 6 pm (Amateur news - 5.35 pm)

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