

MATCH DETAILS

Rovers

Colours: BLUE & WHITE
Team Manager: ALLAN AGAR

Oldham

Colours: RED & WHITE
Coach: PETER SMETHURST

FULLBACK

NIGEL BARKER 1 STEVE LITTLER

THREEQUARTERS

CHAPMAN/SADDINGTON 2 GREEN VIGO
STEVE QUINN 3 MICK PARRISH
JOHN GILBERT 4 DES FOY
JOE BARDGETT 5 MICK TAYLOR

HALF-BACKS

PHIL JOHNSON 6 CHRIS WILLIS
FOX/PICKERILL 7 RAY ASHTON

FORWARDS

GARY SIDDALL 8 WALLY JONES
BOB SPURR 9 ALAN McCURRIE (Capt.)
STEVE HANKINS 10 MICK MORGAN
DAVID HOBBS 11 MICK WORRAL
TIM SLATTER 12 ANDY GOODWAY
TERRY HUDSON (Capt.) 13 TERRY FLANAGAN

SUBSTITUTES

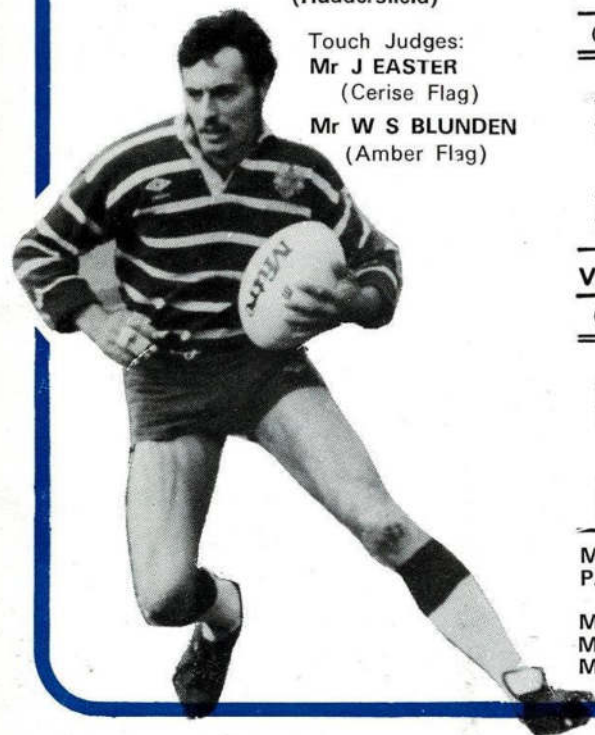
14
15

Referee: Mr W. H THOMPSON
(Huddersfield)

Touch Judges:

Mr J EASTER
(Cerise Flag)

Mr W S BLUNDEN
(Amber Flag)



GOALS	TRIES	PTS.
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Scrum

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		

Penalties

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		

VISITORS

GOALS	TRIES	PTS.
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Scrum

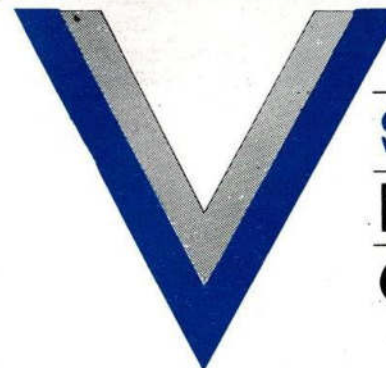
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		

Penalties

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		

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PROGRAMME
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Rovers round up

TODAY'S GAME

OLDHAM have made a solid start to the season. In their opening league game they beat Leeds at home 25-16 and were narrowly beaten at Bradford 14-8. Last Sunday they progressed to the second round of the Lancashire cup beating Workington 26-20. Oldham now have five players in the Great Britain squad with the recent call up of forward Wally Jones.



DID YOU KNOW

In 1898-99 **Oldham** became the first Lancashire side to win the R.L. Challenge Cup. They were said to have overcome Hunslet with a "brilliant display of running, handling and kicking", to win 19-9.



MATCH DETAILS

v Castleford L22-46. Scrums 4-2 to Spurr. Penalties 10-8 for. Man of the match Alan Banks.

v Fulham L11-21. Scrums 6-4 to Spurr. Penalties 9-6 against. Man of the match Steve Hankins.

v Hull L8-24. Scrums 9-8 to Spurr. Penalties 9 all. Man of the match Bob Spurr.



PLAYERS

Peter Smith out with a back injury looks like being on long term casualty. However let us wish Peter a speedy recovery. Men of his skill and dedication are sadly lacking in our game and some of our younger squad members should look to Peter's example of a professional rugby league player.

Steve Quinn's knee and Steve Hankins ankle are under treatment but are expected to be fit today. John Gilbert missed the Hull match with a leg injury. Mick Gibbins, John

Marsden and Keith Bell are battling back to fitness and should be ready in a week or two. Congratulations to Tony Chapman, Deryck Fox and Malcolm Saddington on making their first team debut at Hull.



PROGRAMME

The programme has expanded from 20 pages last season to 28 this. The help and assistance from **Ian Clayton** has been invaluable in compiling the bigger edition, which is still 30 pence.



SUPPORTERS NEWS

Book for **Whitehaven** match next Sunday at the Secretary's office and at the Lottery office. Price: members £4.50 and £2.50 O.A.P. and children. Non members £5 and £3. Please produce your membership card when booking and on the coach.



THE 200 CLUB

The 200 Club membership is now open. Membership is only £6 per share and details of the winning numbers will be announced at the ground and published in your programme. For applications contact Des Waites, Pontefract 797972 or the Lottery Office.



OPEN RUGBY

Don't forget to get your copy of Open Rugby still only 70p and also the Rugby Leaguer out every Thursday price 30p.



NEXT HOME MATCH

Warrington, Sunday, September 25, Kick Off 3.30 p.m.

In town today...

OLDHAM on their return to the first division last season made a great impact. Coach Frank Myler (now Great Britain coach) put together a young determined side and they finished a creditable 8th in the league.

P30 W15 D2 L13 F316 A320
Pts 32

Peter Smethurst who was assistant to Frank, joined Leigh before returning to take charge of the side.

At fullback Oldham have a choice between **Alan Taylor** who was signed from Swinton or **Brian Caffery** a good utility player. However Oldham are expected to sign New Zealand full back **Nick Wright** shortly. Nick played in the recent Test Match victory over Australia and turned in a memorable performance. On the flanks are **Les Taylor** a two try scorer in Oldham's recent match with Leeds and former Wigan and Swinton star South African winger **Green Vigo**. Young **Stephen Dobb** a colts international wingman provides cover on the flanks. At centre **Des Foy** and **Mick Parrish** form a strong partnership, although both have turned out at stand off from time to time. Des signed from Widnes last season was a highly rated junior whilst Mike signed from Hunslet for £18,000 is a big strong centre and one of the opt goalkickers in the game. Other threequarters in consideration are **Colin Hawkyard** on the list at £15,000 and young former colts player **Paul Lowndes**.

The scrumhalf spot goes to **Ray Ashton** another one of Oldham's successful juniors. A quick and inventive scrumhalf he could well go on to gain full international honours. The stand off role has on occasions gone to **Paddy Kirwan** who can also play scrumhalf. Paddy had a spell on loan with Leigh last season. The number six spot has been a problem for Oldham with no one player settled there.

The pack is full of hard working young grafters. **Wally Jones** recently called up into the G.B. squad can play prop or second row, signed from Blackpool he has proved a great buy. Big **Mick Coombes** played at number 8 for most of last season. The hooking spot goes to lively **Alan McCurrie** signed in October 1981 from Wakefield, a Cumbrian County player, his useful kicks should be important under the new rules. At blindside prop is **Mick Morgan** who needs no introduction to Rovers fans. Mick signed from Carlisle to bring experience to a young pack will be keen to score against his old team. **Andrew Goodway** a strong powerful forward who played for G.B. last season at prop will probably operate in the second row. He scored in Oldham's Lancashire cup game against Workington. **Mick Worrall** another G.B. squad member is in tremendous form this season and has scored tries against Leeds and Workington. At loose forward is Under 24 international and full international **Terry Flanagan**. A good ball player he combines well with Ray Ashton at scrum half.

Other players in consideration include robust forward **Alan Platt**, **Dave Nicholson** a forward signing from Swinton in August 1981 and **Ian Birkby** signed on loan from Castleford. Our last meeting at Post Office Road was 9th January 1983, in a close contested game Rovers ran out winners 5-2.

Scorers: Rovers Try Hobbs, Goal Quinn;
Oldham Goal Parrish.

Teams: Rovers — Barker, Marsden, Quinn, Gilbert, Kellett, Banks, Hudson, Atherton, Handscombe, Gibbins, Hobbs, Bell, Smith.
Subs: Pickerill, Hankins.

Oldham — Caffrey, Vigo, Parrish, Hawkyard, Dobb, Foy, Ashton, Jones, McCurrie, Goodway, Platt, Worrall, Flanagan. Subs: Bishop, Lownds.

Scrums 16-10 to Handscombe; Penalties: 10-7 against Man of the Match Peter Smith. Att 3039. Ref. R. Whitefield.

Individual Achievements Tables

(Career Records) to end of 1982-83 Season

Appearances (over 30)	Goals (over 200)	Tries (over 100)	Points (over 500)
1 Jim Denton ... 440	1 S Quinn 770*	1 Don Fox 162	1 Steve Quinn 1699*
2 E Barraclough 435	2 Cyril Kellett ... 557	2 John Newlove 147	2 Don Fox 1492
3 John Newlove 381	3 Don Fox 503	3 Jim Denton 129	3 Cyril Kellett 1159
4 Willis Fawley 378	4 Terry Clawson 487	4 Ken Kellett ... 124	4 Jim Denton 1141
5 Mick Smith ... 373	5 Harold Box 476	5 Dave Hartley ... 116	5 Harold Box 1123
6 Don Fox 369	6 Jack Fennell 455	6 Jack Hirst 115	6 Terry Clawson 1097
7 F Hemingway 361	7 Jim Denton ... 377	7 Gary Jordan 115	7 Jack Fennell 1000
8 Ken Kellett ... 357	8 Tom Smales 269	8 Mick Smith ... 115	8 Tom Smales 610
9 Sid Denton ... 349	9 Fred Miller ... 245	9 Walt Tennant 104	9 Bill Sherwood 571
10 Cliff Lambert ... 344	10 Bill Sherwood 236	10 Ken Greatorex 101	10 Fred Miller 496

*denotes still playing

NOTABLE SCORING ACHIEVEMENTS:

Consecutive games in which a try was scored—**Senior** W. Tennant 9 (1940); **Junior** Charlie Dutton 8 (1912/13)

Consecutive games in which a goal was scored—**Senior** S Quinn 48 May 1979 Dec 1980

Consecutive games in which points were scored—**Senior** S Quinn 48 May 1979 Dec 1980

Most consecutive club wins—**Junior** 24 (1919/20); **Senior** 12 (1972/73)

Appearances and Points Scorers 1983/84

	Ap/sub	T	G	DG	Pts	Ap/sub	T	G	DG	Pts
NIGEL BARKER	2	—	—	—	75	12	—	—	—	36
STEVE BARKER	1	—	—	—	15	4	—	—	1	13
ALAN BANKS	2	—	1	—	4	26	3	—	—	10
JOE BARDGETT	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
TONY CHAPMAN	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
DERYCK FOX	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
JOHN GILBERT	2	—	—	—	192	68	—	—	—	204
STEVE HANKINS	3	—	—	—	100	10	—	—	—	30
DAVID HOBBS	3	—	1	—	155	50	97	6	368	—
TERRY HUDSON	3	—	—	—	177	29	3	2	95	—
PHIL JOHNSON	3	—	—	—	29	6	—	—	—	18
PAUL LYMAN	2	—	—	—	11	1	—	—	—	3
RICHARD MARSH	2	—	1	—	4	13	4	—	—	13
NEIL PICKERILL	3	—	1	—	4	37	6	—	3	22
STEVE QUINN	3	—	—	10	20	234	54	777	3	1719
MALCOLM SADDINGTON	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
GARY SIDDALL	2	—	—	—	73	11	—	—	—	33
TIM SLATTER	3	—	1	—	4	14	1	—	—	4
BOB SPURR	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
GARRY WARD	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—

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Player of the Season 1982/83
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Cup Clashes

OLDHAM are one of the few major clubs not to have appeared at Wembley. They do however hold the unique record of having appeared in four successive cup finals. In 1924 they were defeated 21-4 at Rochdale by Wigan in front of a then record crowd of 42,000. The following year they found success against Hull K.R. winning 16-3 at Leeds. In 1926 back at Rochdale they were beaten 9-3 by Swinton, but in 1927 they turned the tables to gain revenge on Swinton by 26-7 at Wigan.

Featherstone have met Oldham just three times in the Challenge Cup. In 1924-25 Rovers progressed to the 3rd round after wins over Halifax and Hunslet to meet "The Roughyeds" at The Watersheddings. On this occasion the homeside proved too strong, registering a 26-0 scoreline.

In 1944-45 in a first round tie played over two legs Oldham were victors at Post Office Road by 18-4, Parkin scoring 2 goals for The Rovers. The 2nd leg proved to be a tougher game, Rovers finally going down 7-8, with a try by Wright and goals by Barraclough and Allmann. The crowd of 8000 at this game was very good for a wartime game.

The last meeting between Rovers and Oldham in the Challenge Cup was in 1964-65 in the 2nd round. Rovers had disposed of the amateur side Stanningley by 60-4 in the 1st Round and travelled to Oldham with high hopes. Again Oldham proved too good, winning this time 9-7. Rovers scorers were Morgan (try) and Dixon 2 goals). Rovers team was:-

Cooper, Thomas, Penketh, Lynch, Jordan, Cotton, Dooler, Terry, Hamer, Parker, Nicholson, Morgan, Fox.

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Featherstone Forum

One of many Womble letters all at Featherstone Rovers

I am 48 years of age and my particular poison is long distance running (marathons etc).

Saturday afternoon I should have been out training after a demoralising spell of injury. Instead I ducked out and watched the box. It was the best training I could have done. What I missed out on physically was more than made up for by watching the game. (I don't often watch rugby).

What I saw was more than Rugby — it was complete belief by a set of dedicated sportsmen. Pity the so called experts couldn't see it. Being the secretary (muggins) of my local athletic club I have developed a keen sense of smell regarding atmospheres within organisations.

Your teams tremendous performance starts from within the whole organisation and that's why I wish to thank you all for giving me such a lift.

I enclose £1 — if you have a picture of your cup winning squad please send one to me — then when it's —g down and I don't feel like training then I will have them to face (frightening).

If you haven't a photo then get yourself a pint.

Yours,
Norman Taylor,
Buxton,
Derbyshire.



Nigel Barker in action at Fulham

OLDHAM

First Season: 1895-96

Nickname: Roughyeds

Honours: Championship Winners 1909-10, 1910-11, 1956-57. Division One Champions 1904-05. Division Two Champions 1963-64 and 1981-82. Challenge Cup Winners 1898-99, 1924-25, 1925-26. Lancashire League Winners 1897-98, 1900-01, 1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57, 1957-58. Lancashire Cup Winners 1907-08, 1910-11, 1913-14, 1919-20, 1924-25, 1933-34, 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59.

Records: Attendance 28000 v Huddersfield 24 Feb. 1912. Highest score for 67-6 v Liverpool C 1959; against 67-11 Hull KR 1978. Tries in a match 7 Miller v Barry 1908; in a season R. Farrar 1921-22. Goals in a match 14 B. Ganley v Liverpool C 1959;

STAR QUIZ

Try to beat **Nigel Barker** when answering these RL questions:—

- 1 Who is the coach of Barrow RLFC?
- 2 Who is the chairman of the Rugby League?
- 3 When did Oldham last win the Lancashire Cup?
- 4 Who was the last player to kick over 200 goals in a season?
- 5 When did Doncaster last progress to the second round of the Yorkshire Cup?
- 6 Name the captain of Wakefield Trinity?
- 7 How many teams currently in the second division have won the first division league title?
- 8 Name the last full back to win the Lance Todd Trophy?

ANSWERS ON THE INSIDE SCENE

Facts & figures

FEATHERSTONE ROVERS Complete Guide to League Performance against other Clubs 1921-22 to 1982-83

H O M E													A W A Y														
	W	D	L	For	Agst	Pts	Poss Pts	Best Score	Worst Score	Succ. Ratio		Pld	W	D	L	For	Agst	Pts	Poss Pts	Best Score	Worst Score	Succ. Ratio					
Barrow	20	14	1	5	335	173	29	40	36- 7	(1979-80)	15-30	(1953-54)	72.50	Barrow	20	2	0	18	113	380	4	40	12- 7	(1979-80)	5-42	(1929-30)	10.00
Batley	44	32	1	11	668	371	65	88	36-14	(1972-73)	15-29	(1936-37)	73.86	Batley	45	18	1	26	417	497	37	90	27- 4	(1957-58)	0-38	(1924-25)	41.00
Blackpool	1	1	0	0	40	17	2	2	40-17	(1971-72)			100.00	Blackpool	1	1	0	0	18	15	2	2	18-15	(1971-72)			100.00
Bradford	55	30	2	23	915	679	62	110	47- 0	(1931-32)	4-33	(1938-39)	56.36	Bradford	55	15	0	40	565	801	30	110	34-12	(1961-62)	12-39	(1946-47)	27.03
Bramley	50	41	2	7	892	432	84	100	51- 0	(1979-80)	16-21	(1938-39)	84.00	Bramley	51	27	4	20	567	476	58	102	33- 7	(1957-58)	13-29	(1956-57)	58.86
Carlisle	1	1	0	0	20	10	2	2	20-10	(1982-83)			100.00	Carlisle	1	1	0	0	11	0	2	2	11- 0	(1982-83)			100.00
Castleford	52	23	4	25	644	708	50	104	35-21	(1957-58)	15-32	(1977-78)	48.08	Castleford	53	14	2	37	487	730	30	106	30- 9	(1956-57)	5-31	(1936-37)	28.30
Dewsbury	51	34	3	14	748	520	71	102	42-11	(1958-59)	7-23	(1951-52)	69.61	Dewsbury	51	26	0	25	519	564	52	102	47-13	(1956-57)	0-40	(1970-71)	50.98
Doncaster	20	19	0	1	596	110	38	40	54- 0	(1972-73)	10-16	(1956-67)	95.00	Doncaster	20	17	1	2	414	134	35	40	41- 5	(1956-57)	6-22	(1966-67)	87.50
Fulham	1	1	0	0	35	10	2	2	35-10	(1981-82)			100.00	Fulham	1	1	0	0	36	17	2	2	36-17	(1981-82)			100.00
Halifax	44	24	0	20	665	536	48	88	50- 3	(1972-73)	13-32	(1939-40)	54.55	Halifax	44	11	2	31	383	614	22	88	29- 6	(1922-23)	2-70	(1940-41)	25.00
Huddersfield	50	28	1	21	694	663	57	100	41- 3	(1926-27)	3-41	(1945-56)	57.00	Huddersfield	51	11	1	39	484	1104	23	102	31-20	(1979-80)	2-60	(1935-36)	22.55
Hull	54	26	0	28	764	893	52	103	43-16	(1954-55)	13-44	(1981-82)	48.15	Hull	55	7	0	48	433	951	14	110	43-16	(1954-55)	16-41	(1923-24)	12.73
Hull KR	54	30	1	23	809	585	61	103	45- 3	(1954-55)	14-28	(1967-68)	56.48	Hull KR	54	14	3	37	517	802	31	108	21- 8	(1976-77)	5-34	(1926-27)	28.70
Hunslet	51	30	3	18	738	600	63	102	48- 2	(1963-64)	2-39	(1936-37)	61.76	Hunslet	51	14	1	36	425	814	29	102	29-13	(1967-68)	7-55	(1930-31)	28.43
Huyton	18	15	0	3	322	122	30	36	50- 5	(1979-80)	3-18	(1933-34)	83.33	Huyton	18	6	1	11	153	204	13	36	29-17	(1979-80)	2-45	(1934-35)	36.11
Keighley	53	40	1	12	958	501	80	106	47-11	(1926-27)	15-21	(1943-44)	75.47	Keighley	53	22	2	29	483	624	46	106	30-15	(1979-80)	5-33	(1936-37)	43.40
Leeds	58	23	0	35	688	880	46	116	35-16	(1955-56)	5-38	(1935-36)	39.66	Leeds	57	13	2	42	538	1046	28	116	21- 8	(1963-64)	8-56	(1937-38)	24.14
Leigh	22	18	0	4	376	218	36	44	46-17	(1973-74)	12-16	(1981-82)	81.89	Leigh	22	5	3	14	161	316	13	44	28-14	(1961-62)	5-33	(1957-58)	29.55
Oldham	23	11	2	10	332	256	24	46	35- 5	(1943-44)	8-30	(1958-59)	52.17	Oldham	22	6	1	15	250	398	13	44	32-17	(1980-81)	15-53	(1923-24)	29.55
Rochdale	23	16	2	5	427	214	34	46	50-10	(1978-79)	3-20	(1936-37)	73.91	Rochdale	23	6	3	14	149	279	15	46	16- 9	(1976-77)	5-33	(1978-79)	32.61
Salford	18	13	0	5	350	259	26	36	40- 8	(1977-78)	24-43	(1970-71)	72.22	Salford	18	4	1	13	151	317	9	36	18-17	(1976-77)	7-45	(1970-71)	25.00
St. Helens	31	18	1	12	421	387	37	62	29-15	(1975-76)	9-36	(1958-59)	59.68	St. Helens	31	3	2	26	430	618	8	62	30- 0	(1943-44)	0-38	(1960-61)	12.90
Swinton	17	13	1	3	269	126	27	34	32- 8	(1979-80)	3-21	(1948-49)	79.41	Swinton	17	2	0	15	159	332	4	34	29- 7	(1975-76)	7-49	(1952-53)	11.76
Wakefield	58	22	1	35	663	792	45	116	52- 0	(1976-77)	16-44	(1958-59)	38.79	Wakefield	58	17	5	36	482	929	39	116	23- 8	(1981-82)	0-48	(1943-44)	33.16
Warrington	28	12	1	15	394	418	25	56	37-19	(1959-60)	7-43	(1947-48)	44.64	Warrington	27	5	1	21	294	488	11	54	27-17	(1977-78)	2-43	(1947-48)	20.37
Whitehaven	11	8	0	3	243	113	16	22	65- 5	(1970-71)	11-16	(1959-60)	72.73	Whitehaven	11	3	2	6	125	135	8	22	23-12	(1981-82)	10-26	(1952-53)	36.66
Widnes	26	14	1	11	399	318	29	52	42- 3	(1974-75)	23-27	(1978-79)	55.77	Widnes	26	8	3	15	256	378	19	52	27-12	(1959-60)	11-39	(1981-82)	36.54
Wigan	23	14	2	7	316	300	28	46	38- 5	(1972-73)	0-32	(1964-65)	60.87	Wigan	23	1	1	21	170	538	3	46	13-11	(1962-63)	5-46	(1958-59)	6.52
Workington	15	10	3	2	356	184	23	30	41- 8	(1982-83)	23-29	(1954-55)	76.67	Workington	15	4	1	10	125	244	9	30	21- 5	(1980-81)	5-30	(1962-63)	30.00
York	52	40	1	11	924	558	81	104	48- 5	(1969-70)	14-32	(1933-34)	77.88	York	50	11	5	34	437	717	27	100	25- 7	(1959-60)	0-39	(1935-36)	27.00

HISTORICAL NOTE Rovers recorded the following results against these, now defunct clubs.

H O M E	W	D	L	For	Agst	Pts	Poss Pts	Best Score	Worst Score	Succ. Ratio	
Acton & Willemsden	1	0	0	1	13	15	0	2	13-15	(1935-36)	00.00
Broughton Rangers	11	5	0	6	122	92	10	22	36-4	(1941-42)	45.45
Newcastle	2	1	0	1	47	26	2	4	43-20	(1936-37)	50.00
St. Helens Recs	8	2	0	6	59	98	4	16	10-5	(1938-39)	25.00
Streatham & Mitcham	2	1	0	1	30	43	2	4	21-11	(1935-36)	50.00

A W A Y											
Pld	W	D	L	For	Aast	Pts	Poss Pts	Best Score	Worst Score		Succ. Ratio
1	0	0	1	14	29	0	2		14-29	(1935-36)	00.00
10	1	0	9	40	186	2	20	8- 3	6-35	(1938-39)	10.00
2	1	0	1	24	24	2	4	17- 3	7-21	(1936-37)	50.00
8	0	0	8	38	245	0	16	(1928-29)	3-47	(1938-39)	00.00
2	0	0	2	12	55	0	4	(1935-36)	8-44	(1936-37)	00.00

NOTES:

1 The guide is a complete revue of every league game Rovers have played, including War time games recognised by the R.L.

2 The section on Hunslet includes fixtures, with Hunslet (1971-72), New Hunslet (1973-79) and Hunslet (1979 - present).

3 For the purpose of historical accuracy the section on Huyton includes fixtures against the club under previous titles, i.e. Wigan Highfield (1922-23), London Highfield (1933-34), Liverpool Stanley (1934-51) and Liverpool City (1951-1968).

4 The section on Broughton includes matches versus Belle Vue Rangers.

5 The Played, Won, Draw, Loss, Forand Against columns are straightforward. Points refers to normal league procedure of two points for win and one for draw; Poss. Points refers to maximum it would be possible to have gained.

6 Best Score refers to highest score gained in victory, likewise Worst Score refers to highest score opposition gained in victory.

7 Success Ratio refers to the percentage of league points gained divided by league points it was possible to gain.

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In focus



Neil Pickerill had a good game at Hull

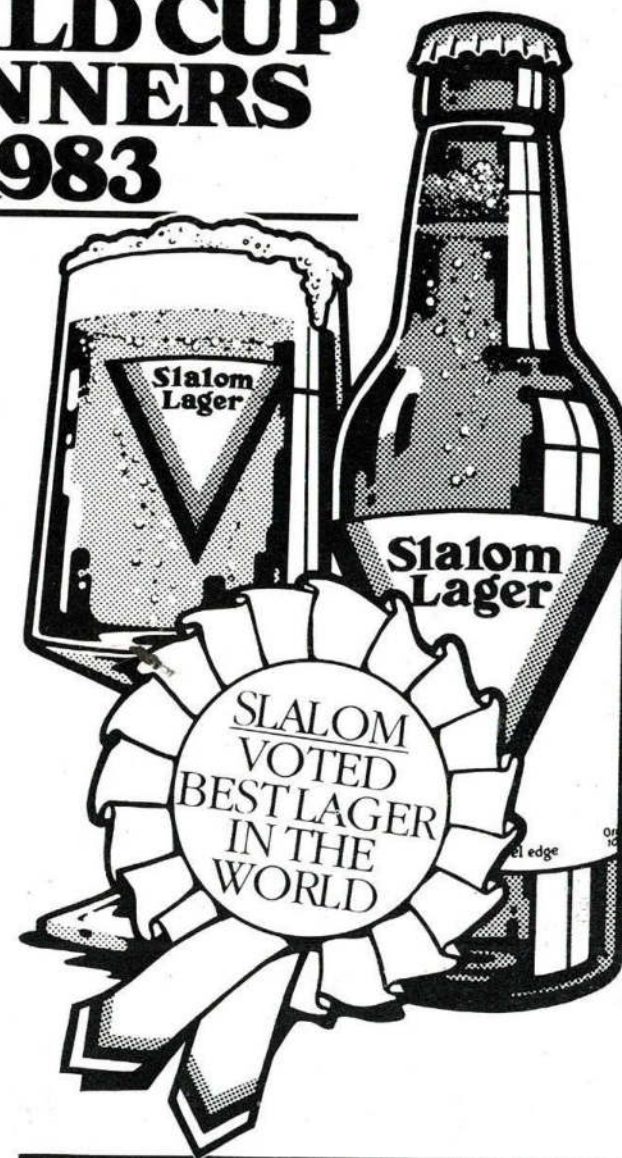


Mick Morgan in try scoring action for the Rovers



Dave Hobbs scores the only try in our last home game with Oldham

WORLD CUP WINNERS 1983



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2. The Fritz von Hoffmeister benefit match.

In the annals of Rugby history, stories of heroism and feats of sporting genius are proudly recorded, dusted off and retold, time after time. Tales of lesser greatness, oft forgotten and probably better that way, are also there. Falling into this latter category are those concerning the Featherstone front row Harry Beeston, Walt Silkstone and Jack Scargill, affectionately known as "the totally despicable three."

One such tale recalls the match played for the benefit of Fritz Von Hoffmeister, the Welsh wizard of Wakefield Trinity. Herr Hoffmeister, a one armed winger, not renowned for his ability to "hand off" tacklers, was nevertheless a loyal servant to his adopted club and had been for at least six months.

The match was played between Wakefield and Featherstone on a warm Saturday afternoon at Belle Vue, coinciding nicely with the third day of the cricket test at Headingley. Sadly after just 2 minutes play, a harmless but, bone jarring tackle by Jack Scargill caused Fritz to leave the field with a suspected dislocation of the shoulder. The remainder of the game passed without incident or score until, with seconds remaining, the match came alive, when Rovers were awarded a penalty in front of the posts. On a request from his captain, Walt Silkstone stepped up to take the kick and with a mighty swipe launched the ball, his right boot, shin pad, and a particularly foul smelling sock into the air. The boot struck the left up right, rebounded and felled a linesman, the sock soared through the posts and hit the other touch judge squarely in the face and the ball, after ricocheting from the left post, bounced from Harry Beeston's head, dislodged his teeth, then sailed over the bar. A split second before being gashed by Harry's flying teeth, the referee was able to award 2 points. With all three officials temporarily indisposed the sound of the claxon came as a godsend.

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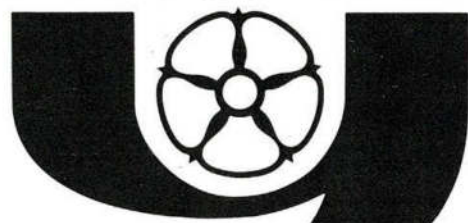
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WEMBLEY MEMORIES



Off the record...

SO what do you think of it so far? Our "new book" game that is. Most of you, like me, will only have the Castleford game to go on but there were many instant judgements made on the basis of that match.

Comments such as "I'm not paying to watch touch and pass rugby" and "big props, hookers and scrum-halves are no use now" abounded after the game. But what do the spectators want?

For many seasons past the biggest moan has been the deplorable scrummaging. Just think how much time has been spent tugging and towing in the scrums with the scrum-half trying time after time to get the ball in. According to some Bradford Northern sources the Rovers did this deliberately in the recent semi-final as a time wasting exercise.

According to David Howes the change in the sixth tackle operation "is designed to eradicate the scrum and maintain the flow of play." It certainly did that against Castleford, but the only reason for the many tries was that some players thought that it was "touch and pass rugby" and found to their cost that it wasn't.

I did not agree with changing the value of the try but it is likely to have two effects. There will probably be less attempts at drop-goals and if that is the case there are likely to be more drawn games. The reason for that is if there are no drop-goals then the score can only be an even number whereas with a three point try it could be any number. So logically if there are less numbers that a score can end on the chance of both being the same is greater.

If, after giving them a fair chance, you still don't like the new rules then you should write to the Rugby League seeking a change in the International Board voting arrangements. These new ideas come from Australia who with the backing of New Zealand and Papua New Guinea can always outvote Great Britain and France. Who knows what other delights our friends down under have in store for us? I do not think that it should be unanimous before a rule is changed but if a four to one vote was necessary it would stop us being outvoted every time. **IRVIN SAXTON**



Keith Bell now in his benefit season

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Down memory lane...

SEASON 1926-1927

BEFORE the start of the new season, hundreds of miners (out of work due to the General strike), sat on the field to watch the erection of a new Grandstand. During August a practice match was played in aid of the Featherstone Distress Fund and spectators were allowed in free to test the capacity of the new stand. Because of a new rule that visiting clubs should take 10% of gate money, the committee were bound to charge full admission prices, although the committee realised many Featherstone folk did not have the necessary shilling. At the first home game, clamour for free admission was so great that after £120 had been taken and with the consent of the Batley officials, almost 2000 were allowed in free. For the remainder of the strike period colliers were admitted for 6d.

Because of the continuing strike, the committee decided that there could be no prospects of financial success from the visit of the New Zealand Tourists and the match was cancelled.

Jim Denton played for Yorkshire against Cumberland during October, **George Goldie** would have played, but for injury. **Jack Hirst** was chosen for the county versus Lancs. but withdrew due to recurrence of his knee injury.

During January Sir Robert Jones the Liverpool surgeon was consulted about **Jack Hirsts** knee and he proposed to operate.

A record crowd of 7000 turned out for the league game versus Wakefield in order to see Hirst's return, but he again broke down with knee trouble. Nevertheless Rovers went on to win by 20-5. Scorers being **Tom Askin** 2 tries, **J. Denton** 1 try, **Billy Clements** try and **J. Denton** 4 goals.

Rovers did not meet **Oldham** in this season, the Lancashire club finished 13th two places behind Featherstone who finished 11th

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the inside scene

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

				M of the M
Th	1 Sep	v Leeds	H 7.30	W21-16 D Fox
Sa	10 Sep	v Bradford N	A 3.00	
Fr	16 Sep	v Halifax	A 7.30	
Th	22 Sep	v Hull	H 7.30	
Sa	1 Oct	YS Cup	Bye	
Sa	8 Oct	v York	A 3.00	
Th	13 Oct	v Bradford N	H 7.30	
Sa	22 Oct	YS Cup 2nd rd		
Th	27 Oct	v Hunslet	H 7.30	
Fr	4 Nov	v Castleford	A 7.30	
Th	10 Nov	v York	H 7.30	
Th	17 Nov	v Keighley	A 7.30	
Th	24 Nov	v Dewsbury	H 7.30	
Fr	2 Dec	v Hull	A 7.30	
Th	8 Dec	v Halifax	H 7.30	
Fr	16 Dec	v Leeds	A 7.30	
Sa	7 Jan	v Batley	A 2.30	
Th	12 Jan	v Keighley	H 7.30	
Sa	21 Jan	v Hull KR	A 2.30	
Th	2 Feb	v Castleford	H 7.30	
Th	16 Feb	v Hull KR	H 7.30	
Sa	25 Feb	v Dewsbury	A 2.30	
We	29 Feb	v Hunslet	A 7.30	
Th	8 Mar	v Batley	H 7.30	

'A' TEAM DETAILS

v LEEDS W 21-16

Scorers: Tries—Dakin, Fox, Mortimer; Goals—Fox 4g 1dg; Scrums—9-7 against Wright; Penalties—13-10 for; Man of the Match Deryck Fox.

Team: Hobson, Trialist, Trialist, Chapman, Saddington, S Ward, Fox, Mortimer, Wright, Dakin, Robinson, Clarkson, Bell. Subs: Tonks, Wragg.

ANSWERS TO STAR QUIZ

1 Tommy Dawes; 2 Jack Bateman; 3 1958 Oldham 12 St Helens 2; 4 Dave Watkins 221 1972-73 season; 5 1971 they beat Bradford 12-4; 6 Nigel Stephenson; 7 2 Swinton and Halifax; 8 Mike Burke Widnes v Hull KR 1981: NIGEL BARKER scored 6 (Incorrect Answers 3 and 7).

LIAGUE ATTENDANCES

	Pos	Ave	Ann. Diff
HULL	1st	11525	(-1665)
OLDHAM	11th	3721	(+1326)
ROVERS	13th	2647	(-159)
WORKINGTON	16th	1470	(-499)

LEAGUE TABLE

FIRST DIVISION

Widnes	...	3	3	0	0	75	26	6
Bradford N	...	2	2	0	0	59	12	4
St Helens	...	2	2	0	0	42	19	4
Leigh	...	3	2	0	1	60	39	4
Castleford	...	3	2	0	1	90	76	4
Wigan	...	3	2	0	1	46	51	4
Hull	...	2	1	1	0	62	40	3
Leeds	...	2	1	0	1	56	35	2
Hull KR	...	3	1	0	2	63	56	2
Oldham	...	2	1	0	1	33	30	2
Fulham	...	3	1	0	2	43	51	2
Wakefield	...	3	1	0	2	29	70	2
Warrington	...	3	0	1	2	34	46	1
Salford	...	2	0	0	2	24	56	0
FEATH. R.	...	2	0	0	2	33	67	0
Whitehaven	...	2	0	0	2	14	89	0

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Team Talk

KEITH'S CORNER

3 Matches into the season and in our first match against Cas it was played at a fast furious pace and both teams playing the type of rugby spectators love to watch. Ok, on occasions, Cas adapted themselves a little better to the new rules than we did and this got them the 2 league points.

At Fulham, in the first 20 minutes I thought 20-30 clear points today and no trouble, but it was not to be. We lost our rhythm in attack and one of our stronger points, defence, just seemed to disappear as my dreams of those 20-30 points did. Even at this early stage out came the cries from the hecklers as I heard Agar and Goulding's names being criticised. I've heard it all before so it doesn't hurt so much, but when these so called heckling supporters start to shout and criticise one of the youngest and for me one of the best up and coming coaches and only after 2 matches then it hurts.

Don't let's panic! Count to 10 then panic. If we could have played half as well at Fulham as we did at Hull last week, it would have been a cert 2 points. Ok we lost, but in this match the players showed more determination — more dedication — more enthusiasm and this found Hull gasping well into the second half, and now I feel sure we can start to pick up points.

One bright note our young 'A' team (coach Sam Windmill) pulled off a great win 21-16, against a strong Leeds 'A', in their first match which was played under our new floodlights. Man of the match — D. Fox.

Injury List — Still looks a bit sick. Peter Smith, John Marsden and Mick Gibbins still out of training with back trouble. Add to them John Gilbert, Andy Mortimore also players on holiday, Lyman, Banks, Marsh, Nicholson. Not so good is it!

(FUN NOTE)

They tell me John Marsden has opened a fish and chip shop in Pontefract.

(Speciality)

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CLUB GUIDE

Chairman: B. Ashby; Vice-Chairman E. Gardner.

Committee: R. Barker, S. Fitton, C. Hewison, D. Hunt, T. Mullaney.

Secretary: T. Jones, 21 The Croft, Batley Road, West Ardsley, Wakefield.

Team Manager: Allan Agar.

Senior Coach: Keith Goulding.

Assistant Coach: Derek Windmill.

Physio: J. Williams; Asst. A. Millward.

Club Doctor: Dr. N. R. Pal.

Representatives: RL Council, B. Ashby; Yorkshire County Committee, E. Gardner; Yorkshire Senior Competition, S. Fitton.

Groundsman: F. Lavine.

Bagman: T. Walker.

Lottery Manageress: Sandra Cousier.

Programme: S. Fitton.

Photos by courtesy of J. Akin and the Pontefract and Castleford Express.

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Try of the Season, sponsored by Radio Aire and Open Rugby Magazine award judged by John Boyd — Sports Editor, Radio Aire.

Awarded because of importance of try, coming when it did, as well as the tremendous execution of it.

Award will be presented on the field before the Warrington game, by Arthur Keegan, the Great Britain full back, and ironically of Hull R.L.F.C.

Club Page

Club Founded: 1902 and Reformed 1908. Elected to Northern Rugby Football League June, 1921.

Ground: Post Office Road

Patron: The Earl of Swinton.

Club Honours: RL Cup—Winners 1967, 1973, 1983; Runners-up 1952, 1974

RL Championship—Winners 1977; Runners-up 1928, 1976.

RL Championship 2nd Division—Winners 1980

Arrowfast Try Scoring Trophy—Winners 1980

Yorkshire Cup—Winners 1940, 1959; Runners-up 1928, 1963, 1966, 1969; 1970, 1976, 1977

Yorkshire League—Runners-up 1928, 1962

YSC Cup—Winners 1946 1974; Runners-up 1955, 1960

YSC Shield — Winners 1946, 1962, 1972

Ground Records: RL Cup—Attendance 17,531 v St. Helens, 1959; Receipts: £12,287 v Widnes 1981

Yorkshire Cup—Attendance: 10,700 v Leeds, 1959; Receipts: £8,681 v Hull, 1980

League Attendance 14,990 v Wakefield Trinity, 1962; Receipts: £6,001 v Hull, 1981

Representative Players: Great Britain—T. Askin, J. H. Bridges, T. Clawson, M. Dixon, S. Evans, D. Fox, G. Jordan, M. M. Morgan, S. Nash, P.

Smith, J. Thompson,; Under 24s—K. Bell, S. Evans, D. Fennell, V. Farrar, M. Gibbins, J. Gilbert, D. Hobbs, T. Ramshaw, P. Smith, V. Thomas, J. Thompson, L. Tonks; England—J. H. Bridges, M. Dixon, S. Evans, V. Farrar, J. Hirst, A. Morgan, J. Mullaney, P. Smith, R. Stone, J. Thompson, A. Wood; Wales—P. Banner, H. Box.

John Jepson Player of the Year — 1982-83: Steve Hankins

RECORDS TO LOOK OUT FOR

Tries—Match: 6 M. J. Smith (1968)

Season: 31 C. Woolford (1958-59)

Career: 162 D. Fox (1953-1966)

GOALS—Match: 12 D. Fox (1964)

Season: 163 S. Quinn (1979-80)

Career: * S. Quinn (1976-)

POINTS—Match: 29 S. Quinn (1979)

Season: 375 S. Quinn (1979-80)

Career: *S. Quinn (1971-)

APPEARANCES—Season: 46 C. Woolford (1959-60)

Career: 440 J. Denton (1921-34)

FASTEST CENTURY OF POINTS

T. Smales (1966-67) and S. Quinn (1976-77 and 1979-80)—9 matches.

MOST CONSECUTIVE WINS — 12 (1972-73).

MOST CONSECUTIVE LEAGUE WINS — 11 (1979-80).

HIGHEST SCORE — v Whitehaven 1971 — 65 points.

*See current players' records

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