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Blue Shorts

1. Steve Littler
2. Colin Hawkyard
3. Mick Parrish
4. Des Foy
5. Jim Hornby
6. Ian Birkby
7. Ray Ashton
8. Wally Jones
9. Alan McCurrie
10. Mick Morgan
11. Mick Worrall
12. Paul Lowndes
13. Terry Flanagan

Subs:

14. T.B.A.
15. T.B.A.

Today's mitre
Matchball donated by



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14th November, 1983

Referee:

J. Holdsworth (Leeds)

Touch Judges:

J. H. Unsworth - Pink Flag
G. E. Lightfoot - Yellow Flag

LEIGH

Blue Jerseys
White Shorts

1. Mick Hogan
2. Des Drummond
3. John Woods
4. John Henderson
5. Phil Fox
6. Steve Donlan
7. Shane Varley
8. Alf Wilkinson
9. Ray Tabern
10. Derek Pyke
11. Eddie Hunter
12. Jeff Clarke
13. John Westhead

Subs:

14. T.B.A.
15. T.B.A.

SCRUMS					PENALTIES					SCRUMS					PENALTIES				
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25

NEXT MATCHES AT WATERSHEDDINGS

Wednesday, 9th November, 1983, Oldham Amateur League v. Maoris.
K.O. 7.30 p.m.

Sunday, 13th November, 1983, Oldham v. Wigan. K.O. 3.00 p.m.

John Player Special Trophy

First Round

OLDHAM

versus

LEIGH

SUNDAY

6th NOVEMBER, 1983

AT

WATERSHEDDINGS

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

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Secretary: John A. Clark
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Brian Gartland (Colts Coach)

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Colin Hawkyard - Jim Hornby - Clive Jones - Wally Jones - Paddy Kirwan
Steve Littler - Paul Lowndes - Ashley McEwen - Alan McCurrie - Robert Marsden - Mick Morgan
Geoff Munro - Tom Naidole - David Nicholson - Tony Ogden - Denis O'Neil
Mike O'Rourke - Gareth Owen - Mick Parrish - Alan Platt - Gordon Pollard - Ian Sanderson - Paul Sherman
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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 points v Liverpool City April 59
First game	October 21st, 1876 v Stalybridge
Highest number of points scored	Bernard Ganley 2,881
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 and 1981-82
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, 1933-34
Runners-up:	1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59
Lancashire Championship Winners:	1908-09, 1911-12, 1918-19, 1921-22, 1954-55, 1966-67 and 1968-69
Runners-up:	1907-08, 1909-10, 1921-22, 1956-57 and 1957-58
Lancashire Shield Winners:	1908-09, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1919-20, 1923-24 and 1954-55
Colts Premiership Trophy:	1975-76 and 1979-80

WATERSHEDDINGS SURVEY

THINGS are certainly buzzing right now here at Watersheddings. Our thrilling 22-22 draw at Warrington last Sunday crowned a fabulous six weeks in which we drew at Hull KR, beat St. Helens at home, won at Castleford, triumphed over Hull at Watersheddings and then drew at Wilderspool. Our only disappointment during that time was a home defeat at Widnes.

Not only is the side picking up points to reach a top-four place on merit but it is playing plenty of good football and showing tremendous commitment and character, especially when things are going wrong.

At Hull KR, we came superbly from behind after suffering the loss of the dismissed Andy Goodway and the injured Alan Platt. At Castleford we had to withstand a tremendous opening spell from the home side, yet we still came back to triumph. At Wilderspool last Sunday, we had again to haul ourselves off the floor to score a sensational, equalising try in the last few minutes.

All credit must go to everyone concerned in the success over the past few weeks, and it is gratifying to see that the supporters are now getting behind us in greater numbers. The following at Wilderspool, for example, was quite something and the players certainly appreciate that sort of support.

These notes had to be written before the announcement of the Great Britain under-24 side on Wednesday, but congratulations are already due to our young centre Des Foy, who was elevated to the under-24 squad by British boss Frank Myler after his performance at Warrington.

Des has been on the top of his form in our recent run and he has certainly earned the recognition of the British camp. Also keeping their fingers crossed for selection this week were Ray Ashton, Terry Flanagan and Mick Worrall, while Andy Goodway would almost certainly have been included, but for his suspension which now has only two games to run.

Today, we take a breather from the Slalom Lager championship to meet our old friends Leigh in the first round of the John Player Special Trophy.

This season the John Player Special Trophy will be worth a record £60,000 with £44,500 going in prize money — including £10,000 and the unique John Player Special Trophy to the winner — and £15,500 to the League's development fund.

The prize money this season is as follows: Winners, £10,000; runners-up £5,000; beaten semi-finalists, £2,500; third round, £1,175; second round, £900; first and preliminary round, £700.

The semi-finals and final will be staged on neutral venues. Commenting on the 13th season of John Player Special Trophy tournaments, the chairman of the Rugby League, Jack Bateman, said: "We are delighted that for the first time the competition is being given nationwide TV coverage for the draws as well as the matches themselves.

"This is particularly important when the game is expanding outside the traditional boundaries. The increased sponsorship fee this year, coupled with more extensive television, radio and newspaper coverage reflects the value of the tournament as the league's longest-running sponsored competition".

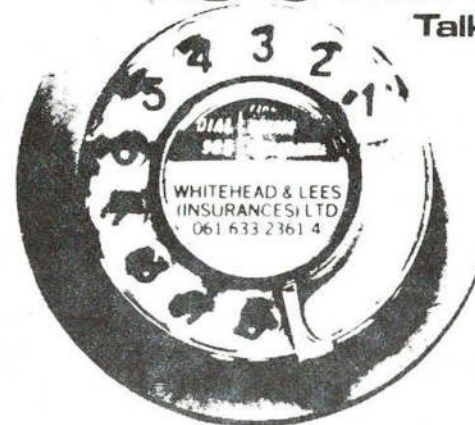
We have a special reason for wishing to beat Leigh today because it would avenge our defeat at Hilton Park in the first round of the same competition last year.

Don't forget that we have many more interesting games coming up here at Watersheddings over the next few weeks. On Wednesday night, we have the touring Maoris here in their match against the local amateur league. The Maoris are certainly well worth watching as their tour record to date proves.

Next Sunday, Wigan are here in the Slalom Lager championship and though Sunday, November 20 is left vacant for the second round of the Player's Trophy, we have another home game on November 27 when Hull KR are the visitors.

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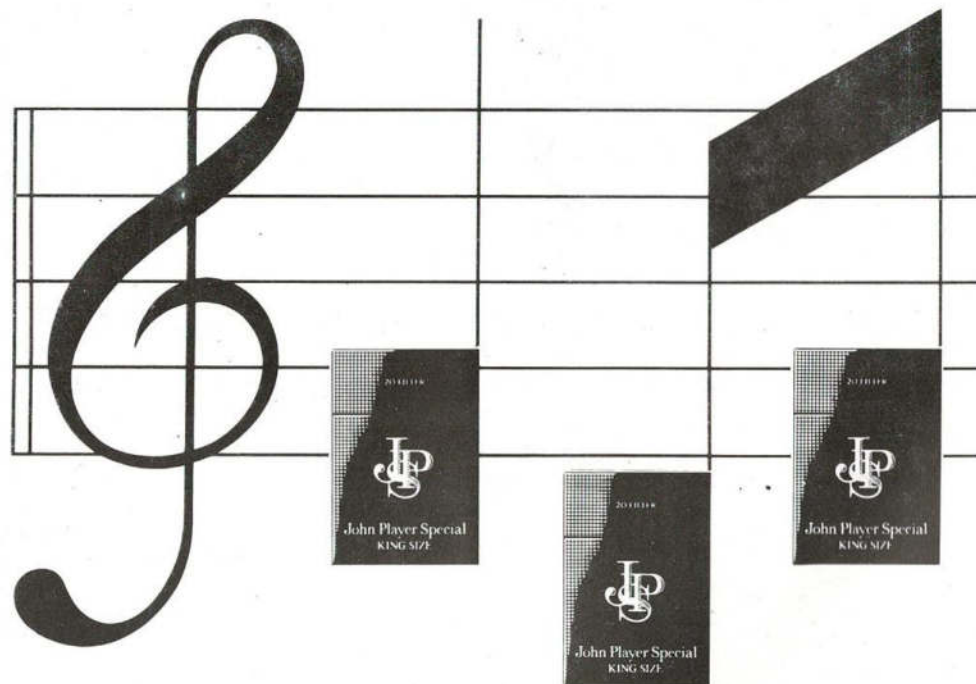
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HISTORICAL NOTES ON LEIGH

by Tom Webb

THE Oldham club programme of April 16, 1955 told us that the Leigh club formed in 1877 was one of only two clubs with floodlights in the Rugby League, the other being Bradford Northern. As Northern folded a few years later, that left Leigh as the pioneers of floodlit Rugby football, although of course London Highfield had played under floodlights at the White City, London for a season in the 1930s.

I was privileged some time ago to peruse some old membership cards of the Leigh club. In 1880-81 when T. Travis was captain with J. Jackson as his vice-captain, the fixtures arranged were with Bolton, Brightmet, Boothstown, Newton Padgate, Wigan, Adlington, Ashton-Under-Lyne and Southport. The membership card said, "Matches played, wet or fine".

In 1881-82 the fixtures were with Swinton Lancers, Deane, Boothstown, Newton, Wigan, Southport, Tyldesley, St. Helens Recreation, Swinton, Worsley and St. Helens.

By 1883-84 A. Warren was secretary, C. Ackers treasurer, James Boydell captain, Sam Pendlebury was "sub-captain" and W. Ackers was second team captain. Games had been arranged with Vulcan, Brackley, Kirkless, Boothstown, Aspull, Newton, Pemberton, Seedley, Haigh, Firs, New Springs, Whit Lane (Salford) and St. Helens. The club colours were maroon.

A year later, 1884-85 James Boydell was still captain with Thomas Lees as "vice-captain". J. Johnson was second team captain while the secretary and treasurer both remained in office with T. McCumsky being the assistant secretary. A new strip, black jersey with red band and white pants, was adopted. Fixtures listed included First 15 v. Next 20 and games were arranged with Aspull, Warrington, Crumpsall, Boothstown, Blackrod, Brackley, Heaton, Walkden, Tyldesley, St. Helens Recreation and Vulcan.

Two years later, 1886-87, Leigh had fixtures with Crompton, Oldham Borough, St. Helens Recs., Werneth, Tyldesley, Clifton, Whitefield, Haigh, Swinton "A", Ringley, Southport Olympic, Failsforth, Cheetham Hill and Haigh.

When Oldham played Southport Olympic the game was a cross between association and rugby football, one half played under one set of rules and vice-versa. It seems reasonable to assume that Leigh had similar games with the seaside club. T. Smith was now captain, James Boydell having become a committee member. The Committee must have been a bit unwieldy with 16 members plus chairman, secretary, assistant secretary and treasurer. A. E. Tickle was now secretary.

A year on the club was using the dressing room at the Three Crowns Hotel. Games were arranged with Worsley, Boothstown, Rochdale Albion, Newton Heath, Tottington, Eccles, Tyldesley, Ashton-Under-Lyne, Crompton, Ringley, Lancaster, Bury, Radcliffe, Werneth and Aspull. The following year, 1888-89 the club was extending its horizons and matches were listed to take place against Kendal Hornets (Westmorland), St. Helens, Bury, Radcliffe, Tyldesley, St. Helens Recs., Dukinfield, Werneth, Rochdale St. Clements (who played at Spotland), Eccles, Walkden, Crompton, Owens College (now Manchester University), Lancaster, Aspull and Egremont (Cumberland).

The last membership card concerned 1893-94 when the dressing room was at the Railway Hotel. The fixture list comprised games with Birkenhead Wanderers, Stockport, Tyldesley, Millom, Aspull, Walkden, Lancaster, Mossley, Widness, Wigan, Ulverston, Boothstown, St. Helens Recs., St. Helens, Salford, Blackley, Morecambe, Rochdale St. Clements, Crompton and Manchester Rangers. Apart from Manchester Rangers the other clubs on this last list all turned over to the Northern Union in due course.

Leigh became a senior Rugby Union club in 1894 and within weeks was suspended from the Lancashire Senior Competition for professionalism. This was one of the reasons for the formation of the Northern Union, of which the Leigh club was a foundation member.

WELCOME TO LEIGH

IT IS always a pleasure to welcome to Watersheddings a Leigh side that is known throughout the game for its attempts to always play fast, open crowd-pleasing football.

Go through the Leigh side and there are household names from full back to the back-row of the pack, highlighted by world-class international stars such as Des Drummond and John Woods.

At full back Leigh possess one of the longest-serving full backs in the game in Mick Hogan, who has just received a club record £12,000 cheque for his ten-year benefit.

Drummond and Woods formed Leigh's right-wing pair at Whitehaven last Sunday and you don't get many more faster or exciting wing pairings than that!

Woods, of course, has played most of his football at stand-off, but coach Tommy Bishop has switched his backs around recently with Steve Donlan taking the No. 6 jersey and Woods figuring further out.

Pace runs throughout the Leigh back line, and arguably the fastest man in the back line is on the left-wing, Phil Fox. He operates outside former Saddleworth Rangers boy, John Henderson, who once played in our colts team.

Donlan, another flier, is now linking up at half-back with current New Zealand Test scrum-half Shane Varley and the world is that Varley and Donlan were the architects of Leigh's resounding 38-16 win at Whitehaven last Sunday.

Certainly, there are few faster back divisions in the game than one which reads Drummond, Woods, Henderson, Fox, Donlan, Varley, so we had better be on our guard today.

In the pack Leigh have a nice blend of youth and experience. Alf Wilkinson played his first game of the season at Whitehaven where he formed an experienced front-row with Ray Tabern and Derek Pyke.

Ian Potter, the club's record £50,000 buy from Warrington, was unavailable because of work commitments and it is likely that coach Bishop will stick with the back-row that did him proud at the Recreation Ground, namely Eddie Hunter, Jeff Clarke and John Westhead.

Hunter joined Leigh from Warrington in a swop deal that took Tony Cooke to Wilderspool, while Clarke is a New Zealander who has now played three games in the Leigh senior side.

He is from the same club in New Zealand as Shane Varley and he came to England on Varley's recommendation.

A player Leigh describe as the find of the season is 17-year-old loose-forward John Westhead. John is still a schoolboy, but he has played in each of Leigh's 11 First Division matches so far this season, and he has impressed in all of them with his intelligent scheming.

Steve Fitzmartin and former Saddleworth lad Gary Ainsworth were the Leigh subs at Whitehaven.

There could be changes, of course, but that is fair idea of the line-up of the Leigh side this afternoon.

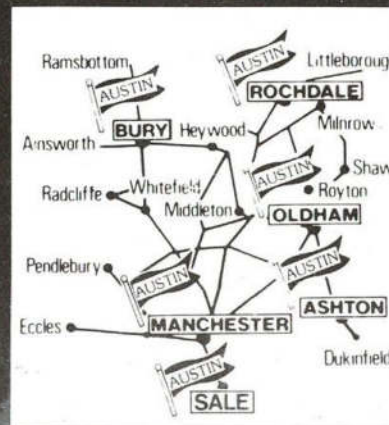


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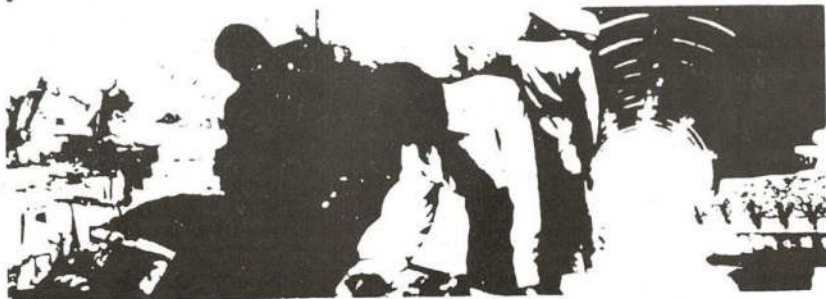
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OPEN LETTER — To all members, supporters and friends of Oldham Rugby Club,;
"WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH — THE TOUGH GET GOING".

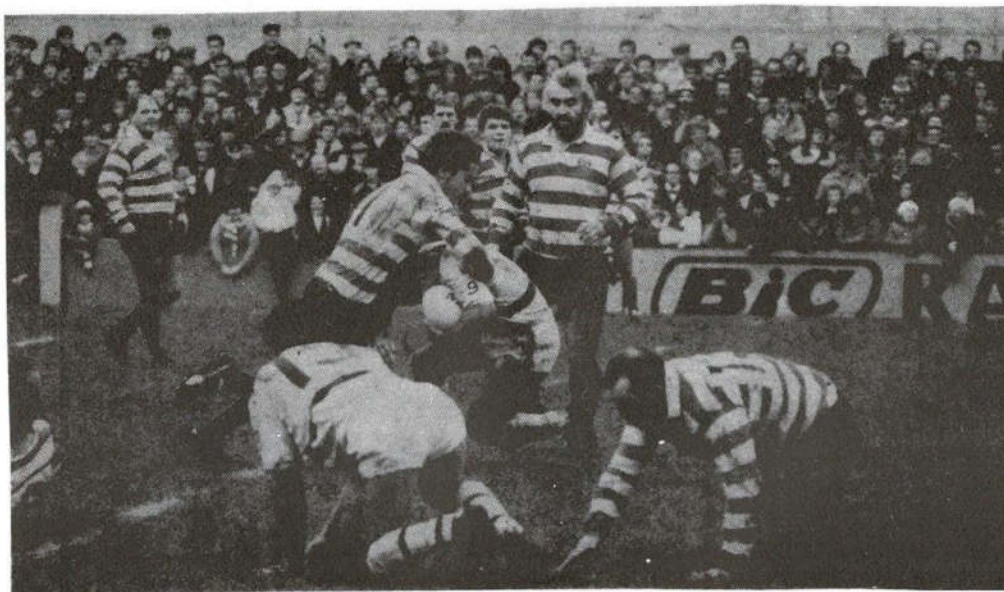
Spectator sports, including Rugby League are in a tough situation at the present time. Despite this, we at Oldham strive to maintain and improve our position, both on, and off the field. With this in mind, we are forming a special pool, "THE AMBASSADOR CLUB" for our dedicated members and supporters. As a syndicate or individual, you can pay a regular monthly sum of £4.00 by Bankers Order, and take part in the Monthly Draw and other activities. There will be monthly prizes totalling £250.00, and a quarterly draw of at least £500.00. We are confident that even these prizes will increase dramatically as the ball starts rolling. This is one very positive way in which you can help the Club and enjoy a flutter at the same time. The first draw will take place early in the new season. We invite you to complete the attached Mandate, and to act as an AMBASSADOR for the club by enrolling a friend. A five digit number will be allocated to you, and this will be included in the first draw. Please don't delay — DO IT NOW.

Yours faithfully,

Terry Conroy (Commercial Manager)



Jimmy Hornby scores our equalising try at Warrington.



Mick Worrall brings down Roger O'Mahoney during a Warrington raid.

Photographs by courtesy of the Oldham Evening Chronicle

SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

President: Mr. D. Blackburn, **Chairman:** Mr. D. Pilkington, **Vice-Chairman:** Miss A. Collinge, **Treasurer:** Mr. T. Heywood, **Secretary:** Mrs. J. Pilkington, **Committee:** Mrs. H. Heywood, Mr. I. Pilkington, Mrs. L. Wolstencroft, Mrs. E. Crowther, Mr. C. Clarke, Mr. S. Chadderton, Mrs. L. Chadderton, Mr. B. Doleman, Mrs. A. Doleman, Mr. J. Gallagher, Karen Winterburn, Sue Collinge, Grace Doleman.

A welcome to all the Leigh fans visiting Watersheddings this afternoon for the 1st Round of the John Player Trophy we extend a very warm Oldham welcome to them all and invite them to all our canteens and souvenir shop situated at different parts of the ground.

The Supporters Committee would like to thank Miss Gail Hartford for her services as the Rugby Queen during the last season, also we welcome our new Rugby Queen Miss Julie Turner to her year of office, and our Deputy Queen Miss Suzanne Givvons, who were selected at the Rugby Queen Dance on 28th October, 1983, and we would also like to thank all the other entrants that entered the Rugby Queen contest and all the judges that came along to take part.

The Committee would like to thank the Derbyshire Building Society of 21 Queen Street, Oldham, for their part in the Rugby Queen by giving vouchers to each of the contestants.

Watch out for further details about our Fun Run on Sunday, May 20th, 1984.

JUNIOR SUPPORTERS CLUB

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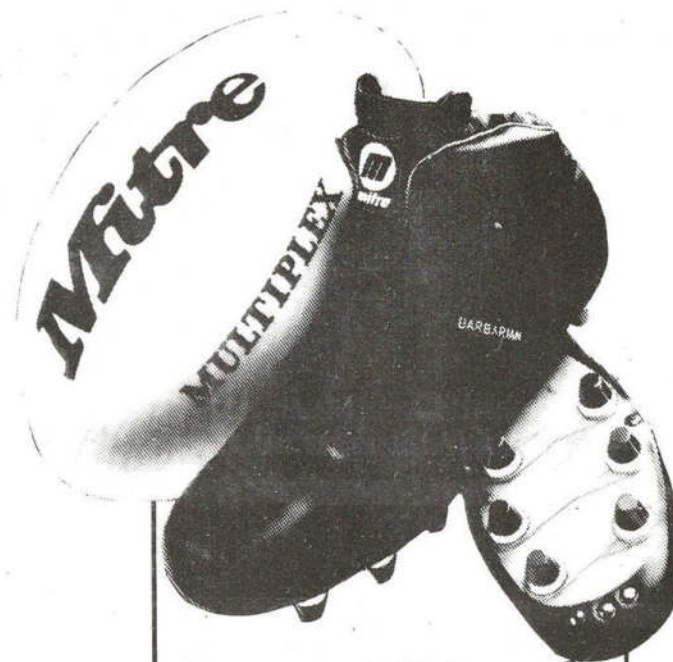
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FLASHBACK by Tom Webb*How many of our supporters remember the corresponding day 5, 10, 15 years ago?***FIVE YEARS AGO**

November 5th 1978

Oldham's match like the rest of the day's programme was not arranged in order to guarantee a good gate for the Great Britain v. Australia second test match.

Great Britain 6 2 18 Australia 4 2 14.

Attendance, at Bradford 26,447. Half-time score 11-4. Receipts £27,258.

Great Britain: Fairbairn (Wigan) 6 goals, Wright (Widnes) 2 tries, Joyner (Castleford), Dyl (Leeds), Atkinson (Leeds), Millward (Hull K.R.), Nash (Salford), Mills (Widnes), Fisher (Bradford Northern), Lockwood (Hull K.R.), Nicholls (St. Helens), Lowe (Hull K.R.) and Norton (Hull). Holmes (Leeds) replaced Millward after 40 minutes and Rose (Hull K.R.) replaced Norton after 56 minutes.

Australia: Eadie, Bousted, Rogers (2 goals and try), Cronin (2 goals), Anderson, Fulton, Raudonikis, Olling, Krilich, Young, Gerrard, Reddy, Price (try). Thompson replaced Cronin after 56 minutes and Boyd replaced Gerrard after 64 minutes.

TEN YEARS AGO

November 7th, 1973

First Division

Oldham 4 2 14 Featherstone Rovers 3 2 12

Oldham: Murphy, Munro, Larder, Wainwright (2 tries), O'Brien, Blair (goal), Gorman, Clawson (3 goals), Taylor, Hughes, McCracken, Hall, Peters. Brady for Gorman in second half.

Featherstone Rovers: Box (3 goals), Coventry, Toohey (try), Hartley, Wilson, Newlove, Evans (try), Tonks, Bridge, Farrar, Rhodes, Ollis, Stone. Bray for Newlove after 45 minutes and Gibbins for Farrar after 60 minutes.

Referee: H. Mason (Halifax). Attendance 1,406. Half time score not known.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

9th November 1968

Wigan 0 0 0 Oldham 0 0 0

Game abandoned after 18 minutes and replayed November 11th. See next week's programme for teams for the replayed game. Mr. Webb does not have team details for the abandoned game.

Castleford 27 points from 14 games were top of the table, Wigan 24 points, St. Helens and Leeds 23 points all from 14 games were next. Keighley with 21 points from 13 games were in fifth place. Bradford 14 games and 4 points and Whitehaven 14 games and 3 points occupied the two bottom places in the league chart.



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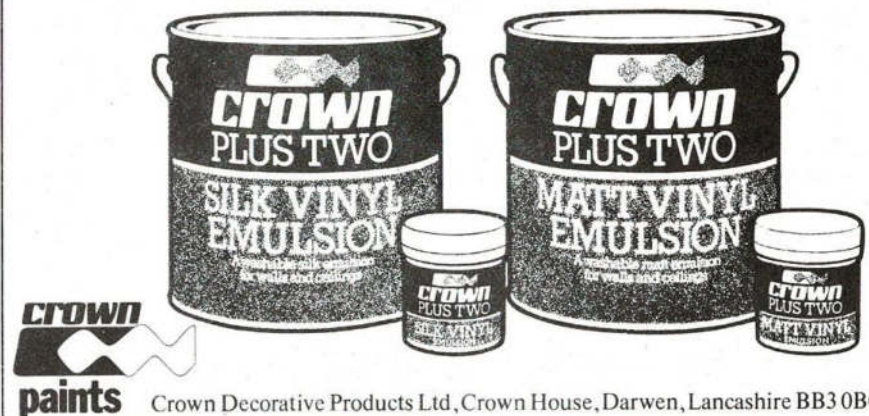
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BEHIND THE WHISTLE — A. Givons

AT the start of this 1983/84 season, the British Senior Referees agreed to conform to the law interpretation agreed by the Australian, New Zealand and French referees on two particular aspects of play, i.e. the forward pass and "held" in the tackle.

There is no change in the laws of the game.

Forward Pass:- British referees took the view that a player rarely deliberately pass the ball forward nor would a player deliberately run offside when taking a pass. However, for uniformity and consistency the referee will now award a penalty. A scrum will still be given if the referee does not think the action was deliberate.

Held:- It was felt that the over-use of the referee shouting "held" was contributing to the decline in tackling skills. The law still allows the referee the discretion to call "held" if the tackle is effective, but this option will be used as little as possible. Wherever possible the referee will allow the tackled player to be taken to the ground.

OLDHAM R.L.F.C. FIXTURES 1983-84

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

1983		
Aug.	14	St. Helens (Friendly) (3.00) . . . H 10-32
	21	Leeds (3.00) . . . H 25-16
	28	Bradford N. (3.00) . . . A 8-14
Sept.	4	Lancs. Cup (1) Workington . . . H 26-20
	11	Featherstone R. (3.30) . . . A 24-16
	14	Lancs. Cup (2) Swinton . . . A 6-8
	18	Fulham (3.00) . . . H 30-12
	25	Hull K.R. (3.00) . . . A 18-18
Oct.	2	St. Helens (3.00) . . . H*32-6
	9	Widnes (3.00) . . . H 10-20
	19	Castleford (7.30) . . . A 18-16
	23	Hull (3.00) . . . H 18-12
	30	Warrington (3.00) . . . A 22-22
Nov.	6	JOHN PLAYER TROPHY (1) . . .
	13	Wigan (3.00) . . . H
	20	JOHN PLAYER TROPHY (2) . . .
	27	Hull K.R. (3.00) . . . H
Dec.	4	Leigh (3.30) . . . A
	11	Featherstone R. (3.00) . . . H
	18	Wakefield T. (3.30) . . . A
	26	Salford (3.00) . . . H
1984		
Jan.	2	Leeds (3.00) . . . A
	8	Leigh (3.00) . . . H
	22	Wigan (3.00) . . . A
	29	Castleford (3.00) . . . H
Feb.	5	Hull (3.00) . . . A
	12	STATE EXPRESS CHAL. CUP (1)
	19	Whitehaven (3.30) . . . A
	26	STATE EXPRESS CHAL. CUP (2)
Mar.	4	Bradford Northern (3.00) . . . H
	11	Fulham (3.00) . . . A
	18	Warrington (3.00) . . . H
	25	Whitehaven (3.00) . . . H
Apr.	1	St. Helens (3.00) . . . A
	8	Widnes (3.00) . . . A
	15	Wakefield T. (3.00) . . . H
	20	Salford (3.00) . . . A

COLTS FIXTURES

1983		
Aug.	20	Leeds (3.00) . . . H
	27	Bradford N. (3.00) . . . A
Sept.	3	Wigan (3.00) . . . H
	10	Cardiff C. (3.00) . . . A
	17	Barrow (3.00) . . . H
	24	Hull K.R. (3.00) . . . A
Oct.	1	
	8	Bramley (3.00) . . . H
	15	Castleford (3.00) . . . A
	22	Hunslet (3.00) . . . H
	29	Halifax (3.00) . . . A
Nov.	5	Huddersfield (3.00) . . . H
	12	Rochdale H. (2.30) . . . A

'A' TEAM FIXTURES

1983		
Aug.	11	St. Helens (Friendly) (7.30) . . . A P
	17	Oldham Amateur R.L. (7.30) . . . H 40-2
	26	Lancashire Amateur R.L. (7.30) . . . H P
Sept.	2	
	10	Barrow (3.00) . . . H 20-16
	15	Swinton (LRCS 1st leg) (7.30) . . . A 26-16
	23	Salford (7.30) . . . H 30-24
	29	St. Helens (7.30) . . . A 8-28
Oct.		
	7	Widnes (7.30) . . . A 12-28
	13	Warrington (7.30) . . . H 30-12
	20	Swinton (LRCS 2nd Leg) (7.30) . . . H 8-0
	27	Lancs. Amateur R.L. (7.30) . . . H 22-9
Nov.	4	
	9	Oldham Amateur R.L. v N.Z. Touring Team (7.30) . . . H
	18	
	25	
Dec.	1	Leigh (7.30) . . . A
	9	
	15	Swinton (7.30) . . . H
	21	Wigan (7.30) . . . A
	30	
1984		
Jan.	5	Leigh (7.30) . . . A
	13	
	19	Wigan (7.30) . . . H
	27	
Feb.	3	Warrington (7.30) . . . A
	10	
	16	St. Helens (7.30) . . . H
	25	Barrow (2.30) . . . A
Mar.	1	Swinton (7.30) . . . A
	9	
	16	Salford (7.30) . . . A
	22	Widnes (7.30) . . . H
	30	

	19	Wakefield T. (2.30) . . . A
	25	Hull (2.30) . . . H
Dec.	3	St. Helens (2.30) . . . A
	10	Salford (2.30) . . . H
	17	York (2.30) . . . A
	24	
	31	
1984		
Jan.	2	
	7	Leigh (2.30) . . . A
	14	Colts Chal. Cup, Prelim. Round . . .
	21	Colts Chal. Cup, 1st Round . . .
Jan.	28	
to		
Mar.	31	Pool 'A' & Pool 'B' fixtures . . .

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