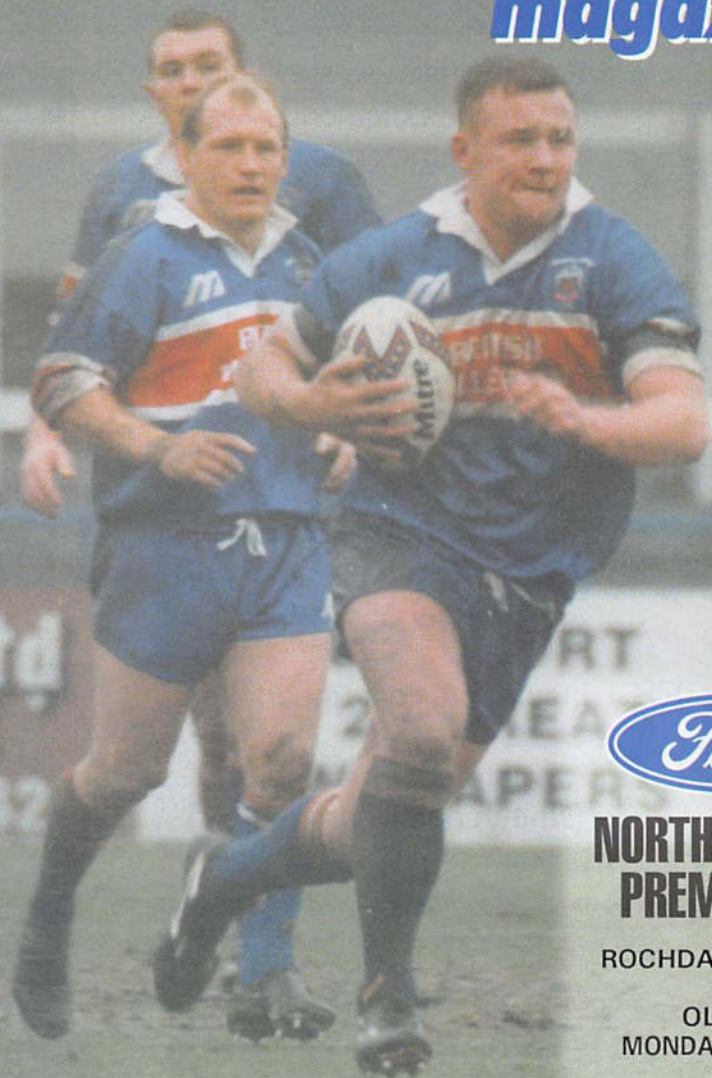


HORNETS

magazine



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COACH'S PLAYER OF THE SEASON (See Page 15)

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Hornets Magazine

Designed & Printed by

Brewers Print,

Peter Street,

Chorley, Lancs.

Tel: 01257-262065

Fax: 01257-241042

*The views expressed in this
Matchday Magazine do not
necessarily reflect those of the
Management and Staff of Rochdale
Hornets RLFC*

DERYCK'S VIEW

The result and performance, especially in the second half at Hunslet last Sunday was extremely disappointing. It was our worst performance for some time against a team who I still believe we could have beaten if we had played anything like we have in other recent games. By the time you read these notes we will have also played York and hopefully got something out of the game.

Whilst everyone had been buzzing in the week or so before the Hunslet game I felt the players were a bit flat immediately before the game. Again individual mistakes cost us dear but there were too many players who didn't perform on the day, myself included to lay the blame on any individual. I said some harsh things about our display to the press at the end of the game which people might think were heat of the moment comments. I have had time to reflect and stand by those comments. You the paying customer and fan deserve to have players representing your club who want to play for Rochdale Hornets. We all know it's a hard game but if anyone doesn't want to put their bodies on the line for the club they are letting you, me, the Board and their team mates down.

Being a local derby, today's game is a perfect time for everyone to show their commitment. The atmosphere generated by a good crowd, two teams desperate for the points and a number of players on both sides who will be playing against their former clubs will add to the intensity. There can be no excuses if you cannot rise to these occasions.

We played really well against Oldham on New Year's Day to win the AJ Law Cup. That was an emotional day for everyone concerned and we'll be looking for the same level of performance, but given recent events I'll settle for 2 points.

Get behind the players who turn out in the red, white and blue today.

Enjoy the game, DERYCK



MEET THE VISITING PLAYERS



AIDE MEAD

Product of Oldham Bears academy this utility back is a handy member of the Roughyeds squad. Played on the wing so far this season and has not let the side down.

AFI LEUILA

Only member of the Bears Super League squad to join the 'new' Oldham team. Of Tongan origin Afi is a strong running three-quarter who likes nothing better than to attack the opposition.

MICK FARRELL

21 year-old utility back was outstanding for Rochdale in 1997 but had a disappointing 1998. The ex-Waterhead amateur has just broken into the first team and is playing centre for his hometown club.

JOE McNICHOLAS

This young winger is one of the most exciting prospects in the new first division. Having turned down an offer from Bradford Bulls Joe was unfortunate to miss most of 1998 after breaking his leg in the early season. Rochdale born, he is armed with pace and a great side-step.

PAUL CROOK

Half back who previously played with Dewsbury, Oldham Bears and Hull Sharks. Creative player who is happy at either stand-off or loose forward.

LEO CASEY

Now at the veteran stage. Leo has returned to Oldham in the close season. Has represented Ireland at international level. This tough prop forward was delighted to be named as Captain for this seasons campaign. His performances in '99 have been outstanding and he has certainly led by example.

JASON CLEGG

Formerly a Bradford Bull this prop has opened this season in barnstorming form. Scored a typical rampaging try in the Law Cup against Rochdale 'Cleggy' is becoming a firm favourite with the Oldham spectators with his eye-catching performances.

PAUL ROUND

Now in his second spell with Oldham, Paul is a real veteran of the game. Formerly a back rower he now tends to lead from the front row. Former clubs include St. Helens and Castleford. His leading of a very good

Alliance side has brought him back into first team consideration.

DANIEL BROWN

Australian half-back or hooker who played for Hull KR last season. Good play maker and also an extremely hard-working tackler.

JOHN HOUGH

John will go down in the 'new' clubs history books as the first player to officially sign for the Roughyeds. A bright future is predicted for this ex-Warrington Wolves hooker who is renowned for his hard work and sportsmanship. John has been the model of consistency this season and is very popular among the Roughyeds spectators for his 100% commitment.

MIKE PRESCOTT

Another player who will be determined to have a good season after last season was wrecked through injury. Mike is a deceptively quick back row forward.

MICK MARTINDALE

A good ball playing loose-forward. 24 year old Mick was at Halifax for a number of years before joining his hometown club via Wakefield Trinity. Showed his full repertoire of skills when scoring a wonderful try against Bramley recently.

EMMERSON JACKMAN

A BARLA tourist in the summer of 1998 this stand-off or loose forward established his reputation at Saddleworth Rangers and Oldham St. Annes.

NATHAN VARLEY

Started most games from the subs bench last season but was still one of the clubs top tacklers. This ex-Bradford back rower has had his pre-season ruined by an ankle injury picked up on News Years Day. Having recovered from this Nathan made his first full appearance of the season in the last home game against York Wasps.

GRAEME SHAW

Hard working back row forward signed from Bradford Bulls. Became the 'new' clubs first international in October 1998 playing for Scotland.

LAURENT MINUT

French Fullback signed from Villeneuve. Courageous tackler and good under the high ball. Known as 'Mins' to his team-mates.

EMMANUEL PERALTA

Came to Oldham with his team-mate Laurent. 'Maun' is no stranger to England having previously played for Keighley.

BOARDROOM TALK...

A warm welcome to our supporters and all the Oldham officials, players and supporters who have made the short journey for today's Northern Ford Premiership game.

Hopefully, from a Hornets point of view the game will be as satisfying as the AJ Law Cup game on New Years Day. That match seems an age away now but all Hornets supporters will allow the memory to linger for a little while longer. Because the game went ahead as a tribute to the memory of Karl Marriott and Roy Powell it was a very emotional day for everyone concerned and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the fans from both sides who observed the minute's silence before the kick-off so immaculately. We did not expect it to be any other way, but thank you once again.

Since that game our fortunes on the field have been erratic, to say the least. Excellent performances one week followed by poor the next. Consistency is something we must strive hard to achieve if we are going to be anything like successful in what is a very tight, competitive competition. Deryck Fox is as frustrated about the situation as the most ardent fan and we will continue to support him in whatever way we can.

By all accounts, like ourselves, Oldham have struggled a bit this year. It was always going to be a difficult for them. A new ground away from the Town, less funding than many of the other clubs in the League and the ongoing team building necessary following the demise of the Oldham Bears, probably always meant this was going to be a year of consolidation for our good friend Chris Hamilton and his colleagues. Like ourselves, injuries to key players have hit hard. In particular the loss of Josh Bostock was a major blow.

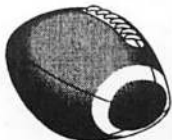
There have been a few bright spots though, including an ex-Hornet, Leo Casey inspired win over Dewsbury in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup. Oldham also held table toppers Hull KR to a very creditable draw earlier in the season. Hopefully today will not be seen as another bright spot when they look back over their season.

Apart from the weather and the state of the pitch resulting in the postponements both of us have suffered, the ground sharing arrangements with Oldham have gone as smoothly as could reasonably be expected. It's a little difficult to come to terms with having your nearest rivals in your own backyard, so to speak, but we have got on with it. We are all in this game together and local rivalries always add spice to the fixture list.

From a financial point of view we can hopefully look forward to one of our best gates of the season but we will be very happy if we can pay out a large chunk of the takings on win bonuses.

Today's game is the last one Brad Hepi is scheduled to play under the terms of the short term contract he signed when he joined us a little over a month ago. Brad is a class player who most observers would agree has added a missing edge to our play with his all action style. He has also scored several important tries in the past month and seems to have become an instant hit with the fans.

We are keen to sign him for the remainder of the season and negotiations have been going on for a couple of weeks to try to clinch the deal. Brad has made it known that he would ideally like to join a super League club and Castleford have been reported to be interested in signing him. By the time you read this things should have been sorted out, hopefully in Hornets favour, if however, Brad does decide to go elsewhere we wish him well.



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Alliance Round-up

ALLIANCE FIRST DIVISION FIXTURES 1999

FEBRUARY

11 Dewsbury	A 22-38
20 Barrow	A 24-26
24 Hunslet	A 30-42

MARCH

06 West Cumbria	A 18-32
25 Keighley	A 16-44

APRIL

10 Batley	A 10-34
15 Swinton	A 12-29

MAY

05 Leigh	A
20 Featherstone	A

JUNE

05 WEST CUMBRIA	H
10 OLDHAM	H
17 FEATHERSTONE	H
26 BARROW	H

JULY

08 SWINTON	H
18 BATLEY	H
22 KEIGHLEY	H

AUGUST

05 DEWSBURY	H
18 Oldham	A

T.B.A.

LEIGH	H
HUNSLET	H

The venue for Alliance fixtures will be split between Keswick Street and Spotland

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ALLIANCE TABLE DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	Pts
Batley Bulldogs	10	7	0	3	284	183	101	10
West Cumbria	8	6	1	1	239	164	75	13
Featherstone R	8	5	0	3	243	181	62	10
Dewsbury Rams	8	5	0	3	182	163	19	10
Hunslet Hawks	8	4	0	4	184	164	20	8
Leigh Centurions	7	4	0	3	174	154	20	8
Keighley Cougars	7	3	1	3	176	175	1	7
Swinton Lions	5	2	0	3	109	123	-14	4
Barrow B. Raiders	7	2	0	5	132	223	-91	4
Oldham	5	1	0	4	66	148	-82	2
Rochdale Hornets	7	0	0	7	134	245	-111	0

Supporters' Club News

Hello and welcome to this Oldham game. Lots of games to catch up on, so here goes. What a nail-biting match we were treated to against Hull KR. They scored more points than us, but that's all they can claim. Conditions were appalling, but our lads never gave up for a second, with a different referee who knows what the outcome might have been!

Man of the Match was **Matty Knowles** who was chosen by Ronnie (Smiler) Johnson. Matty is in great form and storming up our leader board.

And then there was Hunslet - I can't bring myself to say anything about that match, except that Helen Bailey chose **Mick Coult** as her **Man of the Match** (even though Martin Bunce is her fave!)

Our hearts were lifted (after they'd been in our mouths!) after the York match - what a performance from the lads, and a great win, despite some bizarre refereeing decisions, Richard Walker and his chum chose **Peter Fitzgerald** as **Man of the Match**.

UNMISSABLE! — Buy now to avoid disappointment. Yes it's **Ladies Night** again. We are trying a different format this time with a racy comedienne, a disco, and the promise of something from the lads who will be acting as waiters for the night. If you want a cracking night, with a lot of laughs for only a fiver, make sure you get your ticket **NOW**. Oh yes, only girls need apply!

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Who Said Philosophy in Rugby League was Dead?

For those of you who went to the South Leeds Stadium to watch the Hunslet game (and there was a good turn out of Hornet fans), the overriding feeling at the end was one of disappointment and anger at the poor performance. However if you had purchased a matchday programme you would have been able to contemplate Hunslet Coach, David Plange's comments on one of their recent disappointing performances.

He wrote:

"I was however a little disappointed in the amount of negative comments in circulation after the game in the bar."

"Why did the team start so poorly? Why was the enthusiasm so low in the first twenty minutes? These are questions that you may think you know the answers to but to truly know, one must first have a comprehensive understanding of the human mind. The problem is that the mind, in trying to understand itself is faced with the dilemma in which the subject i.e. that which must be understood, and the object i.e. that which we must understand, are of equal complexity. So you've probably changed your mind, or may possibly be a little confused. However, I doubt very much that the solution is the one, which springs to mind in the heat of the moment, which motivates a person to

bellow out a negative or derogative comment in a vain attempt to analyse and rectify, if it was that simple, then surely we would all do it, wouldn't we?"

Hmm, I think I understand, although I cannot help but wonder if it would have made more sense if there were a few references to trawlers and sardines!

Anyway "Plangey" can have the last laugh as they got the two points.

And What About Scything Wit?

Last weeks edition of "Total Rugby League" was razor sharp to pick up on a misprint in the Hull K.R. programme, as follows:

".....it has been said that their (Homets) attack has a new found cutting edge. But a misprint in Sunday's programme was surely taking things a bit too far. Western Samoan international and Club Captain Willie Swann was quoted as saying "David Stephenson and Brad Hepi are both cleaver footballers"(!) Any more of that and the programme editor will be getting the chop."

Point taken.

RUGBY LEAGUE ON THE AIRWAVES

A further reminder that if you want to keep abreast of local Rugby League issues you should tune into Manchester GMR from 7.00- 8.00 p.m. on Thursday nights. The show, hosted by Jack Dearden and Trevor Hunt is broadcast on 95.1 and 104.6 FM.

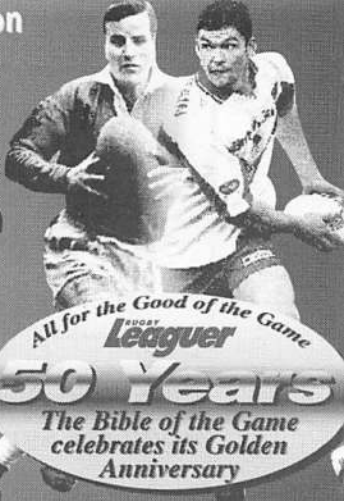
Featured below are some of the stories we have published in decades gone by...

HALF TIME QUIZ

1. Who is coach at Workington Town?
2. How many Championship finals did Manchester City's Main Road ground host?
3. Who scored 21 tries for the 1932 Lions?
4. Who was Joseph Platt?
5. Where was the third Test of the 1908 Great Britain v New Zealand test series played?
6. Who played at London Road, Maidstone?
7. Who captained the 1986 Kangaroos?
8. Who made 440 appearances for Featherstone Rovers?
9. Which club joined the Northern Union in 1900?
10. Who scored nine of Hull Kingston Rovers' points in the 1980 Challenge Cup Final?
11. Where is Craven Cottage?
12. Who contested the first ever World Cup Final?
13. What colours did Acton and Willesden play in?
14. When was the first Rothman's Rugby League Yearbook published?
15. Who were the joint compilers?
16. In what year was the Sydney Premiership inaugurated?
17. In which year were Blackpool Borough admitted to the RFL?
18. Where did the 1928 Lions play two exhibition games?
19. Who are known as the Wasps?
20. Who coached the invincible 1982 Kangaroos?
21. When were the timekeepers first used in domestic British Rugby League?
22. Which rugby union club did Alan Tait play for before joining Widnes?
23. Which amateur club did Ellery Hanley play for?
24. Have Wales ever beaten Australia?
25. Which Lion caught diptheria on the 1924 tour?
26. What year was the first international match played at Wembley?
27. Which French side are famous for their "snag et or" (blood and gold) colours?
28. What is the new Rugby League slogan?
29. Which Super League coach almost quit recently?
30. Who wrote "A People's Game"?
31. Which ground is also known as the Empire Stadium?
32. Who were "The Loiners"?
33. Where did Springfield Borough play?
34. What is the date of this year's Grand Final?
35. Who are the "Rabbitohs"?
36. Who won the Lance Todd Trophy for Widnes against Wigan in 1984?
37. Who is the RFL's Development Manager?
38. Which club's mascots are Billy and Bluey?
39. What nationality is Stanley Gene?
40. Who were known as the Dreadnoughts?

39. Papua New Guinea; 40. Wakefield Trinity
- Joe Lydon; 37. Tom O'Donovan; 38. Halifax Blue Sox;
- Park, Wigan; 34. October 9th; 35. South Sydney; 36.
31. Wembley; 32. Leeds Rhinos; 33. Springfield
- Game; 39. Andy Gregory; 30. Geoffrey Moorhouse;
- Sullivan; 26. 1930; 27. XIII Catalan; 28. "Love This
- Corpus Christi; 24. No. 25; 25. Donny Parkin and Jim
19. York; 20. Frank Stanton; 21. 1972; 22. Kelsio; 23.
- Raymond Fletcher; 16. 1908; 17. 1954; 18. Canada;
- Cherry and White; 14. 1981; 15. David Howes and
- Hubbard; 11. Fulham; 12. Great Britain and France; 13.
- Wally Lewis; 8. Jim Denton; 9. Barrow; 10. Steve
- the Northern Union; 5. Cheltenham; 6. Kent Invicta; 7.
1. Andy Platt; 2. Ten; 3. Alf Ellaby; 4. First secretary of

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1952...APR 26 - 'WHITEHAVEN'S NEW MAN'

'WHITEHAVEN have agreed by cable on terms with Neville Emery, an Australian Rugby Union international centre, and a contract has been despatched by air mail. Emery has promised to sail by the first available boat.

1960...MAR 25 "ON THE LIST"

'HULL KR have placed forward Doug Holland (£1,500) and Ron Rowbottom (£500) on the transfer list. They have also permitted Albert Thompson, Alan Holdstock and Peter Banks to play in junior football as they can't gain a regular place in Rovers' team.'

1962...APR 23 - 'OLDHAM WON...BUT SAINTS WENT VERY CLOSE'

'OLDHAM 10-7 ST HELENS: The long awaited clash between Oldham and St Helens at Watersheddings attracted a crowd of about 11,000 which is a reflection of how both clubs have fallen from the top of the table this season. With nothing at stake except prestige, there was not the same incentive for followers to make the trip to Oldham, so the attendance was quite satisfactory under the circumstances.'

1964...APR 20 - 'TERRIFIC TAYLOR'

'AFTER John Taylor had touched down for his third try against Barrow I turned to a Hull KR official and asked, "Is it £20,000 you are asking for Taylor?" Back came the reply, "No, and he's coming off the list."

I should think so, Prop-forward Taylor was terrific.

1967...MAR 24 - 'SUPPORT IS STILL THERE'

'LEEDS UNITED may have taken over from Leeds RL team as the biggest crowd-puller in the city. But there is still plenty of support for the latter game in Leeds, of which it was always said until recent years that it was a Rugby League minded city. Proof of this came on Saturday when 58,397 people watched football in Leeds - 34,366 the Leeds United match with Manchester City; 20,031 the Leeds - Swinton RL cup-tie and 4,000 Hunslet's game with Bradford Northern.'

1971...APR 24 - '£2,500 PRICE TAG'

'A £2,500 price tag has been placed by Wakefield on emigrant player, Ken Batty. It follows his arrival in Sydney and immediate interest by two clubs in acquiring his services. St George and Canterbury Bankstown are the clubs - both having been in touch with Trinity about the 26-year old winger who proved a star man in the 1967-68 season.'

1973...MAR 21 - 'SIGNINGS - VINCE IS HAPPY'

'THE worried frown is beginning to leave Vince Karalius' brow. Widnes, usually not big spenders, have lashed out £10,000 on signing Doug Laughton and Tommy Warbuton, and Vince is certain it is money well spent...'

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ROCHDALE HORNETS 1999 FACT FILE

	Score	Att.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
JANUARY																			
1 Oldham (AJ Law)	H	43-10	2879	Wide T	Hudson	Hilton T	Coult T	Coussons T	Swann 2T	Fox 8G	Knowles	Shaw 2T	Hall	McKinney	Bunce	Stephenson	Winrow	Aston	Holland
31 Wigan SJ (CC3)	H	52-12	583	Wide	Eyres T	Hilton T	Coult 2T	Coussons 3T	Swann	Fox 7G	Knowles	Hough T	Aston	McKinney	Burgess	Stephenson T	Hudson	Hall	Bunce
FEBRUARY																			
7 Featherstone	A	12-32	1762	Wide	Eyres T	Hilton	Coult	Coussons	Swann T	Fox 2G	Knowles	Shaw	Aston	McKinney	Burgess	Stephenson	Hudson	Hall	Bunce
14 York (CC4)	H	19-22	609	Wide	Eyres	Hilton	Coult	Coussons	Swann	Fox 3G/1DG	Knowles T	Shaw	Aston	McKinney	Burgess	Stephenson	Hudson T	Hall T	Bunce
20 Doncaster Dragons	H	28-10	458	Wide	Fitzgerald G	Hudson	Wilde	Coult	Coussons	Fox 4G	Knowles T	Shaw	Aston	McKinney	Best J	Stephenson	Bradbury	Hall T	McKinney
MARCH																			
7 Widnes	A	2-6	2684	Fitzgerald G	Hudson	Wilde	Coult	Hayes	Swann	Fox 3G	Knowles	Shaw	Aston	Best J	Bunce	Stephenson	McKinney	Hall	Burgess
14 Leigh	H	22-40	1203	Fitzgerald T	Hudson	Wilde	Coult	Coussons	Swann	Fox 3G	Knowles	Shaw	Aston	Best J	Bunce	Burgess T	Hilton T	Hall	Best (J)
21 Lance Lynx	H	22-27	711	Wide	Hudson	Hilton T	Coussons	Bunce	Fitzgerald T	Fox 3G	Knowles	Shaw	Aston	Best J	Bunce	Burgess	Bradbury	Cameron T	McKinney
APRIL																			
2 Swinton	A	24-23	1043	Wide	Hudson	Coussons T	Cooper	Bunce	Fitzgerald T	Fox 4G	Knowles T	Shaw	Aston	Cameron	Coult	Hepi	Marsh T	Hall	McKinney
11 Batley	A	19-14	478	Wide	Hudson T	Coussons T	Cooper	Bunce	Fitzgerald	Fox 1G/1DG	Knowles	Stephenson	Aston	Cameron	Coult	Hepi 2T	Shaw	Marsh	McKinney
14 Barrow (Wed) 7.30	H	36-16	690	Wide T	Hudson	Coussons	Cooper T	Bunce T	Fitzgerald 2T	Fox 1T 4G	Knowles	Stephenson	Aston	McKinney	Coult	Hepi T	Shaw	Holland	Cameron
18 Hull K.R.	H	14-20	1179	Wide	Hudson	Coussons	Cooper	Bunce T	Fitzgerald	Fox 1G	Knowles	Stephenson	Aston	Cameron	Coult	Hepi T	Shaw	Marsh	McKinney
25 Hunslet	A	12-33	1184	Wide	Hudson	Marsh	Cooper T	Bunce	Fitzgerald	Fox 2G	Knowles	Stephenson	Aston	McKinney	Coult	Hepi	Swann	Cameron	Holland
28 York (Wed) 7.30	H	18-10	743	Wide	Eyres	Hilton	Cooper T	Bunce	Fitzgerald	TSG Kelly	Knowles	Stephenson	Aston	McKinney	Coult	Hepi	Fox	Cameron T	Swann

MAY
3 Oldham (Mon) 7.30 H
17 Bramley A
30 Dewsbury A

JUNE
8 Whitehaven H
13 Oldham H
20 Featherstone H
27 Barrow A

JULY
2 Widnes (Fri) 7.30 H
11 Leigh A
18 Lance Lynx H
25 Keighley A

AUGUST
1 Swinton H
8 Workington Town H
15 Batley A
22 Hull K.R. H
29 Hunslet H
T.B.A. Keighley H

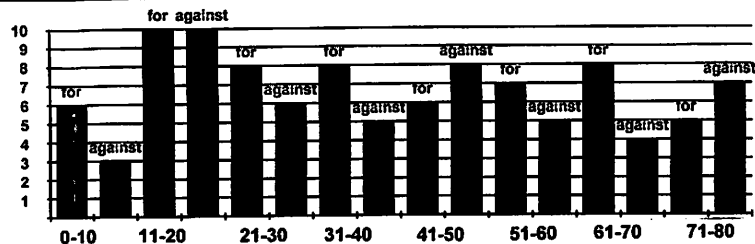
HORNETS STAT ATTACK

First Team

	Apps	Tries	Gl's	Pts
Jon Aston	11	1		4
David Best	1(1)			
Jason Best	3(1)			
Gary Bradbury	(2)			
Martin Bunce	10(3)	2		8
Andy Burgess	5(2)	1		4
Steve Cameron	2(5)	2		8
Sean Cooper	6	3		12
Phil Coussons	9	5		20
Mick Coult	12(1)	4		16
Andy Eyres	4	2		8
Peter Fitzgerald	10	6	5	30
Deryck Fox	12(1)	2	33+2	76
Rob Hall	1(7)	2		8
Ian Hayes	1			
Brad Hepi	6	4		16
Chris Hilton	6(1)	3		12
Chris Holland	(1)			
Chris Hough	1	1		4
Lee Hudson	9(3)	3		12
Matt Knowles	12	3		12
Steve Marsh	1(4)	2		8
Chris McKinney	8(5)			
Danny Sculthorpe	2(10)			
Mick Shaw	7(1)			
David Stephenson	10	1		4
Willie Swann	6(2)	2		8
Steve Wilde	13	1		4

Above Statistics do not include
AJ Law Cup

ROCHDALE HORNETS TRY SCORING PATTERN



Tonight's Mascot is JACK RAWSTRON.
Jack is 5 years of age and he attends St. Vincent's School. He hasn't got a favourite player-yet, (there's hope for you yet Jon.) His main hobby is playing on his Playstation, and watching The Hornets, of course!

JUNIOR HORNETS

DISCO - 6th JUNE, 1999

Straight after the Whitehaven match until about 7-30 p.m. it will be held in Studs Bar and it is a chance for you to meet the players and generally have a good time! AND IT'S FREE! So I hope all of you Juniors are there, Food and Fun provided.

NORTHERN FORD PREMIERSHIP (as at 29.4.99)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	DIF	PTS
Hull Kingston Rovers	11	9	1	1	210	129	+81	19
Dewsbury Rams	11	9	0	2	310	196	+114	18
Leigh Centurions	11	9	0	2	310	228	+82	18
York Wasps	12	7	1	4	239	181	+58	15
Hunslet Hawks	11	7	0	4	277	151	+126	14
Featherstone Rovers	10	7	0	3	239	174	+65	14
Widnes Vikings	11	7	0	4	255	194	+61	14
Barrow Border Raiders	11	5	0	6	280	266	+14	10
Keighley Cougars	10	5	0	5	220	208	+12	10
Batley Bulldogs	11	4	1	6	200	177	+23	9
Workington Town	10	4	1	5	196	259	-63	9
Bramley	11	4	0	7	142	157	-16	8
ROCHDALE HORNETS	11	4	0	7	207	236	-29	8
Whitehaven Warriors	11	4	0	7	215	250	-35	8
Swinton Lions	11	3	0	8	201	264	-63	6
Lancashire Lynx	10	3	0	7	156	316	-160	6
Oldham	9	2	1	6	131	240	-109	5
Doncaster Dragons	12	1	1	10	183	344	-161	3



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

LEE HUDSON

Nickname: Foggy

Birth Date: 4/1/79

Birthplace: Salford

Occupation: Cloth Cutter

Girlfriend's Name: Lynsay

Previous Club: Salford Reds

Honours: Lancs. Schoolboys, GB U18's,

Most Memorable Moment in the Game:
Playing for G.B. against Junior Kiwis

Worst Moment in the Game:
None

Biggest Career influence: Family

Matchday Superstitions: None

Young Player to watch at Hornets: Chris Holland

Interests/Hobbies: Training and socialising

Favourite T.V. Programme: Only Fools and Horses

Favourite Music: Bee Gees, Dance

Who would you like to have a "One to One" with and what would you ask them?

My financial advisor after winning the lottery.

ALEX BOSTOCK

Junior Hornets Alex Bostock has been selected to play for Lancashire Under 10's Alex, who lives in Norden and goes to Norden Community Primary School trains with local club, Royton Tigers.



He has only been playing the sport for two years but has already impressed with his quick dashes down the wing. After playing for Rochdale in the Greater Manchester Youth Games last year he was chosen for the Lancashire squad trials at Leyland. He came through them with flying colours and begins training with the squad any day now.

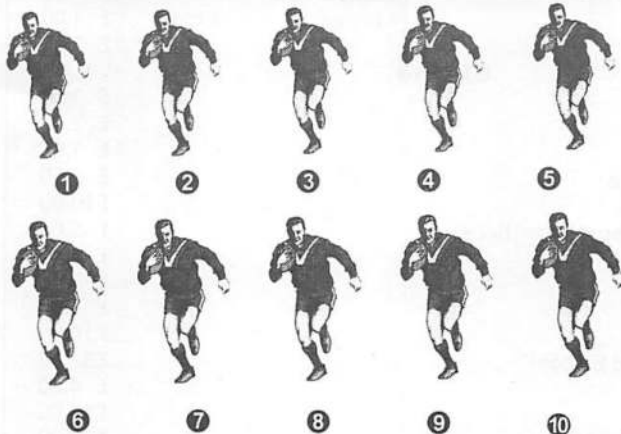
He's keen to stay in the squad now he's got there and it is obviously a step towards achieving his ambition of playing professional Rugby League, ideally for his beloved Hornets.

Alex's growing interest in the game has resulted in his parents becoming big Rugby fans. Mum Debbie is delighted for Alex and apparently can be heard shouting enthusiastically for Hornets when she's not cheering Alex on. Well done Alex, and good luck.

Photo courtesy of Rochdale Observer

PLAYER SPONSORSHIP AT HORNETS

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SATURDAY YANKEE
- 2 CHRIS HILTON
THE INDUSTRY PUB
- 3 CHRIS HILTON
KIRKHOLT WORKING MENS CLUB.
- 4 CHRIS KELLY
M & Y JOINERY (ST. HELENS)
5. MATT KNOWLES
ROY TETLOW
- 6 DARREN ROBINSON
WHINMOOR POST OFFICE (LEEDS)
- 7 DARREN ROBINSON
CROSS GATES WORKING MENS CLUB
- 8 DARREN ROBINSON
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PLAYER £50

Player

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Phil Coussons
Peter Fitzgerald
Deryck Fox
Rob Hall
Steve Marsh
Chris McKinney
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Mick Shaw
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Window Mini Kits	£ 2.50
Car Stickers	£ 1.95
Hornets Logo Car Stickers	£ 8.50
Match Videos	£10.00
First Season in the Northern Union (Book)	£ 5.00
Mugs (Standard)	£ 2.50
Mugs (Large)	£ 3.50
Glass Tankards	£ 3.50
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POSTPONED GAMES

Heaven knows both Rochdale Hornets and Oldham Roughyeds have had enough problems with their fixture lists this year. Ever since the ground sharing arrangement was announced a couple of days after the RFL fixtures were published both clubs have been wrestling with the complexities of re-arranging games with clubs who, understandably do not want to change their schedule.

Of course this problem has been seriously compounded this year by the need for both teams to postpone several games due to the inclement weather and the pitch being unplayable.

Whilst postponements are really annoying to fans, especially if they are made late in the day and fans have already made the journey, how many of you have wondered what actually goes on behind the scenes to minimise the disruption?

As in most things in life Hornets have a "*Procedure in Event of Postponed Fixtures*".

It is a particularly well thumbed piece of paper and it goes something like this:-

If there is a possibility of a postponement inform (preferably with a time when the actual final decision will be taken)
Club Officials, Chairman, Chief Executive etc.
Rugby Football League
Opposition Club

Coaching Staff
Kit Manager
Doctor, Dentist
Physio
Match Officials
Bar Manager
Catering Staff
Police
DJ/Announcer
Chief Steward
Any Entertainment, Charity Collections etc.



If postponement is confirmed contact is made with all the above, plus

Players
Coach Company
Sponsors
Press
RL Sports Desk
Teletext/CEEFAX
Supporters Travel Organiser
St. Johns Ambulance
Mascot
Executive Members

Club officials try to ensure all of this happens in minutes, rather than hours, to minimise the disruption and inconvenience to everyone concerned.

You might want to spare a little thought for all those people who have slaved over a typewriter for hours on end to produce a programme which never gets purchased even though they will have probably been printed and the printer wants paying. No; Well suit yourself!

There is one great mystery surrounding postponed games.
Who does get to eat all the Pies?

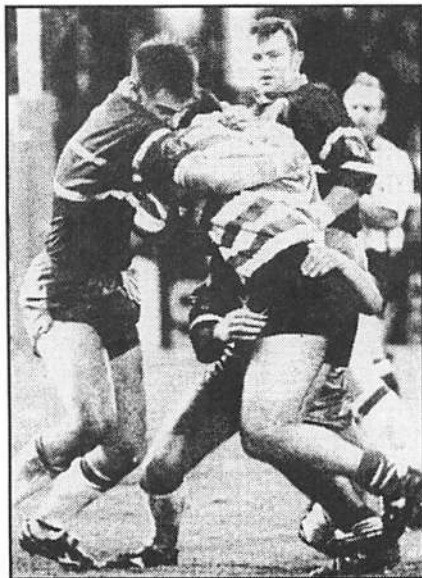
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THE ROCHDALE OBSERVER - CAMPAIGNING FOR ROCHDALE

GOLDEN GAMBLE HALF-TIME DRAW

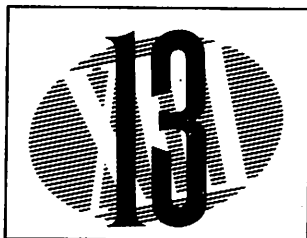
**£1 stake - WIN UP TO £2000
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THWAITES

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News From Around The World Of Rugby League



WORLD CUP

More details have been released about the Lincoln Financial Group World Cup whose draw is due to take place at the Savoy Hotel on Tuesday 25th May.

The tournament involving 16 teams split into four pools of four will kick off on Saturday 28th October next year. The World Cup Final itself will be played on 25th November although the venues for the opening game and final have yet to be decided. Old Trafford is the most likely venue for the final but possible redevelopment work may make that impracticable.

It is hoped that the games from the quarter final onwards will be sold out. They are all likely to be based in the "northern heartland". Some of the poor games will be spread around the country with Scotland and Ireland sharing a group and another group's games being played in Wales.

Neil Tunnaciffe has confirmed "we are running the World Cup this way to raise awareness of the game to unprecedented levels which should then boost participation. We want to generate big revenues to re-invest into the game which will give Rugby League a big boost well into the 21st century."

"Our primary building blocks of sponsorship, broadcasting rights and grant aide should net around £4.75 million, not taking into account gate receipts."

The RLF is hoping to announce a World Cup Co-ordinator this week. Hot tip is that the job is going to go to self confessed "Rugby League nut" Jason Harborrow, the Head of the Leisure Division of JJB Sports, who has been overseeing the development of the new JJB Stadium at Robin Park, Wigan

WHEN MO GOES

On the subject of appointments, Super League Europe are to advertise for a successor to Managing Director Maurice Lindsay, who is due to retire this year. Perhaps more worrying (or reassuring dependent upon your viewpoint) is SLE Chairman, Chris Caisley's contemplation of a year of no change. He thinks the fans are fed up with change whether it be promotion, relegation, fixture changes (tell me about it - Ed/) the salary cap, overseas quotas, and the number of teams in the Super League. "We should maintain what we've got and look to raise standards across the board" he said.

It sounds a little bit like the drawbridges are about to be lifted to me.

REFEREE ACCLAIMED

Most fans probably feel their team rarely gets a fair deal from referees. Long suffering Hornets fans probably feel they have as much to feel aggrieved about as most. (Although I have it on very good Authority from someone who is as committed to the Hornets cause as anyone and has seen the Hull KR game on video that the Referee and Touch judge may have got the disallowing of the Jon Aston "try" right).

Nice then that the media down under was unanimous in it's praise for English referee Stuart Cummings who took charge of the recent Australia v New Zealand Test. He was full of praise for the technology that allowed him to communicate effectively with the other officials and kept things running much more smoothly. Something for the RFL to think about, perhaps, particularly if a sponsor can be found to meet the cost.

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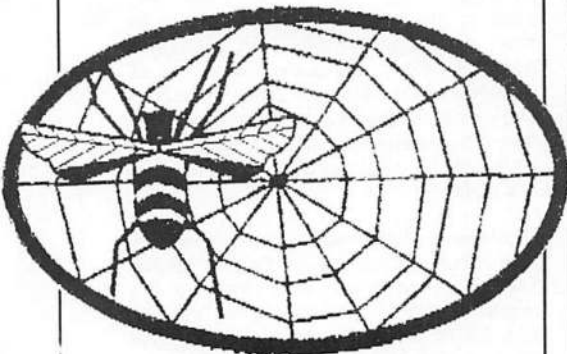
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RATCLIFFES



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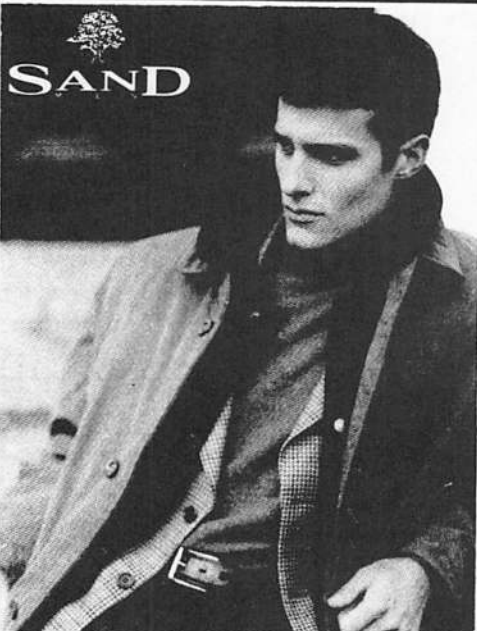
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OULDERS HILL CAR PARK (SIGNPOSTED) AND
NOT IN THE SIDE STREETS. THANK YOU FOR
YOUR CO-OPERATION**

HAVE SHIRT WILL TRAVEL

One disadvantage of summer rugby is that it makes it difficult to plan summer holidays so you don't miss too many games.

However if you are going away in the next couple of months don't forget to pack your Hornets shirt in the suitcase. (if you haven't got one get down to the club shop).

Towards the end of the season we'll be looking to publish pictures of "Hornets fans on tour in 1999."

There may even be a prize for the most unusual place a Hornets shirt is pictured and the farthest flung place a Hornets shirt is pictured.

Any pictures can be dropped off at the Club Offices and we will endeavour to return them if you leave your name and address.

So don't forget to get packing and snapping.

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The Teams

Rochdale Hornets

STEVE WILDE	1
LEE HUDSON	2
PHIL COUSSIONS	3
SEAN COOPER	4
MARTIN BUNCE	5
PETER FITZGERALD	6
DERYCK FOX	7
MATT KNOWLES	8
DAVID STEPHENSON	9
JON ASTON	10
CHRIS McKINNEY	11
MICK COULT	12
BRAD HEPI	13
STEVE MARSH	14
CHRIS HOLLAND	15
STEVE CAMERON	16
DANNY SCULTHORPE	17

Oldham

LAURENT MINUT
ADRIAN MEAD
EMMERSON JACKMAN
MICK FARRELL
JOE McNICHOLAS
DANNY WOOD
DANIEL BROWN
LEO CASEY
JOHN HOUGH
JASON CLEGG
GRAEME SHAW
MIKE PRESCOTT
MICK MARTINDALE
PAUL CROOK
NATHAN VARLEY
PAUL ROUND
EMMANUEL PERALTA

Referee: Mr. N. G. ODDY

Touch Judges:

Mr. K. TAYLOR and Mr. D. F. REDFERN

Reserve Ref: Mr. P. CARR

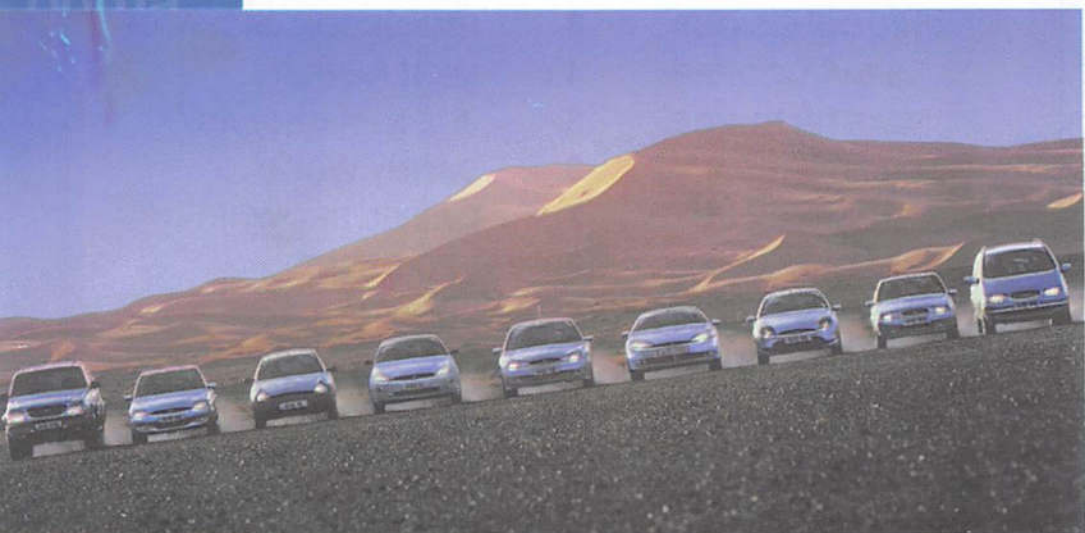
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