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CHRISTOPHER HAMILTON

Chairman's Chatter



TODAY we welcome Lancashire Lynx to Spotland for our last home fixture and penultimate game of what has become a very long and hard season.

Back in February we started full of optimism, as did 17 other teams but, for a variety of reasons, things have varied dramatically from the stated route of progression. As a Club we have learned a lot from this season and it is important that we take that knowledge on board, retain it, and use it to our advantage from next season onwards.

The experiences of this season will have to be digested quickly, especially if the playing season is to start again in December 1999. There will be no time to waste!

One of the things that has given me some comfort this year has been the acceptance by a large number of the spectators that the position we started from when we formed a new club – **less than two years ago** – meant that there was no easy solution/quick fix to establishing ourselves as a force again in Rugby League.

Some people have read that as an acceptance of lower standards but anybody who knows me knows that nothing could be further from the truth. The Board, who run the Club, have to do so with reality – short term pain, long term gain – remember those words when clubs in the Premiership start to go bust just like Oldham Bears.

I also have a message to those of you who have stuck with us this season. First and foremost, Thank You. It really is appreciated; you are the people who provide the drive and inspiration to those of us seeking to secure the fortunes of Oldham Rugby League and to that end we will not give up.

We hope to progress each year until you get the success you deserve.

Keep the faith.

Chris Hamilton



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OLDHAM EVENING CHRONICLE'S

Roger Halstead

A SEASON that began with considerable optimism about the Roughyeds' prospects is petering out to a bitterly disappointing end.

Mick Coates' men go into today's clash with fellow-strugglers Lancashire Lynx on the back of eight defeats in the last nine matches and some terrible hidings in the process.

At the start of the season, the Club set itself a goal . . . to do at least as well as, if not better than, the four other clubs from last year's second division who were also handicapped in terms of News Corporation funding.

Of the four, only bottom-club Doncaster looks like finishing below the Roughyeds, who will probably end up second or third off the bottom, with Barrow, Bramley and Workington sitting comfortably above them.

That wasn't meant to be part of the Roughyeds' '99 agenda when the season proper got going with that superb Silk Cut Challenge Cup win against Dewsbury at Spotland in February in one of the biggest upsets of the round.

For those with short memories let me remind you of how Oldham lined up to beat the Rams 18-10 with tries by Jason Clegg, Daniel Brown and Aidie Mead, two goals by Laurent Minut and another by Brown.

Oldham: Minut; Mead, Leuila, Bostock, McNicholas; Jackman, Brown; Casey, Hough, Clegg, Shaw, Perrett, Martindale; Subs: Quinlan, Coulter, Prescott, Peralta.

The next round produced a disappointing 18-2 defeat at Whitehaven, but in the first home league game Barrow were sent packing 24-20.

Five days later, championship favourites Hull KR were held to an 8-8 draw on Humberside. Oldham were surpassing expectations, but as injuries began to bite and some players fell out of favour, the tough demands of the Northern Ford Premiership took their toll.

Disappointingly, the Roughyeds were to win only one of their next ten games, but with two exceptions – Hunslet away and York at home – they were always competitive.

Leigh won by six points, Bramley by six at Headingley, Keighley by four at Cougar Park, Swinton by seven at Gigg Lane, and Whitehaven by eight at Spotland.

A surprise win at Workington perked everyone up and although Featherstone won by seven points at Spotland, the Roughyeds beat Rochdale 26-18 at Boundary Park – in front of a crowd of 3,023 – and then drew 20-20 with Batley at Spotland.

The team that day: Farrell; Mead, Leuila, Darkes, McNicholas; Crook, Brown; Casey, Hough, Clegg, Round, Peralta, Shaw; Subs: Jackman, Barker, Sinfield, Coates.

The loss of Josh Bostock and Laurent Minut through injury, and Mick Martindale through internal dispute, were major blows which were compounded when other players joined the casualty list such as Graeme Shaw, Nathan Varley and Mick Farrell.

Brian Quinlan joined the stay-aways and on-loan Danny Wood chose to go back to Dewsbury when his two-month agreement expired.

For my money, the break-up of the Brown, Wood, Martindale midfield trio was to signal the start of the gradual decline which finally sent alarm bells ringing through the Club as opponents piled on the points week after week, culminating in that 84-0 defeat at Widnes and that 66-6 hammering at Leigh.

Many lessons can be learned from the events of this season and I'm sure the Club will be keen to take them on board with the result that we will see several tough decisions being made in the next few weeks.

If you think this season has been a marathon, wait for next season, with its 34 league games on top of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup and a top-eight play-off for teams that do well.

A major overhaul will be needed to produce a squad capable of enjoying some success in such a demanding campaign . . . and wouldn't it be nice . . . an observation more than a question . . . if we could be playing our home games in Oldham.

As I say, tough decisions lie ahead for the men who run the Roughyeds. We will be able to measure just how tough by the time we come to the starting gate again at the end of the year.



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MICK COATES

Game On...



WELL the last home game is here and with only the one remaining away game to go the season is well and truly coming to an end. Not before time you say! and how right you are!! In all my time of watching, playing and coaching I have never wanted the season to end so badly.

I hear the comments made about things on match days:

- i Why have you picked him?
- ii Why is he playing in that position?
- iii This is your team

I accept that responsibility, but we have needed the input of some established quality players from day one, eg.

When we had Josh playing we said then that we needed another centre to go alongside him. Unfortunately Josh did not play too many games and as a result we had no established centre and that is still the case.

There have been times when we have had four trialists from the local amateurs in the team and I have even had the situation where they have never trained and gone straight into the team on match days. We have also seen them do a good job and they certainly don't let themselves or the team down

It also means questions have to be asked about some of these players who claim to be professional rugby players. This also is levelled at me. I have to say that the last two seasons have made me very disillusioned with this great game. I hear of people being paid fantastic sums of money and shake my head in disbelief.

I fail to see how it can be paid now, yet back in the '70/80s it couldn't. Yes I know that there is Murdoch money, but attendances and media interest haven't changed that greatly.

If we are to compete with teams in this division we have to do what they do. There are a lot of full time personnel out there, which I don't think is necessarily the answer because these clubs will commit financial suicide eventually.

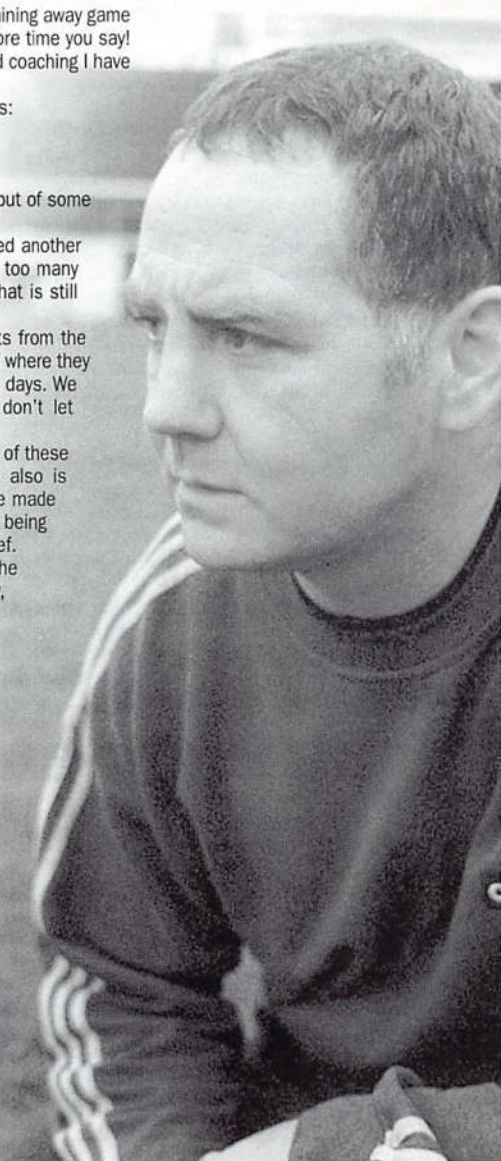
A full time coach could take care of all players' affairs, both identifying them and getting a financial package together to get them signed. But then toes might get stepped on and personalities may clash. I'm sure you know the scenario.

There are difficult times ahead for ORLFC. One important thing has to be playing in Oldham. "After all if we don't do it for the fans, who do we do it for?" Secondly we need to get a home where there is a field for training.

Anyway, enough! We are here to watch a game which hopefully we will win.

On behalf of myself and the players to all you spectators who have stuck by us a really **BIG THANKS**. It is appreciated no matter what some might think. I'm only sorry it couldn't have been better.

Mick



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FROM

The Editor

AS THE season draws to a close Rugby League is once again in turmoil. Although Murdoch money and the Sky TV deal rescued the game in 1995 the 'cure' has produced as many problems as the original 'disease'. Despite the long-running 'war' with BARLA prior to 1995 the difficulties encountered when there is more than one ruling body have not been overcome.

Indeed, there are now more ruling bodies than ever and each, of course, is built up as a power base for one faction or another. At Super League Level SLE does not seem to know what format it wants, nor how many clubs. However desirable big city representation might be, attendances at London, Sheffield and Gateshead – including seasons when the two former have appeared at Wembley – do not bode well. Without a wholesale change of code by the likes of Bath, Leicester, Northampton, Cardiff etc. It is difficult to see how expansion beyond the game's heartland will ever succeed. Yet demographic changes, the migration of population from North to South, suggest that Rugby League must tackle the problem of expansion as the spectator base in the North is increasingly eroded.

Meanwhile the NFP clubs at least took some steps in the right direction last week. The restoration of a full fixture list, a December start and a revival of the Trans-Pennine Cup and top eight play-offs are all to be welcomed. It is still my opinion that Autumn is the best time of year for watching rugby and that the sooner we play again in September, October and November the better. But how well that will sit with Super League in Summer is anyone's guess.

On the financial front common sense prevailed among the NFP clubs in that the remaining Murdoch money will be phased out over three years. Hopefully, this will bring to an end guaranteed contract payments, especially to overseas players, of up to £45,000, a figure which is quite obviously unsustainable but which has nevertheless been paid this year by at least one leading NFP club. Unfortunately, one of the most sensible suggestions to be made in years was rejected, namely that players' wages be standardised and paid directly by the RFL from

central funds. This would have put to an end the situation whereby clubs could not pay their players' wages and ran up massive debts to the Inland Revenue. And why? So individual Chairmen and clubs can steal a march on their rivals? Sometimes you feel that heads need banging together to knock some sense into them. With Hull KR in administration and Featherstone and Keighley in dire straits (and all those we don't hear about!) surely its time for some transparency in clubs' financial affairs to ward off the disasters which have already brought some, including a previous incarnation of Oldham, to their knees.

Have a pleasant Autumn if you can find some rugby to watch.

And many thanks to all our programme contributors.

The Editor

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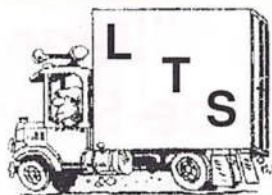
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JUNIOR

Roughyeds



Debra Rafferty

HI TO ALL THE JUNIOR ROUGHYEDS

We welcome to Spotland the Players, Supporters and Directors of Lancashire Lynx for this, the last home game of the season.

On a positive note on September 17th we have the End of Season Disco at the Pennine Lounge with the Player of the Year presentations to be made during the evening. This is going to be a great family evening.

I feel the Junior Roughyeds have had a good season. The Club were very generous to us and many thanks for that and also to the players – many thanks.

The last Junior Roughyed to join this season was Master **Daniel Greenwood** born on 16th June 1999.

Daniel's claim to fame is that his great, great grandad played for Oldham RLFC in 1895/7. George Fillingham played in Oldham's first win in the Northern Union 5-16 at Huddersfield on the 23rd of September 1895. Welcome to the Junior Roughyeds Daniel.

The Mascots for today are **Emma** and **Zoe Buckley**. Emma and Zoe have been



Emma Buckley



Zoe Buckley

Junior Roughyeds for several seasons now. Their favourite player is John Hough.

Enjoy your day girls.

The Mascot for the last game of the season is **Samantha Shaw**. Samantha goes to all Oldham's matches and will have a lot of support cheering her on at York.

Samantha's favourite player is Emerson Jackman. Have a great day Samantha.



Samantha Shaw



During the half-time break at today's match we will be making the Mascot Awards to the Junior Roughyeds who have had the honour of being mascot for the Club over the past seven matches. They will be presented with a photograph and a certificate.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have helped to make the Junior Roughyeds a success this season.

Many thanks firstly to **Caroline Byrne** for all her support, Also our sponsors this season **KFC**, **Geoff** and **Marjorie Cooke** of Saddleworth Sports, **Stuart Gough** of Celebrate Caterers, and to the many people who have helped me in various ways. **Thank you**.

On behalf of all the Junior Roughyeds we would like to wish ORLFC every success next season.

Debra Rafferty



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Roughyed Times

ROUGHYED Times the O.R.L.F.C. 'worldwide' fanzine recently announced a series of awards at a Saturday evening celebration held at a packed Dr Syntax, Oldham.

On the playing front and with first team awards not announced until the very end of the season, the premier award of the evening was the Roughyed Times' Alliance Division One team Player of the Year won by popular 18 year old and prospect hooker **Craig Milner** who received his award from the Club Vice Chairman Melvyn Lord. (On the QT Craig was run close for his nomination by fullback Kevin Fitzpatrick). Veteran and evergreen forward **Paul**



Craig Milner

Round was presented with a special loyal service award by the Chronicle's Roger Halstead.



Paul Round receives his loyalty award from Roger Halstead.

Roughyed Times fanzine seller and Fan of the Season is **Dave Davenport** also well known as character and match official in the Saddleworth and District cricket league. Dave received his award from Afi Leuila. The fanzine's young Supporter of the Season is 13 year old Roughyed **Sarah Robinson** from Clarksfield receiving her prize from Aussie Danny Webster.

Congratulations to joint editors Gary Town and Dave Roberts on a smashing evening and thanks to sponsors **Morrisons Supermarkets, United Norwest Co-op, The Three Crowns, Scouthead, The Old Original, Scouthead and Double S** for the trophies. Thanks also to **Debbie and Conrad** for the hospitality at the Syntax and to **Kath Roberts** for the superb buffet.



Craig Milner having received his award from Melvyn Lord. Mick Coates joins the celebration.

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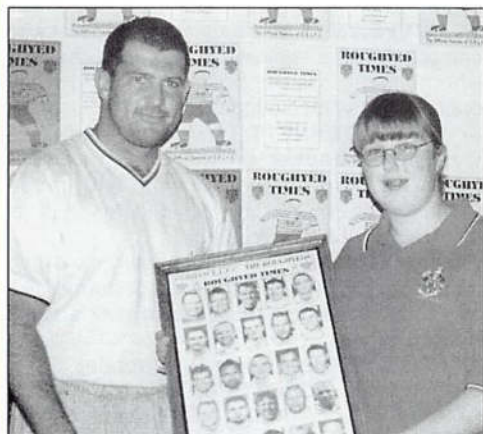
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Awards by BRIAN WALKER

Photographs courtesy of Gary Town



Dave Davenport and Afi Leuila.



A prize for Sarah! Danny Webster presents young Sarah Robinson with her award.

On the editorial front congratulations to Roughyed Times who were favourably featured in the sports national fanzine 'Final Hooter' and nominated down under by Sydney City Roosters, 'Going Underground' as 'one of the game's most

entertaining fanzines'. The fanzine too provides an extra dimension for the voice of the Club's supporters whilst also providing a further facility for the Club itself.

ROUGHYED TIMES



The Official Fanzine of O.R.L.F.C

PLAYER OF THE YEAR



1999

We would like you to vote for your Oldham Roughyed player of the year.

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My Player of the Year is.....

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Please Return To: Roughyed Times 17 Market Street, Mossley OLS 0ES or O.R.L.F.C. Union Street, Oldham. The closing date for entries is; Tuesday 31st August 1999.

To vote for the Roughyed Times' Player of the Year fill in the form and return to the address provided. To cast your vote you need not be a subscriber to the magazine or a member of the Supporters Club.

See page 21 for presentation details
in conjunction with
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PLAYER OF THE YEAR 1999
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IN TOWN TODAY

Lancashire Lynx

CHAMPIONS of the Second Division and inaugural finalists in the first (and only?) Treize Tournoi, losing to Villeneuve, in 1998, Lancashire Lynx have somewhat fallen from grace this season. Like Oldham the Lynx have had a disappointing time winning only five of their League matches. Home this season has been Victory Park, Chorley, rather than Deepdale where wins have been recorded against Bramley (13-12) and Dewsbury (22-12). On their travels Lynx have defeated Bramley for a double (45-32), Doncaster (45-18) and Rochdale (27-22), so with one win at Spotland already Oldham will have to be on their mettle to prevent another today.

Since last year Lynx have lost inspirational coach Kevin Tamati, and influential playmakers Andy Ruane and star stand-off Phil Jones, now at Wigan. The rest of the squad is as follows:-

DOC MURRAY Ex-Wigan and a former Kiwi junior international. A devastating attacker from fullback, but has also appeared in the three-quarters recently.

DAVID JONES Well known in Oldham as an ex-Bears winger full of commitment and courage. No mean finisher on his day.

DARREN ABRAM Another former Oldham player making a welcome return. A prolific try-scorer throughout his 15 year career spanning clubs such as Warrington, Rochdale, Chorley and Trafford Borough.

NEIL PARSLEY Free scoring wingman who has appeared in the finals of the TV Gladiators programme. Played at No. 1 against Leigh last week.

DAVE RATCLIFFE Young three-quarter beginning to make his mark.

NEIL ALEXANDER Lively stand-off trying hard to fill the role vacated by last year's Second Division Player of the Season, Phil Jones.

NEIL FLANAGAN As well as being a playmaker, Neil Flanagan is renowned for leading from the front as he did for Oldham as their captain in 1998. A former Hornets player, too,

'Flanny' will be a popular visitor to Spotland today.

MARTIN HORTON Big, bustling prop who can be a real handful. Dedicated clubman.

LEE PREST A native of Cumbria, arriving at Lynx via Wigan. An all action, hard hitting prop in the Neil Cowie mould.

P. J. SOLOMON In four games against Oldham last year Kiwi born P J was Lancashire's stand out forward. A tough tackler with the ability to break the line on attack.

JOE WALSH Utility forward Joe will play wherever selected and is wholehearted in every position. In the second-row last week, but has had several outings at hooker.

TOMMY HODGKINSON A loose-forward who has also played hooker. A lively ball-handler who has seen service at Leigh before signing for Lynx.

STEVE GEE Strong-running second-row who can punch holes against the defence especially when coming off the bench against a tiring opposition as he could today.

ANDY BENNETT Powerfully built ex-Warrington hooker on the lines of Steve McCurrie. Another hooker who will cause Oldham problems if the marker defence is as slack as in recent heavy defeats.

IAN GILDART Tall well known ex-Wigan forward. A tough, but disciplined performer like all ex-Wigan players. Missed last week's game through injury.

Other players who could appear today include **PAUL ROBERTS** a stand-off, **SHAUN GERITAS** a prop, **ANDY FISHER**, second-row and **DANNY JONES**, centre.

LANCASHIRE LYNX Coach is ex-Wigan and Great Britain fullback **STEVE HAMPSON**, arguably the best in his position in the last twenty years and one of the finest players under a high ball ever to grace the game. Always one to set himself high standards, Steve is striving manfully to inspire Lynx on a limited budget.

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Down Memory Lane



DON LOOKS BACK TO A LANCASHIRE LYNX MATCH FROM YESTERYEAR



WHEN I sat down to write this piece for today's programme I thought about leaving a blank page because that just about signifies how much I saw of the Whitehaven v Lancashire Lynx Challenge Cup-tie last February. I will explain.

Being a non-driver, most of my visits to the hundred and odd matches I attend each year involve a ride on public transport. I do get a lift to each of the Roughyeds' home matches off Mr Kershaw of Kevin Kershaw Associates, Commercial, Criminal and Private Investigators, for a fast, effective and confidential resolution phone 343 6510. Mr Kershaw also took me to the away match against Rochdale Hornets. But Mr Kershaw draws the line at a trip to bleak West Cumbria, especially in February.

So for the Whitehaven v Lynx match it was public transport. Only travelling the three hours up the M6 to Whitehaven is a non starter because there is no public transport service on a Sunday morning. I therefore resorted to Plan B, which is a trip with the visiting teams' supporters club. I contacted Lancashire Lynx and four or five telephone calls later the trip was on. "Just wait outside Deepdale soccer ground at 12.30pm, the coach will pick you up". I was told.

Getting to Deepdale posed no real problems, Bus to Manchester, walk across the city dodging the Big Issue sellers and catch a train to Preston. I did meet a 'spaced out' resident of Merseyside whilst waiting for the train at Victoria. He requested that I give him two quid so that he could travel home to Liverpool. After a brief conversation I had to

leave the poor scouser in order to catch my train. He was still £2 short of his train fare.

I arrived at Deepdale shortly before noon and stood in the wind and rain awaiting my bus. Shortly afterwards three ladies joined the queue. They explained to me that they usually travel to Lynx away matches by private car but, on this occasion they decided to travel on the supporters bus.

Twelve thirty came and went. So too did the three ladies. They must have decided to travel up to Whitehaven by private car after all. They declined to offer me a lift, despite the fact that it was Valentine's Day, thinking possibly that I was either a rapist or child molestor. I suppose the photograph which accompanies this piece does nothing to enhance my image in that respect.

Anyway, I waited in the rain for a few more minutes, until I was completely drenched, and then put my CID training into play. I deduced that the bus was not going to come to Deepdale. Perhaps it was completely full after picking up at Chorley. Imagine that, eighty-nine Lynx fans crammed into a 63-seater bus. Very keen at Chorley, sleeping giant, they really will take off when they get into Super League.

So I dejectedly returned to Manchester, to the sanctuary of the Castle public house in Oldham Street where they prescribe the best bitter in the Northern Union. I should know, I've supped enough on my travels.

Those travels throughout Britain, France, Australia and New Zealand have been highly entertaining, very costly and also most educational.

This proposed trip to Whitehaven fell in the latter category. Educational. Because I found out that, travelling by public transport from Manchester on a Sunday morning you can get to an afternoon match at Toulouse in the South of France but you can't get three hours up the motorway to Whitehaven!!

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Middle Row: Emmanuel Peralta, Josh Bostock, Jason Clegg, Gary Coulter, Graeme Shaw, Nathan Varley,

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The Supporters Club are holding a Player of the Year Award (both First Team and Alliance) at the Pennine Lounge on Saturday 17th September. This event will also be in conjunction with both Roughyeds Times and Junior Reds. It promises to be the Rugby Social of the year so get your tickets early!
If you are a member of the Supporters Club please take the opportunity to fill in the Voting Form below and return it to Dave Patterson (address below)

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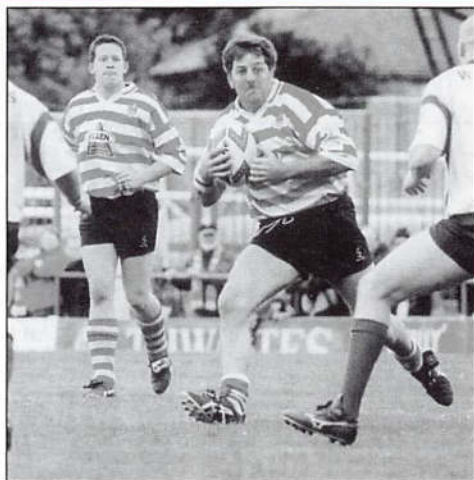
OUR first and most recent meetings against Lancashire Lynx both took place last season. The first encounter between the clubs was at the Preston Grasshoppers' Rugby Union ground on May 31st 1998. A keenly contested game ended up with the honours even 18-18. The Oldham points came from tries by Darren Robinson, Steve Wilde and Neil Flanagan with three goals from Chris Wilkinson.

Oldham team: S. Wilde; A. Mead, R. Darkes, S. Cooper, C. Eckersley; C. Wilkinson, N. Flanagan; A. Proctor, D. Robinson, M. Edwards, J. Nadiol, G. Shaw, M. Martindale.

Subs: I. Sinfield, N. Varley, M. Prescott, P. Round.

The 1998 season saw the clubs paired together four times. The last of these meetings was at Boundary Park on August 26th when another tight match saw Lynx emerge the victors with a victory by 18-16.

The other two matches provided both clubs with one win each. The Roughyeds triumphed 25-20 at Spotland on June 19th, with Lynx taking the honours 32-10 on July 26th. This match was again played at Preston Grasshoppers.



Contrasting Fortunes: Paul Round and Nathan Varley pictured in action against Whitehaven. Paul, if selected, should today notch up his 150th appearance for the Roughyeds, whereas Nathan has had his season shattered by successive injuries.

OF course this is the last home game of what can, at best, be described as a most disappointing season for Oldham RLFC. There can be no doubt that the Club is, at the moment, struggling to keep the professional Rugby League banner flying for the Borough of Oldham.

It does seem that "lady luck" has not smiled on the Roughyeds this season. After a promising start with victories over Dewsbury in the Challenge Cup and Barrow in the league, combined with a hard won, yet thoroughly deserved, point at Hull KR, hopes were high for at least a moderately successful campaign. However, thereafter the Club have suffered from a succession of injuries and disciplinary problems that have played havoc with the continuity of the team.

It is interesting to note that whereas in the whole of last season Oldham used a total of 28 players, up to the match at Leigh on August 8th, 36 men had pulled on the red and white shirt in the Roughyeds' cause. Evidence enough that all has not been plain sailing for the 1999 season.

Like all other supporters of the Club, I look forward to an improved showing in the year 2000 when, with a more even share of the available Rugby League funding, Oldham RLFC can begin the long climb back up the Rugby league ladder.

IT IS HOPED TO CONTINUE THIS FEATURE IN THE PROGRAMME SHOWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE 'ROUGHYEDS OF YESTERYEAR'.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY PHOTOS THAT THEY THINK WOULD BE OF INTEREST PLEASE CONTACT
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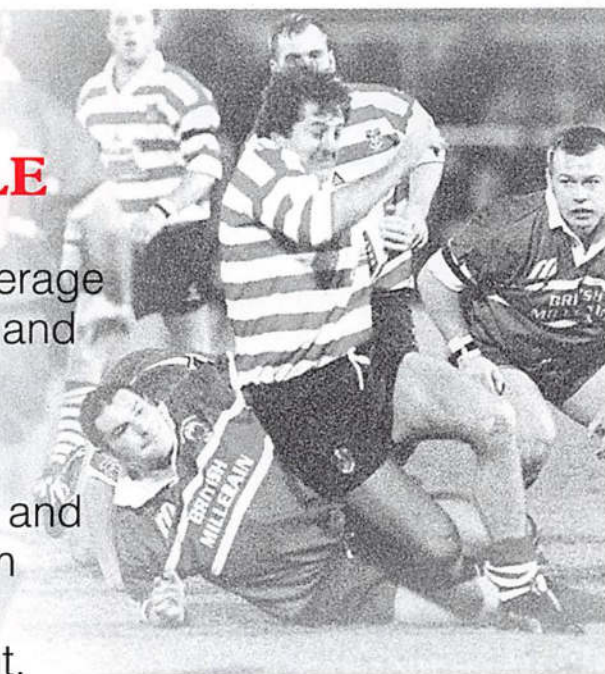
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On This Day

DON RECALLS THIS DAY IN RUGBY LEAGUE HISTORY



LANCASHIRE Lynx, who provide the opposition in this final home match of the season, have enjoyed an interesting history since their formation ten years ago. They have suffered demotion to the National Conference League, bounced back to lift the Second Division Championship and last autumn contested the first final of the Treize Tournoi, rugby league's version of the European Cup.

It was on this day two years ago, Friday 22nd August 1997, that Lynx were involved in another original occasion. That night they met Carlisle at Mansfield Park, Hawick in the first competitive league match to be played in Scotland. A former Oldham player, loose-forward Andy Ruane, put Lynx in front with an early penalty in that match but, thereafter, it was all Carlisle who went on to win 32-6. Officials hoping to expand the game to Scotland must have been disappointed with the attendance, a mere 424.

Advocates of summer rugby will also have suffered disappointment this year with the publication of attendance figures. But are they really a surprise? Twenty-three years ago, on Sunday 22nd August 1976, Oldham, then a First Division team, travelled to Blackpool for a first round Lancashire cup-tie. What could be better on a warm, sunny late summer Sunday than a trip to the seaside with a game of rugby thrown in to complete the day. In addition to that Oldham fielded internationals Martin Murphy, David Treasure and Kevin Taylor whilst Blackpool were playing their first match under new coach Jim Crellin, a former Oldham player.

Attendance: 930.

To make matters worse for Roughyeds' followers, their First Division team lost 17-10

to a team who were destined to finish next to the bottom of Division Two. Winger Mike Elliott and stand-off David Treasure scored tries for the Roughyeds and winger Phil Larder added a couple of goals.

Thirteen years previously, on Saturday 22nd August 1964, Oldham opened their season with a much better performance when they won 17-4 at Dewsbury in a league match. Scrum-half Jack Pycroft (2) and winger Geoff Sims scored tries with player-coach Frank Dyson landing four goals. Making his debut for Oldham in that match was centre Jim McCormack who had been signed in the summer from Wigan and who went on to make 160 appearances for the Roughyeds during the following seven seasons, scoring 29 tries.

Twelve months ago, on Saturday 22nd August 1998, another Oldham club visited Dewsbury when Thornhill entertained Saddleworth Rangers in the National Conference League. Rangers looked to be heading for victory but a tremendous touchline penalty from Martin Fox in injury time snatched a 12-11 victory for the home side. On the same afternoon, Saturday 22nd August 1998, St Annes defeated Wooston Rovers 20-6 at Higginshaw Road. Each team scored a try in that match, Glen Galbraith grabbing the Saints' touchdown. But stand-off Richard Badby landed eight goals from eight attempts to hand victory to the famous Green and Golds. Badby's kicking exploits were bettered on Wednesday 22nd August 1956. That evening Leeds' centre Lewis Jones landed 11 goals and still found time to score three tries as the Loiners won 40-14 against Bradford at Odsal. The 31 points Jones scored that evening remained a Leeds' club record until last month when former St. Anne's junior Iestyn Harris scored 42 points as Leeds defeated Huddersfield 86-6.

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			F - A
Mar	16	Batley Bulldogs	H 6 - 40
	25	Leigh Centurions	H 26 - 14
	31	Hunslet Hawks	H 29 - 29
April	8	Featherstone R.	A 4 - 39
	24	West Cumbria	A 24 - 10
	28	Swinton Lions	A 36 - 24
May	5	Keighley Cougars	H 8 - 22
	13	Dewsbury Rams	A 4 - 25
	19	Swinton Lions	H 28 - 39
	29	Barrow B. R.	A 24 - 42
June	10	Rochdale Hornets	H 16 - 44
	19	Batley Bulldogs	A 18 - 36
	23	Featherstone R.	H 10 - 34
July	1	Keighley Cougars	A 32 - 24
	10	Barrow B. R.	H 16 - 26
	14	Hunslet Hawks	A 12 - 64
	21	Leigh Centurions	A 20 - 40
	31	Wigan (ACC Rnd1)	A 0 - 80
Aug	11	Dewsbury Rams	H 6 - 58
	18	Rochdale Hornets	H
	21	West Cumbria	H
Sept	11	Alliance Challenge Cup - Semi-Final	
	25	Alliance Challenge Cup - Final	

OLDHAM 6 - DEWSBURY RAMS 58

DEWSBURY Rams clinched the Alliance League Division One title with their biggest win of the season. Big props Darren Ballantyne and Shayne Williams were too hot to handle for Oldham's lightweight side and with the irrepressible Danny Wood pulling the strings behind his pack the Roughyeds were always up against it.

Despite being on the receiving end, not just from the Rams but from the officials as well, the Roughyeds had stand-out performers in Craig Barker, Kevin Fitzpatrick and Julian Mike.

1ST TEAM APPEARANCES & SCORERS . . . SEASON 1999

	Apps	Sub	Tries	Goals	DG	Pts		Apps	Sub	Tries	Goals	DG	Pts
C. Barker	1	4	-	-	-	-	J. McNicholas	29	-	8	-	-	32
J. Bostock	7	-	3	-	-	12	M. Maders	2	1	-	-	-	-
P. Brassington	4	-	1	-	-	4	M. Martindale	10	-	2	-	-	8
K. Brennan	4	2	1	-	-	4	A. Mead	29	-	8	-	-	32
D. Brown	29	-	12	42	-	132	L. Minut	19	-	2	10	-	28
L. Casey	27	-	1	-	-	4	J. Nadirole	2	3	-	-	-	-
J. Clegg	28	-	5	-	-	20	E. Peralta	7	16	-	-	-	-
M. Coates	2	4	-	1	-	2	M. Perrett	6	8	-	-	-	-
G. Coulter	1	6	-	-	-	-	M. Prescott	6	16	1	-	-	4
J. Cowan	1	-	-	-	-	-	B. Quinlan	4	7	1	4	-	12
P. Crook	16	6	3	-	-	12	P. Round	15	3	4	-	-	16
R. Darkes	7	2	1	-	-	4	M. Farrell	13	2	6	-	-	26
M. Farrell	13	2	6	-	-	26	J. Salisbury	1	-	-	2	-	4
D. Guest	-	3	-	-	-	-	G. Shaw	19	3	3	-	-	12
J. Hough	28	-	7	-	-	28	I. Sinfield	5	3	1	-	-	4
E. Jackman	19	8	4	-	-	16	N. Varley	6	5	1	-	-	4
A. Leuila	19	-	3	-	-	12	D. Webster	5	-	-	-	-	-
D. Lewis	-	1	-	-	-	-	D. Wood	6	-	1	12	1	29

The above appearances & scorers do not include any statistics from Law Cup or friendly matches

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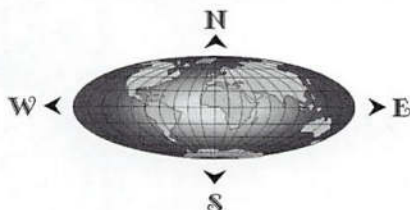
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FEBRUARYMARCHAPRILMAYJUNEJULYAUGUST[illegible]



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the 150th Anniversary of the Borough's
municipal status in 1999.**

The Council is committed to continuing the good work
of all its predecessors in serving the people of Oldham
and in driving the Borough's economic, social,
environmental, educational and recreational aspirations
into the new Millennium.

To invest in Oldham and take advantage of its central
location and excellent communications links
contact the Council's Economic Development Department now.

Telephone 0161 911 4547 Fax 0161 911 4512
email edd.jblair@oldham.gov.uk
web-site www.oldham.gov.uk

OLDHAM 
Metropolitan Borough 

Today's Sponsors

Associate Match
Lansdowne Roofing

Associate Match
Amega Labels

Man of the Match
Goodwin Best

Match Ball
Doughtys Gym

Match Ball
Derek Anthony Ltd.

OLDHAM

Coach: Mick Coates

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| 1 Jim SALISBURY | | | |
| 2 Adie MEADE | | | |
| 3 Afi LEUILA | | | |
| 4 Emerson JACKMAN | | | |
| 5 Joe McNICHOLAS | | | |
| 6 Danny WEBSTER | | | |
| 7 Daniel BROWN | | | |
| 8 Leo CASEY | | | |
| 9 John HOUGH | | | |
| 10 Jason CLEGG | | | |
| 11 Paul ROUND | | | |
| 12 Joe NAIDOLE | | | |
| 13 Mark PERRETT | | | |
| 14 Keith BRENNAN | 16 Emanuel PERALTA | | |
| 15 Mike PRESCOTT | 17 Danny GUEST | | |

Today's Officials

Today's Referee
Mr Ivan Crabtree



Reserve Referee
Mr Graeme Roberts

Touch Judges
Mr Keith Leyland
Mr Dave Mallilieu

LANCASHIRE LYNX

Coach: Steve Hampson

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| 1 Neil PARSLEY | | | |
| 2 Dave RATCLIFFE | | | |
| 3 Doc MURRAY | | | |
| 4 Darren ABRAM | | | |
| 5 Dave JONES | | | |
| 6 Neil ALEXANDER | | | |
| 7 Neil FLANAGAN | | | |
| 8 Martin HORTON | | | |
| 9 Andy BENNETT | | | |
| 10 Lee PREST | | | |
| 11 P. J. SOLOMON | | | |
| 12 Joe WALSH | | | |
| 13 Tommy HODGKINSON | | | |
| 14 Sean GERITAS | 16 Andy FISHER | | |
| 15 Steve GEE | 17 Paul ROBERTS | | |

AFTER THE MATCH VISIT MR WRIGLEYS