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Welcome to Ram Stadium

After last weekend's heatwave the heat could be really on but in a different way as Oldham come to town for a game which could well be crucial in the final outcome of the Northern Ford Premiership league placings. Oldham are currently in sixth place in the table with 37 points from 26 games and with Widnes in seventh place but 5 points behind they know that they cannot finish any lower in the table. However with the 5th to 8th place teams eliminated if they lose in the first round of play off matches Oldham will still be looking to force their way into the top four with Featherstone Rovers their target. Rovers are fourth with 39 points but should be too strong for Workington at the Lionheart Stadium this afternoon and a home win would end Oldham's hopes.

For Dewsbury Rams the scenario is quite straightforward. A win for the Rams this afternoon would see us clinch the League Leaders trophy for the second successive year and would take all the pressure off the team for next week's trip to Leigh Centurions. The target is two points from two matches to be certain of the title and with Keighley Cougars final two matches being at home against Whitehaven and Swinton it's almost certain that those vital two points will be required. It means another massive game is set to unfold here at Ram Stadium. Oldham are a well supported team so we expect to see the spectators turning up in their numbers. If they aren't attracted by a game of this magnitude we are probably wasting our time in developing rugby league at this level. In spite of increased home support this season we feel we still could have done much better and we hope that the locals will be convinced to help play their part and support the Rams to further honours.

The Oldham club has benefited from the strong leadership of Chairman Chris Hamilton and we would like to welcome to Ram Stadium Chris, his fellow directors, their highly respected coach Mike Ford and all the other players, officials and supporters of the club. Oldham have been in the news lately with the on loan signing of former Great Britain prop forward Steve Molloy and they were also linked with other players such as Aaron Lester who is currently captain of Whitehaven Warriors. The club were also in the news when they were forced to find a new home for their final two home league matches of the season. The pitch at Boundary Park has had it's share of problems over recent years (don't they all!) and it needed urgent repair works in order for it to be ready for the soccer season which seems to start earlier each year. They were once again indebted to Rochdale who offered them the use of the Spotland ground and in spite of playing their home fixture with Widnes at Rochdale there was still a crowd in excess of 2,000. So from the dark days of near extinction at the Watersheddings the club has found new heart and the team is now recognised as one capable of making a real challenge for honours. However Rams fans will have the satisfaction of knowing that under planning for such an important game is not a fault which Neil Kelly suffers from and the Rams players will be as well prepared for this match as for any throughout this season. A fascinating and exciting match is in prospect.

Finally a reminder to any November 1995 members of Dewsbury Rams. You should have received notice of the latest in the series of meetings to keep members informed of the progress and development of the club. This next meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5th July. You will be required to supply proof of November 1995 membership to gain admittance to the meeting.

Enjoy the game!

CLUB HONORS & RECORDS

Honors

Championship Winners: 1972-73

Beaten finalists: 1946-47

War Emergency League Winners: 1941-42

Beaten finalists: 1943-44

Division Two Champions: 1904-05

Challenge Cup Winners: 1911-12, 1942-43

Beaten finalists: 1928-29

Yorkshire Cup Winners: 1925-26, 1927-28,

1942-43

Beaten finalists: 1918-19, 1921-22, 1940-41,

1972-73

Yorkshire League Winners: 1946-47

BBC2 Floodlit Trophy Beaten finalists: 1975-76

Northern Ford Premiership Grand Final Runners Up: 1999

Records

Match

Goals: 13 Greg Pearce at Blackpool G.

4 Apr 1993

Tries: 8 Dai Thomas v Liverpool C, 13 Apr 1907

Points: 32 Les Holliday v Barrow, 11 Sep 1994

Season

Goals: 145 Nigel Stephenson, 1972-73

Tries: 40 Dai Thomas, 1906-07

Points: 368 Nigel Stephenson, 1972-73

Career

Goals: 863 Nigel Stephenson, 1957-78

& 1984-86

Tries: 144 Joe Lyman, 1913-31

Points: 2,082 Nigel Stephenson, 1957-78

& 1984-86

Appearances: 454 Joe Lyman, 1913-31

Highest score: 90-5 Blackpool G, 4 Apr 1993

Highest against: 82-0 at Widnes, 30 Nov 1986

Attendance: 26,584 v Halifax (Yorks Cup),

30 Oct 1920 - at the old Crown Flatt Stadium

3,995 v Batley (League), 26 Dec 1994 - at the new

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MARCH	2 LEEDS	P	
	9 HUDD/SHEFFIELD	16-60	
	23 SALFORD	6-52	
	31 Hull F.C.	6-52	
APRIL	6 WIGAN	2-50	
	13 Wakefield	P	
	20 ST. HELENS	20-28	
MAY	3 Halifax	8-32	
	13 LONDON	40-10	
	18 WARRINGTON	10-14	
JUNE	2 Leeds	16-54	
	8 HULL F.C.	18-32	
	15 WAKEFIELD	H	
	29 Castleford	A	
JULY	5 St. Helens	A	
	13 BRADFORD	H	
	20 HALIFAX	H	
	29 Warrington	A	
AUG	5 London	A	
	10 Hudd/Sheffield	A	
	18 Salford	A	
	24 Bradford	A	

Roger's Ram Page

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IN SUPPORT OF THE RAMS



Not so much this week in Support of the Rams, but more generally the NFP and the eight contenders for the Grand Final at Gigg Lane on 29 July.

Having got to the final last year in my first year working with a Rugby League Club, it felt great to be with a winning side. What followed afterwards, was, to say the least, a crazy couple of months.

I had very strong views on the subject then and I still do. To me life is very simple, its people that complicate it.

The facts presented to me were – if you win the league, you get a trophy – If you win the Grand Final you qualify for promotion to Super League.

Hunslet were badly let down by delays at Leeds City Council, but having said that they would have had a capacity of 7,500 by the start of this Super League Season and 10,000 by 2001. They put up two achievable alternatives. It didn't matter – no-one wanted them in.

Something tells me, the same could happen again, depending who wins the Grand Final. If SLE want to keep them out, they'll try to find a way.

Let everyone in the NFP and those who support the clubs, stand up and be counted – If the winner is entitled to promotion – let's fight to make sure they get it.

DAVID FRAME



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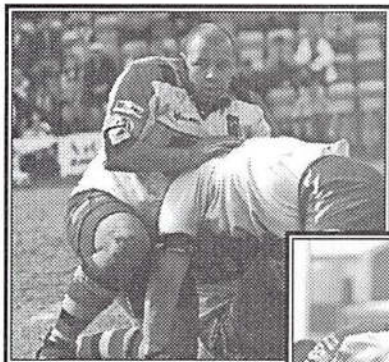
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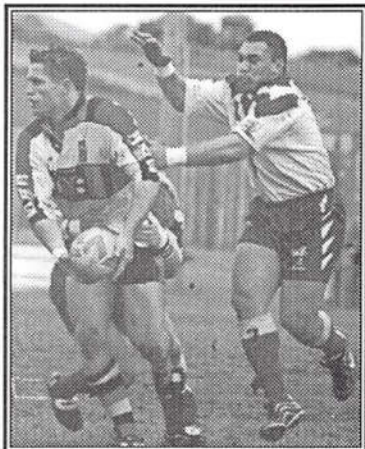


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UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

When a club in the Northern Ford Premiership can convince a player of Steve Molloy's stature to make a drop, albeit a potentially brief one, to a lower division is has to be recognised that that must be a club with ambition. Oldham have risen from the ashes of their Super League nightmare. The Watersheddings might now be a housing estate but the new Oldham are a vibrant club with Grand Final ambitions similar to those of the Dewsbury Rams.

Whilst the Rams chase the league title this afternoon Oldham's own ambitions centre around their final league placing. The club has won 18 and drawn 1 of its 26 league matches to date and they have been particularly impressive at their Boundary Park home. Only two teams have been to Boundary Park and escaped with the points but crucially those two teams have been the Rams and Keighley Cougars, the two teams currently placed 1st and 2nd in the table. Their first home defeat came against the Rams. It was a real thriller and left everyone marvelling at a superb afternoon of entertainment with neither team deserving to lose as the Rams wilted under some intense pressure but somehow hung on to win the game 14-12. Keighley Cougars fans were saved from the same nail biting finish as they beat Oldham 24-14 with Martin Wood in superb form and a match haul of a try and four goals. His try didn't however come until 11 minutes from the end as the lead changed hands for the sixth and final time. So although the finish might not have been quite as intense the game as a spectacle certainly was and the home fans have seen some great exhibitions of rugby league this season.

Oldham's finest home display was probably their 27-16 defeat of Leigh Centurions earlier this month, a win which was cheered by all Rams fans. The Oldham pack led by two try John Hough were simply outstanding with a forwards dominated substitutes bench providing a considerable assist to those who started the game. Leigh were rocked by two tries inside the first 13 minutes and just couldn't impose themselves on the game. Oldham have also tried to keep their supporters entertained with three other games which ended a little closer than they might have hoped. They almost let Whitehaven Warriors back into the game in an early season fixture. The Warriors came back from 10 points down to lead by 6 only to be undone by some Joey Hayes magic who scored tries in the 68th and 72nd minute to help Oldham secure a 26-22 win. It was even closer in their festive encounter with Rochdale. The Hornets nearly got a late Christmas present when they came from 18-6 down to lead 20-18 early in the second half only to be undone by poor discipline as Mark Sibson kicked two penalty goals. When Anthony Gibbons landed a field goal the damage was done and Oldham scraped home 23-20 in front of a derby crowd of 3,562. Last weekend Oldham were at Rochdale for their home match with Widnes Vikings. On a blazing hot afternoon Steve Molloy marked his debut with style and a 6th minute opening try. Both teams deserved the standing ovation at the end of the game but it was Oldham who deserved the points and got them, but only just, 34-26.

Some of the other home matches must have seemed tame by comparison. A 30-17 defeat of Workington Town after being behind 7-2 at half time and an easy 50-8 win over luckless Lancashire Lynx were two early season wins. Their home defeat by the Rams was felt by Hunslet Hawks who were hammered 44-18 in an 8 try display in the next match to be played at Boundary Park. Swinton were beaten 34-28 in another nail biter. The club names suggest an old fashioned derby but with Swinton now based at Bury that is no longer the case. York suffered yet another defeat in their troubled season 40-18 and it was another 30+ haul three weeks later as Oldham beat travel shy Barrow Border Raiders 30-16. The club made it a marvellous May at Boundary Park when they won their crucial Bank Holiday match with Doncaster Dragons 25-6 to show that their pack is a match for any team in the division.

Away from home things haven't been quite as good. There have been some good wins. There was the New Year's win at Swinton 23-18 in a holiday thriller. The game was delayed 10 minutes to get the waiting spectators into the ground and they had more than their money's worth as the game went on for a minute after the final hooter with none of the match officials hearing the signal for the end of the game! There was a great win at Widnes 31-20 with another outstanding performance from John Hough. They were too good for Sheffield Eagles who they beat 28-6 and they relished the Heavy Woollen air when they came to Mount Pleasant and picked up the points 28-16. Two tries (Pat Rich 59 and Neil Roden 74) in the final quarter of the game secured victory against a Batley team who missed a number of scoring opportunities. Oldham had a second thriller of the season against Rochdale Hornets in the familiar surroundings of Spotland where they had been welcomed so warmly in the past and again this season. The late field goal from Australian Shayne McMenemy, a player released by Hornets earlier in the season because of disciplinary reasons, proved to be the winning score as Oldham, inspired by the appearance on the field of their coach Mike Ford on 54 minutes, just scraped home 13-12. Another milestone in their season came with the early May visit to Hull KR. It was a game vital to the play off hopes of both teams and Oldham made it seven wins in a row when they beat Hull KR 32-12 leaving the Robins coach Dave Harrison to regret a poor tackling display from his team.

There was a comfortable 28-6 win over Sheffield Eagles and a predictable win over Lancashire Lynx. However in spite of the upturn in fortunes of the Cumbrian club there was still the disappointment of a point dropped at Workington in a 12-12 draw in May. There was also immense disappointment at the manner of their 61-26 defeat at Featherstone Rovers who ran in 11 tries in the process. They can however take heart from defeats at Leigh 28-10, Doncaster Dragons 26-16, Whitehaven Warriors and Barrow Border Raiders 19-16. All of these teams boast impressive home records and have beaten many of the top teams along the way.

There is no doubt that Oldham will have made the relatively short journey to Ram Stadium boosted by their more recent performances. Their team contains a number of players with Super League experience and their contingent of former Bramley players will no doubt be looking forward to renewing acquaintances with Dan Potter and Ryan McDonald. Like the game at Boundary Park this match has all the ingredients of a superb spectacle of rugby league and worthy of television. The game will not be televised live but perhaps the two teams will meet again in the one that will be screened live - the Grand Final at Bury on Saturday 29th July!

TONY SCARGILL

Today's Visitors

OLDHAM

MARK CAMPBELL

One of 16 new boys brought to the club by Mike Ford during the first two months of the player coaches reign. Formerly with Leeds and Keighley Cougars, this 21 year old hardworking back-row forward is studying at Leeds University for a degree in chemical engineering.

LEO CASEY

A tough prop who played for the former Oldham club, Featherstone Rovers. Swinton and Rochdale Hornets before signing for the Roughyeds shortly after the club was formed. Made a first team place his own favourite of the crowd. Recently returned from a three match suspension after being sent off at Rochdale in the Six Cut Challenge Cup.

JASON CLEGG

A product of Littleborough RL Club, this heavyweight prop turned pro for the Bradford Bulls and had a stint with Batley before signing for the Roughyeds shortly after the club was formed. Made a first team place his own property in 1999 and earned selection for the West Pennines side against an East side coached by Mike Ford. In superb form this season and was voted the Oldham player of the month for February.

MIKE FORD

A scrum-half who has been making the high sort of headlines all his sporting life. Played for Wigan at Wembley when only 19. Also starred for Leigh, Oldham, Castleford Wakefield and South Queensland Crushers. Toured Down Under with Great Britain in 1988. Coached Bramley to mid-table respectability in 1999 before landing his dream job of coaching his home town club. Still a key player with an excellent kicking game.

ANTHONY GIBBONS

One half of a twin combination which played for Leeds Rhinos and Bramley before joining Oldham at the start of the 2000 season. The 23 year old is playing consistently well at centre but also helped out at scrum-half against Rochdale in the Cup.

DAVID GIBBONS

The other twin. Became a household name at Headingley and played more than 20 senior games, including several in the first Super League season of 1995. Formerly captain of Bramley. David will be a key figure for the Roughyeds at stand-off half.

DANNY GUEST

This 22 year old, 18 stone prop was an up-and-coming youngster with the Bears. Also played for Keighley and Lancashire Lynx before returning to Oldham. Has been playing mainly as a substitute this season but has been a consistent performer, as shown when scoring with his first touch of the ball in the recent rout of Lancashire Lynx.

JOEY HAYES

A young winger who has crammed a lot into his relatively short spell as a pro. Made his name with St. Helens but also played 11 Super League games for Salford City Reds last season. Turning into a real crowd favourite at Oldham and certainly must be one of the most exciting wingers in the NFP. His superb performances were rewarded with him receiving the May Player of the month award.

CHRIS HOLLAND

Aged 21. Chris has played for England and Great Britain students and took the man-of-the-match award in England's defeat by New Zealand at Hull in the last World Cup. Equally at home at centre or in the back row.

JOHN HOUGH

Will go down in local RL history as the first player to sign for the new Oldham club when it was launched in the autumn of 1997. He had two cracking seasons in 1998 and 1999, when he took the club's player of the year award. Played more than 30 senior games for Warrington before returning "home" to Oldham. Been in tremendous form again this season which was encapsulated with two superb tries in the defeat of Leigh Centurions.

KEVIN MANNION

22 year old Kevin is a ball playing loose forward, who made his senior debut with Rochdale Hornets when only 16. Played for England and GB students, for whom he has toured Australia and played in France. Has recently returned from a knee injury and has been outstanding with his strong running out wide catching the eye.

JOE McNICHOLAS

Broke his leg for the Roughyeds in the new club's first league game at Workington and missed the rest of the 1999 season apart from a brief spell as sub in the final match. A pacy winger, Joe bounced back to hold down a regular spot on the right flank in 1999.

SHANE McMENEMY

Recent recruit to the club replacing the injured Tom O'Leary. Began the season at Rochdale Hornets where he caught the eye of Mike Ford. Hard working second row forward this Australian made his debut 48 hours after arriving from Sydney. Shayne has been a tremendous capture for the club with his 100% commitment and strong tackling.

ANDY PROCTOR

Named captain of the club by Ford for the 2000 season. This former Saddleworth, Wakefield Trinity, Oldham and Batley prop-forward, now aged 30, won a man-of-steel award, while with Trinity, as the club was then called, and has built a reputation as a players' player, who performs well above his weight.

PAT RICH

Another of the younger signings, 21 year old Pat is a native of the North-East. Played regular senior rugby for Keighley in 1999, while studying for a law degree at Leeds. Can play centre or back row and recently achieved the new clubs points in a game record when scoring 16 in the win over Widnes.

WES ROGERS

A strong second row forward, Wes has joined his hometown club after stints with Widnes and Swinton. A hot property as a teenager, he was signed for Widnes by Doug Loughton.

MARK SIBSON

An exciting full back and goal kicker, this 23 year old played for Loughborough University for four years before turning out for Castleford's Alliance side. Recommended to Bramley and became an instant hit, going out on loan to Super League club Huddersfield Giants. An elusive attacker has been a key player so far this season for the Roughyeds with his superb solo try bringing the crowd to its feet in the defeat of Doncaster.

IAN SINFIELD

Local lad, Ian signed for and played for Super League rugby with afford before joining Roughyeds in 1998. Had a brief stint in France in the early part of 1999 before returning to the club, finishing the season and resigning for 2000. A back row forward who tackles hard runs strongly and uses the ball intelligently wide out.

WARREN BARROW

Signed recently from St Helens Alliance side making his debut at Leigh on the wing. A regular try scorer whilst at Saints he can play either on the wing or at centre. A strong, abrasive runner who likes to help out his forwards.

PHIL FARRELL

Recently signed for the club after a successful loan period. Hard working back row forward who has the right pedigree, as he is the younger brother of Wigan and GB Captain Andy Farrell. Scored a memorable individual try in the defeat of Leigh Centurions and his work rate and commitment have made him a favourite with the fans.

NEIL RODEN

Signed for the club from Wigan at the same time as Phil Farrell. Young half back who impressed in the Alliance side before making his senior bow against Hunslet at Boundary Park. Scored his first try for the club in the away win at Batley and looks like one to watch for the future. Switched to stand off against Doncaster and walked off with the Man of the Match award.

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Kelly's COMMENTS



Last weekend saw a second half performance that overcome a Wasp's team, that traditionally gave us a hard time and in the end we came away with two very valuable points.

A good result for us on what were difficult playing conditions given the tremendous heat on the day.

I said earlier in the season, that we would need 45 points to secure the league title and that has proved to be the case.

With the chasing clubs all winning last weekend, we still need two points from our last two games, if we are to secure pole position in the Play-Offs and it won't be an easy task.

Obviously our visitors today will be determined to secure a win at Ram Stadium, with a much improved side and then our last game is away to Leigh, who have already beaten us in the league here this season.

But if you are going to be 'True Champions', you have to beat the best of the rest.

THE LEAGUE LADDER NORTHERN FORD PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	PTS
Dewsbury Rams	26	21	1	4	816	350	466	43
Keighley Cougars	26	20	0	6	886	377	509	40
Leigh Centurions	26	20	0	6	798	432	367	40
Featherstone Rovers	26	19	1	6	737	485	252	39
Doncaster Dragons	26	19	0	7	787	363	424	38
Oldham	26	18	1	7	690	497	193	37
Widnes Vikings	26	16	0	10	660	459	201	32
Hull Kingston Rovers	26	15	1	10	541	453	88	31
Barrow Border Raiders	26	14	0	12	631	655	-24	28
Swinton Lions	26	12	2	12	6674	655	9	26
Whitehaven Warriors	26	11	1	14	505	560	-55	23
Workington Town	26	11	1	14	478	699	-221	23
Rochdale Hornets	26	8	0	18	506	657	-151	16
Sheffield Eagles	26	7	1	18	430	565	-135	15
Hunslet Hawks	26	7	0	19	402	648	-246	14
Batley Bulldogs	26	6	0	20	454	702	-248	12
York Wasps	26	4	1	21	366	797	-431	9
Lancashire Lynx	26	1	0	25	283	1281	-998	2

DEWSBURY RAMS RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB FULLY SUPPORTS THE 'LET'S TACKLE RACISM IN RUGBY LEAGUE' CAMPAIGN, AND WELCOMES ALL PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR ETHNIC OR RACIAL ORIGINS. RACISM HAS NO PLACE WITHIN OUR GAME, AND RACIST CHANTS ARE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE.

ALLOW EVERYONE TO ENJOY THE GAME.

Academically Speaking

Dewsbury "A" team had Hull F.C., currently 3rd place in the Championship table, as visitors to Ram Stadium on Thursday June 8th. A team that proved too strong for them as they had done at the Boulevard earlier in the season. This was to be an evening of missed tackles and poor defense on Dewsbury's part, going behind as early as the second minute when Craig Poucher broke a couple of tackles to score in the corner. Hopes were raised after 5 minutes when Billy Kershaw crossed at the posts after Kevin Spink had broken through. George Mack added the goal. Hull went ahead again after 20 minutes this time centre Parker getting clear, Paul Cooke converting. Five minutes later with the home side pressing the Hull line a loose pass was intercepted by Cooke who raced to touch down at the other end, then just before the break Poucher got a second try to make the half time score Dewsbury 6 Hull 18. George Mack narrowed the gap 12 minutes into the second period with a try and a goal. The visitors hit back with tries from Parker, Poucher and Schultz and a goal from King to take their tally to 32. On 72 minutes Kershaw got his second try and Mack his third goal to make the final result Dewsbury 18 Hull 32.

STOP PRESS!!!!

CLUB DEVELOPMENT GETS A HUGE BOOST!!

Dewsbury Rams are delighted to announce that the Schools & Community Programme has received a sponsorship boost of £26,000 from main sponsors ntl: and Supersys.

Now that has been doubled with a Sportmatch Award of £26,000, which will allow us to buy much needed equipment and to increase the number of visits to Local Schools and Community Organisations.

Subject to the play-offs draw, it is intended to present the cheques at the game on Sunday 9th July, with two special VIP guests in attendance.

Please be there to support the club and the programme.



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TODAY AT RAM STADIUM

DEWSBURY RAMS v OLDHAM

Colours: Red, Amber and Black

Colours: Red and White

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Sarah J. Storey	Andrew Spink	12 Shayne McMeneny
West Riding Refreshment Rooms	Damian Ball	13 Kevin Mannion
Shackletons High Seat Chairs	Mark Cain	14 Mike Ford
(available)	Dan Potter	15 Ian Sinfield
(available)	Matthew Long	16 Danny Guest
(available)	Ryan McDonald	17 Mark Campbell
Today's Officials	Referee S Nicholson	■ B Sharrock
	Res. Official P Ward	■ G Wallis

Today's man of the match

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Todays Ram Mascot is

Eleanor Munton & Ryan Sutcliffe

Eleanor is 2 years old, her favourite player is Matty Long, 1st match attended when she was 3 days old, favourite food is chicken & pasta, Hobbies are playing & watching Dewsbury Rams

Ryan is 19 months old, his favourite player is Roger the Ram, favourite food is Pork Pies and Shepherds Pie, hobbies are sleeping and playing football.

Enjoy the game.

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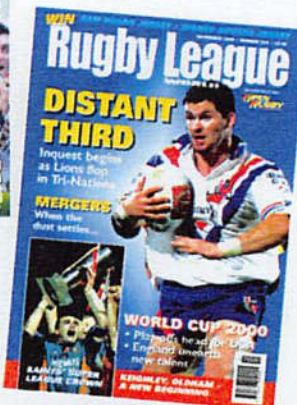
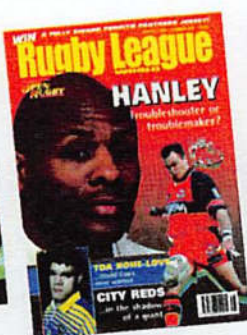
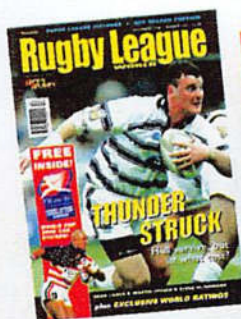


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Rugby League

WORLD

IN THE PHYSIO ROOM

As one season starts to wind down, then another is reaching the half way stage. Today sees the last home league match of the Northern Ford Premiership season, before the play-offs start in a fortnight, but the Alliance team have just reached the half way stage in their season. The Wakefield game last Thursday was their twelfth in a twenty-four game Championship season.

As the Alliance season is predominantly a summer season, the injuries have been slightly different to that of the first team, who have played half in the mud and rain and half in the sun. This time of the season sees a different type of rugby injury with skin lesions being the worst suffered: ie. blisters, grass burns and cuts and scrapes on the hard grounds.

Blisters come about from the change in the pitch surface, where the players are changing their boots or studs, regularly. Preventative measures are essential – such as correct training and playing attire (especially footwear), protective plasters and vaseline. Cuts, abrasions and scrapes should be cleaned thoroughly following the game with various types of antiseptics. Many players from both squads are suffering from knee abrasions at present, but nothing that will keep anyone on the sidelines.

As the grounds are so dry at present, general tackles and falls to the ground can be a lot more serious than the equivalent tackle in the mud and wet grounds. A few players are suffering sore joints at the present time from tackles, which in the present climate is the equivalent of being tackled on the car park behind the main stand! Other injuries suffered on the hard grounds are jarred shoulders, turned ankles and head bangs which take a little longer to recover.

Of the injuries in the Alliance side, **Scott Dyson** went into hospital last week for minor knee surgery and had some of his cartilage removed and **Ryan Halloran** was carried off in the Hull game a fortnight ago with a groin problem. Both are having regular treatment and rehabilitation and are not too far away. Nothing to report on the first team injury front, although **Paul Delaney** is recovering well from his spinal surgery and is starting light training next week.

Keep fit and Healthy.
Lee Robinson
Club Physiotherapist.

Rams Shop

Items available in the shop matchday Office during the week

Replica Shirt (30" - 32")	£32.95
Replica Shirt S,M,L,XL,XXL	£39.95
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Polo Shirt (L,XL)	£16.95
T-Shirt (L,XL)	£8.95
Baseball Caps	£8.95
Ski Caps	£6.95
Club Ties	£8.95
Key Rings	£2.99
Roger Ram Badges	£1.50
Badges	£1.00

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Scarves		£5.95
Rams Pens		£0.75
Rams Mugs		£2.99
Mini Scarves		£3.99
Rams Clocks		£14.95
Rams Flags		£5.00
Mini Scarves		£3.99
Sweatshirt (Special edition)		£10.00

Ken's Kolumn

When Barry Eaton landed his eighth goal at York last Sunday that took his total for the season to 146, beating Nigel Stephenson's record of 145 set up in the 1972-1973 season. Barry has taken 31 games as against 36 games in Nigels case. Nigel still holds the record for most points in a season with 368, this includes 26 3 point tries. Barry's total is now 343 points from 146 goals, 3 drop goals and 12 tries. With still a few matches to go, who knows this record could also go.

Other leading scores to date are, Adrian Flynn, 17 tries (68 points) Alex Godfrey also has 17 tries. Nathan Graham and Dan Potter have 16 tries each (64 points), next comes Sean Richardson with 14 tries, (56 points) Damian Ball has 13 tries (52) Richard Baker and Gavin Wood have 8 tries each, (32 points), Daniel Frame and Ian Talbot have 7 tries each, with two drop goals for Talbot. Three players have 6 tries, Billy Kershaw, Brendan O'Mears, and Andrew Spink. David Mycoe has 5, Mathew Long 4 and 1 try each for Richard Agar, Robin Jowitt, Kevin Spink, and Shane Williams.

KEN CRABTREE

Player Profile

Name:

Mark Cain

Age:

24

Height:

5' 10"

Weight:

13st 7lbs

Town of residence:

York

Status:

Engaged to Natalie

Children:

None

Clubs played for:

York, New Earswick All Blacks

Favourite TV prog:

Bad Girls

Favourite food:

Pasta

Favourite colour:

Black

Favourite other ground:

Headingley

Favourite other club:

Castleford

Favourite film:

Seven

Favourite car:

Porche Carrera

Biggest career influence:

Mum & Dad

Greatest R.L. player:

Henry Paul

Biggest moment in rugby:

Gaining promotion with York

Funniest Team Mate:

Alex Godfrey

Reason:

His dry sense of humour

How would you like to change your game:

Develop more pace

Notice Board

TODAY'S OTHER GAMES

DONCASTER DRAGONS V LEIGH CENTURIANS

FEATHERSTONE ROVERS V WORKINGTON TOWN

KEIGHLEY COUGARS V WHITEHAVEN WARRIORS

LANCASHIRE LYNX V HUNSLET HAWKS

ROCHDALE HORNETS V BATLEY BULLDOGS

SHEFFIELD EAGLES V
BARROW BORDER RAIDERS

SWINTON LIONS V YORK WASPS

WIDNES VIKINGS V HULL KINGSTON ROVERS

CHEER LEADERS

Our man Johnny could not lead the cheering at the last home game as he was in great demand, this time as a ball boy. He did try to be in two places as once but soon realised that the importance of being a ball boy took priority!

His sister "Becky" aged 7, she's the Baby Spice look-a-like, took over her brother's role and really tried hard to get the girls and nearby supporters cheering. So come on girls lets get behind Johnny and Becky and give it some cheering and flag and pom-pom waving. If we win today we win the league!!!

Once again if there is any young Rams supporters, boy or girl, who wants to cheer the team on just contact us by the players tunnel at half time or after the match.

Janet and Susan

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Match Facts & Figures 1999

Res. Att.   

DEC	26	SUN	12.00	A	Batley Bulldogs	18-8	2200	Graham (1T)	Godfrey (1T)	O'Meara
JAN	2	SUN	3.00	H	HULL KINGSTON ROVERS	14-2	2100	Graham	Godfrey	O'Meara
	9	SUN	3.00	A	Featherstone Rovers	38-2	2500	Graham (1T)	Godfrey (1T)	O'Meara
	16	SUN	3.00	H	WORKINGTON TOWN	36-6	1558	Graham (1T)	Godfrey	O'Meara (1T)
	23	SUN	3.00	H	DONCASTER DRAGONS	20-16	3180	Graham	Godfrey (1T)	O'Meara
	30	SUN			SILK CUT, r3 STANLEY	66-0	1570	Graham	Baker (1T)	O'Meara
FEB	4	FRI	7.30	A	Keighley Cougars	6-22	2400	Graham (1T)	Godfrey	O'Meara
	13	SUN			SILK CUT, r4 WIDNES	29-16	2450	Graham	Baker	O'Meara
	20	SUN	3.00	H	SHEFFIELD EAGLES	33-18	1400	Graham (1T)	Baker	Potter (1T)
	27	SUN			SILK CUT, r5 VILLENEUVE	35-10	1200	Graham	Baker	Potter (1T)
MAR	5	SUN	3.00	A	Hunslet Hawks	22-10	1050	Graham (1T)	Baker	O'Meara
	12	SUN			SILK CUT Q.Fin LEEDS	16-42	10,500	Graham	Baker	Wood (1T)
	15	WED	7.00	H	YORK	26-19	985	Graham (1T)	Baker	Wood
	19	SUN	3.00	A	Oldham	12-14	2115	Graham	Baker (1T)	Wood
	26	SUN	3.00	H	LEIGH	18-22	3027	Graham	Baker	O'Meara
APR	2	SUN	3.30	A	Whitehaven Warriors	36-10	610	Graham (1T)	Wood	O'Meara (1T)
	9	SUN	3.00	A	Swinton Lions	14-14	1041	Graham	Wood	O'Meara
	12				TRANS PEN CUP FINAL LEIGH	10-8	2415	Graham (1T)	Godfrey (1T)	Potter
	16	SUN	3.00	H	WIDNES VIKINGS	42-24	2097	Graham (2T)	Godfrey (1T)	O'Meara
	21	FRI	7.30	H	BATLEY BULLDOGS	45-10	1900	Graham	Godfrey (1T)	O'Meara
	24	MON	3.00	A	Hull Kingston Rovers	12-20	2150	Graham (1T)	Godfrey	O'Meara
	29	SAT			SILK CUT CHALLENGE FIN.					
MAY	1	MON	3.00	H	ROCHDALE HORNETS	26-2	1100	Graham	Godfrey	O'Meara (1T)
	7	SUN	3.00	H	LANCASHIRE LYNX	72-13	932	Graham (3T)	Godfrey (2T)	O'Meara
	10	WED	7.30	A	Barrow Border Raiders	36-10	1020	Graham (1T)	Baker (1T)	O'Meara
	14	SUN	3.00	H	FEATHERSTONE ROVERS	46-26	1644	Graham	Baker	O'Meara (1T)
	21	SUN	3.00	A	Workington town	58-6	1088	Graham	Baker	O'Meara
	26	FRI	7.30	A	Doncaster Dragons	10-33	1600	Graham	Baker	O'Meara
	29	MON	3.00	H	HUNSLET HAWKS	46-0	1092	Godfrey (2T)	Baker	Potter
JUN	4	SUN	3.00	A	Sheffield Eagles	30-8	1475	Graham	Baker (2T)	O'Meara
	11	SUN	3.00	H	BARROW BORDER RAIDERS	42-20	975	Graham	Baker (1T)	O'Meara (1T)
	18	SUN	3.00	A	York	56-17	744	Graham	Baker	Wood (1T)
	25	SUN	3.00	H	OLDHAM					
JUL	2	SUN	3.00	A	Leigh Centurions					



4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Potter	Flynn	Agar (1G)	Eaton (4G)	Jowitt	Dyson	McDonald	Kershaw	Haigh	Ball	Mycoe	Richardson	Talbot	Hicks
Potter (1T)	Flynn (1T)	Mycoe	Eaton (3G)	Jowitt	Dyson	McDonald	Kershaw	Haigh	Ball	Baker	Richardson	Talbot	Hicks
Potter	Flynn (1T)	Agar (1T)	Eaton (1T) 5G	Long	Dyson	Hicks	Richardson	Haigh	Ball (2T)	Baker	Mycoe	Talbot	McDonald
Potter	Flynn (2T)	Agar (1G)	Eaton (5G)	Hicks	Dyson	McDonald	Rrdson(1T)	Kershaw	Ball (1T)	Baker	Mycoe	Jowitt	Long
Potter	Flynn	Agar (10G)	Eaton (3G)	Long	Dyson	McDonald	Rrdson(1T)	Kershaw	Ball (1T)	Baker	Mycoe	Jowitt	Talbot
Potter (2T)	Flynn (2T)	Mycoe(2T)	Eaton (9G)	Long(1T)	Talbot(1T)	Jowitt	Spink(1T)	Cochrane	Kershaw	Agar	McDonald	Wood(2T)	Richardson
Potter	Flynn	Agar	Eaton (1G)	Long	Dyson	Hicks	Richardson	Kershaw	Ball	Baker	Talbot	Spink	Jowitt
Wood	Flynn (1T)	Mycoe	Eaton (4G) 10G	Long	Talbot(2T)	Hicks	Rrdson(1T)	Kershaw	Ball (1T)	Godfrey	Spink	Williams	Jowitt
Wood	Flynn (1T)	Mycoe	Eaton (4G)	Long	Talbot(1T) 2G 10G	Hicks	Richardson	Kershaw	Ball	O'Meara	Godfrey	Williams	Jowitt
O'Meara(1T)	Flynn	Mycoe(1T)	Eaton (1T) 5G 6G	Long	Talbot(1T)	Williams	Richardson	Kershaw	Ball	Godfrey	Wood	Hicks	Jowitt (1T)
Potter(1T)	Flynn (1T)	Mycoe	Eaton (3G)	Long	Talbot(1T)	Jowitt	Richardson	Kershaw	Ball	Wood	Delaney	Hicks	Williams
Potter(1T)	Flynn	Mycoe	Eaton (1G)	Long	Talbot	Jowitt	Richardson	Kershaw	Ball	Godfrey	A Spink	Hicks	K Spink
Potter	Flynn	Mycoe	Eaton(5G)	Long	Talbot	Jowitt	Richardson	Kershaw(3T)	Ball	Godfrey	Delaney	McDonald	A Spink
Potter	Flynn (1T)	Mycoe	Eaton (1G)	Long	Talbot	Jowitt	Rrdson(1T)	Kershaw	Ball	Godfrey	Delaney	McDonald	A Spink
Potter	Flynn	Mycoe	Eaton(3G)	Long	Talbot	Jowitt	Rrdson(2T)	Kershaw	Ball	Delaney	Hicks	McDonald	A Spink(1T)
Potter	Flynn (1T)	Mycoe	Eaton (1T) 4G	Long(1T)	Talbot(1T)	McDonald	Richardson	A Spink	Ball (1T)	Delaney	Kershaw	Haigh	Hicks
Potter(1T)	Flynn	Mycoe	Eaton (3G)	Long	Talbot	McDonald	Richardson	A Spink	Ball (1T)	Delaney	Godfrey	Haigh	Hicks
O'Meara	Flynn	Mycoe	Eaton (1G)	Long	Talbot	Haigh	Richardson	A Spink	Ball	Delaney	Wood	McDonald	Hicks
Potter (2T)	Flynn	Mycoe	Eaton (7G)	Long(1T)	Delaney	Haigh	Richardson	Kershaw	Ball (1T)	Agar	Wood	McDonald	Hicks
Potter(1T)	Flynn (2T)	Mycoe	Eaton (1T) 10G 3G	Long	Delaney	McDonald	Rrdson(1T)	Haigh	Ball	Agar	Wood	Kershaw(1T)	Hicks
Potter	Flynn	Agar	Eaton (1T) 2G	Long	Mycoe	Haigh	Richardson	A Spink	Ball	Baker	Frame	McDonald	Kershaw
Potter	Baker	Agar	Eaton (1T) 7G	Long	Mycoe	Haigh	Richardson	Frame (1T)	Ball	Dyson	Williams	A Spink	Kershaw
Wood (1T)	Baker (2T)	Mycoe	Eaton (10G)	Long	Dyson	Haigh	Kershaw(2T)	A Spink	Frame	Ball	Richardson	Williams	K Spink
Potter	Flynn	Agar	Eaton (1T) 3G	S Williams	Mycoe	Haigh	Rrdson(1T)	Frame	Ball	Wood	Kershaw	A Spink	McDonald
Potter (2T)	Flynn	Agar	Eaton (7G)	S Williams	Mycoe	Haigh	Rrdson(1T)	Frame(2T)	Ball(2T)	Delaney	Wood	A Spink	McDonald
Potter (1T)	Flynn (4T)	Frame(1T)	Eaton (2T) 3G	Williams(1T)	Mycoe(1T)	Haigh	Richardson	A Spink	Ball	Wood	Kershaw	Cochrane	McDonald
Potter	Flynn	Frame	Eaton (1G)	S Williams	Mycoe	Haigh	Richardson	A Spink	Ball	Wood	Cochrane	Kershaw	McDonald
Wood (2T)	Flynn	Frame(1T)	Eaton (7G)	Long (1T)	Mycoe	Haigh	Rrdson(1T)	A Spink (1T)	Ball	Cochrane	Kershaw	Williams	McDonald
Wood	Godfrey(1T)	Agar	Eaton(3G)	Long	Mycoe	Haigh	Frame(1T)	A Spink	Ball	M Cain	Rrdson(1T)	Williams	McDonald
Wood	Godfrey(2T)	Agar	Eaton (2T) 5G	S Williams	Mycoe(1T)	Haigh	Richardson	Frame	Ball	M Cain	A Spink	S Hicks	McDonald
O'Meara	Godfrey(2T)	Agar	Eaton (1T) 8G	S Williams	Mycoe	Haigh	Rrdson(1T)	A Spink (1T)	Ball (2T)	M Cain	Potter(2T)	Long	McDonald

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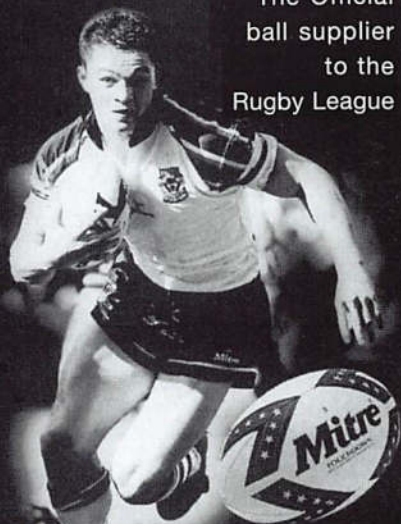
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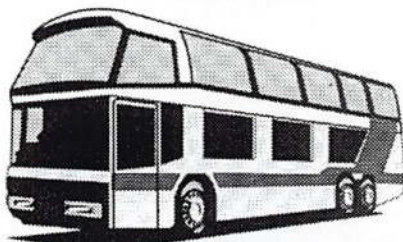
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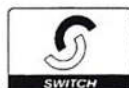
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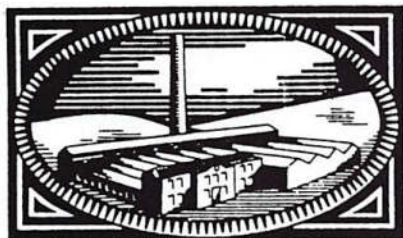
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STEVE BROOK

WRITES

Last season it was with Bramley. This season it is with Oldham. By the strangest twist of fate it looks as if top young coach Mike Ford is bringing a team to the Ram Stadium at the very point when the Northern Ford leadership title could be decided.

Last August the Rams won the match and were presented with the Minor Premiership Trophy. It was the high point to the season.

But there were low points for both them and Bramley to follow.

The Rams went on to suffer the cruelty of a drop goal defeat at the hands of the Hunslet Hawks in the Grand Final, and missed out on super League.

But it was even worse at Bramley. The club went out of existence and Mike's team was tragically split up.

Fortunately he was able to keep a number of them together and took them to Oldham. Two more of his proteges, Ryan McDonald and Dan Potter, came to Dewsbury.

Mike Ford's appointment has been a great boost to Oldham, who have really looked sharp this season and are capable of beating anyone – Dewsbury included – on their day.

But it's not just results that mark Oldham out from the crowd. Ford has the rare ability to produce footballing sides.

The game at Boundary Park earlier in the season was a real cracker. It flowed from end to end and the result remained in doubt, Dewsbury just edged it but ex-Bramley player Mark Sibson and the Gibbons brothers made their mark.

This season Anthony Gibbons and Mark Sibson are – along with John Hough – a trio from Oldham up there with the RL's top try scorers. Dewsbury only had Alex Godfrey and Adrian Flynn on the same list.

A further warning to Dewsbury was handed down when Oldham ran Doncaster ragged just a week after the Dragons savaged us.

Today's game should be a superb spectacle, whatever the result. Two of the best English coaches will see to that.

I know Dewsbury are only one win away from the trophy but this match will prove to be every bit as tough as the trip to Hilton Park next week.

Anyone who has watched Oldham will reserve a lot of respect for them.

Neil Kelly treats all opponents with respect and the matches this season have proved that there are no bad sides in the Northern Ford.

There are a half dozen quality sides and Oldham are one of them. No one in the Dewsbury camp is foolish enough to repeat the kind of dismissive nonsense attributed to the former German football manager Bertie Vogts.

Ahead of the Germany-England game in Euro 2000 he said he hoped Alan Shearer was picked to play because he was past it. All huff-and-puff.

Well, who scored the winning goal Bertie? Pick that one out of your sauerkraut and eat it!

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Whoever prepared the NFP fixtures must have been psychic!

That's the only conclusion I can draw when looking at the prospects in store from today's and next Sunday's matches.

With the jostling for the top eight positions so finely balanced, we find that today six out of the top eight teams are playing against each other.

Six clubs are still in contention for the top four, but of those only Dewsbury, who are three points ahead of the field, are sure of finishing in the leading four at the end of the season. The top four clubs, of course, will play against each other in the preliminary round of the play-offs, and they will have the benefit of a second bite of the cherry if they lost those games. The clubs finishing in fifth to eighth spots, on the other hand, will be playing knockout football throughout the play-offs.

So the battle to get into the top four is vital.

One of the most fascinating games today is at Dewsbury, where the Rams entertain Oldham, who have been in sparkling form recently, and have just signed up Steve Molloy from Huddersfield and Sheffield Giants on a month's loan. That was a surprise signing, and was made right on the transfer deadline, but it could be one of the most astute moves of the year. Dewsbury must be the favourites to win this game, but the Roughyeds can still make the top four, so they have an enormous amount to play for today. And next week they play Featherstone Rovers at Spotland. What a game that promises to be!

If Dewsbury do slip up today their top spot could be in danger, as they have a tough final game of the season at Leigh. That means that Keighley Cougars, who have two home games against Whitehaven and Swinton, could jump above them to finish top of the league.

Leigh, currently in third place, have two tough games against Doncaster away today, and at home to Dewsbury. If the Centurions lose today at Belle Vue they will drop out of the top four, provided Featherstone beat Workington. In fact the Dragons have two home games remaining, with Whitehaven to come next week, and if they win them both they will achieve their top-four aim.

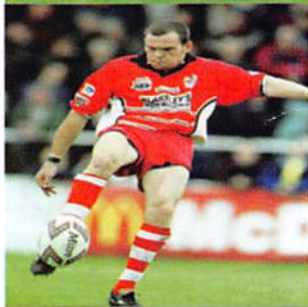
There should be another cracking game at the Auto Quest Stadium today, when Widnes, in seventh place, play host to Hull Kingston Rovers in eighth. There have been some wonderful matches between these two clubs over the years, and today's game is certain to be no exception. If Widnes win, and ninth placed Barrow can win at Sheffield today, there promises to be an amazing game at Rovers' Craven Park ground next Sunday, as Rovers and Barrow meet to thrash out a battle for eighth spot.

At this stage it's impossible to predict the final top eight places, so I won't even try. All I can say is that the competition to reach the Grand Final, at Gigg Lane on 29 July, promises to be the most exciting climax to the season that any of us has ever seen. I wouldn't miss it for the world.



Too hard to predict

MARTYN SADLER, the editor of Rugby League Express, looks forward to a tremendous climax to the Northern Ford Premiership season.



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