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Rugby League

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Season 1933-34



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Oldham Football Club,

WATERSHEDDINGS GROUND.

Oldham v. Widnes

Saturday, Nov. 4th, 1933.

Rugby League Championship.

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

CLUB CHAT.

A Bit of Variety. Since the issue of our last programme we have had a somewhat varied experience. We drew with Keighley on our own ground, followed that with a glorious victory at Wigan, and then came an awful cropper at Warrington! Thus in the course of a fortnight we had a taste of the three results which are possible in our game. Naturally it is the "glorious uncertainty" which adds spice to any sport, and, in the first two engagements there was certainly a fine illustration of that spicy flavour. We were certainly expected to win when opposed to Keighley—a team that we had never failed to beat; whilst at Wigan, the home supporters were naturally fully confident of their prowess bringing them victory. At Warrington, flushed with our fine win in the Lancashire Cup semi-final we were by no means frightened of our chances; but in all three cases, the unexpected happened, so far as the followers of form were concerned. Our drawn game at home with Keighley and the dropping of the full points in our game at Warrington, has somewhat retarded our progress in the League table, and we now figure in the eleventh position, having dropped four places as the result of dropping those three points. Not only that, our defence has been given a nasty smudge with the 30 points chalked up against us at Wilderspool, and we have now only a very light credit balance in the way of points scored. Here is the position of the twelve leading clubs at the close of last Saturday's games.

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FIXTURES 1933-34.

1st TEAM FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	T	F	A
1933-34				
Aug. 26	Broughton R'g'rs. H	3-30	81	0
Sept. 2	Rochdale Hornets A		15	6
16	Australians... H	3-30	6	38
18	St. Helens... A		8	25
23	St. Helens... H	6-15	16	8
23	Leeds... H	3-30	24	7
30	Lancs. v. Yorks... H	5-45	12	15
	Widnes (1st Rd. Lancs. Cup) H	3-30	2	0
Oct. 3	Rochdale H. (F.C.) A	6-0	8	28
7	Hunslet... H	3-30	18	8
Oct. 11	Broughton Rangers (2nd Rd. Lancs. Cup) A		12	0
14	Salford... A		8	18
21	Keighley... H	3-0	8	8
25	Wigan (Semi-Final Lancs. Cup) A		21	15
Nov. 4	Warrington... A		5	30
11	Widnes... H	3-0		
18	Barrow... A			
25	Salford... H	2-45		
Dec. 2	Leigh... A			
9	Batley... H	2-45		
16	Wakefield... A			
20	Barrow... H	2-30		
	London Highfield... A (Wednesday)			
25	Swinton (Xmas Day) H	2-30		
26	Hull Kingston R... A (Boxing Day)			
Jan. 30	Wigan... A			
1	Hull Kingston R... H	2-30		
6	Warrington... H	2-30		
13	Leigh... H	2-45		
20	Batley... H			
Feb. 27	London Highfield... H	3-0		
3	Hunslet... A			
10	Challenge Cup 1 rd.			
17	Keighley... A			
24	Halifax... H	3-30		
Mar. 3	Widnes... A			
10	Wakefield... H	3-30		
17	St. Helens Recs... A			
24	Wigan... H	3-30		
30	Swinton (G.F.)... A			
31	Halifax... A			
April 2	St. Helens Recs... H	3-30		
8	Leeds... A			
7	Rochdale Hornets H	3-30		
14				
11	Broughton Rangers A			

"A" TEAM FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	T	F	A
1933-34				
Sept. 2	Rochdale Hornets A H	3-30	19	7
16	St. Helens "A" ... H	3-30	38	7
23	Leeds "A" ... A		5	23
Oct. 7	Swinton "A" ... A		7	5
14	Salford "A" ... H	3-30	5	0
21	Bright'n R'ng'rs 'A' A		5	7
28	Warrington "A" ... H	3-0	2	10
Nov. 4	Widnes "A" ... A			
11	Barrow "A" ... H	3-0		
18	Salford "A" ... A			
25	Leigh "A" ... H	2-45		
Dec. 9	Wakefield "A" ... H	2-30		
16	Barrow "A" ... A			
23	London Highfield "A" H	2-30		
26	Broughton R'g'rs A H	2-30		
30	Wigan "A" ... H	2-30		
Jan. 6	Warrington "A" ... A			
13	Leigh "A" ... A			
20	Leeds "A" ... H	2-45		
27	London Highfield "A" A			
Feb. 3	York "A" ... H	3-0		
18	St. Helens "A" ... A			
Mar. 3	Widnes "A" ... H	3-30		
10	Wakefield "A" ... A			
17	St. Helens Recs. 'A' H	3-30		
24	Wigan "A" ... A			
31	Swinton "A" ... H	3-30		
April 2	St. Helens Recs. 'A' A			
7	Rochdale Hornets A			
14	York "A" ... A			

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Well Played We should be lacking in sportsmanship if we did not offer **Keighley.** our sincere congratulations to the Keighley team upon the splendid game which they gave us a fortnight ago. We were fully aware that the Tykes had improved since last season, but we had no idea that their improvement was so solid. They proved themselves a very clever combination all round, and the class of football which they played was such that could not fail but commend itself to the most fastidious of football followers. True, some of our supporters thought that Spillane was perhaps just a trifle unfair in putting the ball in the scrum, but then the ex-Wigan man always was a trifle cute; but even allowing for all that, Keighley played a jolly good game, and a lot of us thought that we were just a trifle lucky in snatching a point. It was a delightful game to watch, full of thrills, and exciting right up to the final whistle. And for that Keighley were largely responsible. Again we say "Well played, Keighley!"

A Glorious Victory. Our semi-final tie with Wigan for the Lancashire County Challenge Cup, provided us with a glorious victory, and gave us just a little compensation for that unforgettable defeat(?) which we had to submit to last season in the Rugby Challenge Cup-tie. It was a remarkable game in many respects. In the first half we went away with a clear lead of eleven points only to be caught and passed on the post just before half time. There was a terrific struggle in the second half and after we looked like finishing winners by a narrow margin, Wigan came again and got within a point. It was then that our team showed

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For.	Ag't.	P.
Salford...	11	10	0	1	196	72	20
Hull...	12	8	2	2	194	132	18
Warrington...	11	8	0	3	180	91	16
Swinton...	11	8	0	3	158	84	16
Wakefield Trinity...	11	8	0	3	139	114	16
Castleford...	11	7	0	4	174	127	14
York...	12	7	0	5	161	118	14
Hunslet...	11	7	0	4	218	175	14
St. Helens...	11	6	0	5	134	124	12
London Highfield...	10	6	0	4	139	143	12
Oldham...	9	5	1	3	133	105	11
Widnes...	10	4	3	3	113	92	11

We must try and improve upon those figures here Christmas comes round!

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1. Rees, T. E. (Capt.)
2. Forshaw, T.
3. Bardsley, S.
4. Taylor, A.
5. Lewis, L.
6. Reynolds, J. B.
7. Givvons, A.
8. Read, J.
9. Scaife, J. M.
10. Hodgson, E.
11. Ashworth, F. W.
12. Clayton, A.
13. Cattlin, R.
14. Brown, H.

G. T.

WIDNES

1. Bradley, W.
2. Owens, H.
3. Jacks, P.
4. Robinson, J.
5. Noon, F.
6. Shannon, T.
7. McCue, T.
8. Silcock, N. (Capt.)
9. Jones, J.
10. Chatterton, W.
11. Ratcliffe, A.
12. Hoey, J.
13. Millington, H.
Taylor, E.
Stevens, G.

G. T.

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real grit, for they drove Wigan the length of the ground, the movement culminating in a try to Stephens which Rees converted and gave us the victory by six points. It was an epic struggle and one in which Rees' brilliant play, especially in goal kicking, will long be remembered. It was also a match which gave West Lancashire folks a glimpse of what a brilliant exponent of the game we have in Ted Sadler. His display was as fine as anything ever seen at Wigan. He was wonderful throughout the game. On his present form Sadler cannot miss but obtain the highest honours in the Rugby League.

At Warrington. There are certain grounds which are known as "burial grounds," "graveyards," etc., to visiting teams. Unless our team quickly begin to give a better account of themselves at Wilderspool one of those unwelcome epitaphs will be applied to our team when we visit Warrington. We have a terribly bad record there in recent years. Probably the accident to Givvons and the fact of our having had a hard game in mid-week, had something to do with our heavy defeat; but be that as it may, we were soundly defeated. What makes matters worse is the fact that our own silly mistakes led to fifteen points being chalked up against us. We made them a clear present of three tries! No wonder we were badly beaten. It is rather curious to note that four teams who won cup-tie victories in Lancashire and Yorkshire last week were all defeated in last Saturday's League games.

The Lanes. The St. Helens Recreation having defeated their near (and Cup Final. dear?) rivals St. Helens, have now qualified to meet us in the Lanes. Cup Final next Saturday week, the 18th inst. The Swinton ground has been selected as the venue of that encounter. Most of our followers would have preferred Salford as the playing pitch, but still we

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should have a big crowd at Station Road, and no fault can be found at all with the playing arena or the accommodation. Still Salford would have been a better centre in the opinion of many. Mr. Frank Peel, of Bradford, has been appointed referee and the kick-off is fixed for 2.45. Reserve stand tickets at 3s 6d. each can be obtained from the Swinton secretary, Mr. S. Jones, 66, Station Road, Swinton, and the admission to the ground will be 1s., 1s. 6d., with 1s. extra for the stand on the popular side. We are sure to have a big following from Oldham, and already we hear of parties snapping up saoon coaches. We believe it is customary for the wife of the President of the Lancashire County Committee to present the cup to the winners in the final tie. As our old friend, Mr. G. F. Hutchins, happens to be the President, wouldn't it be rather nice to see his good lady presenting the cup to our captain? Let's hope she will have that pleasure.

The Barrow Our Secretary is desirous that those who intend visiting Trip. Barrow next Saturday in connection with our match with the Furness team, should communicate with him as early as possible. As previously stated the special train will leave Mumps at about 11 o'clock Saturday morning; but full particulars will be announced later. We are expecting to have a real good time, including, of course, a victory. A good following of supporters will go a long way towards achieving the latter desire.

Our Visitors. To-day Widnes pay us a second visit of the season. We had them as visitors in the first round of the Lancashire Cup on September 30th, when we just managed to scramble home winners by a goal to nil. Widnes will be all out to wipe out that defeat this afternoon; we shall be anxious to make a victory of a more clean cut character than in the cup-tie so there you have ingredients for making a good game.

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HALF-TIME SCORES.

The Half-time Scores in the Matches given below will be shown on the Score Board immediately they are received.

A SWINTON	D ST. HELENS RECS.
B AUSTRALIANS	E YORK
C ROCHDALE HORNETS	F WIGAN
D ST. HELENS	G CASTLEFORD
E HUDDERSFIELD	H HULL KINGSTON R.
F WARRINGTON	I BARROW

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