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RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

SEASON 1950-1951

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OLDHAM v. WIDNES

SATURDAY. NOVEMBER 18th, 1950

KICK-OFF 2-30 p.m.

Watersheddings News and Views.

Last Saturday at St. Helens was one of the days that our team excelled itself and completely overplayed the "Saints". A great victory which was achieved by team spirit and excellent backing up, good tackling and all the ingredients that make Rugby League football worth watching. It was the first league match that St. Helens have lost at home. The try scored by Alan Davies was reminiscent of the greatness of another Davies that adorned the jersey of this club, Evan Davies. The older members and supporters will remember Evan Davies, one of the best centres that this club ever possessed. May this "Babe" Davies, who is not eighteen years of age yet, reach the heights of Evan Davies; he has the opportunity, the build and possesses that rare qualification, football brains. Before he signed for this club in July last, Davies was one of the selected few juniors to attend the Rugby League coaching scheme held during the summer at Bisham Abbey, Maidenhead, for a period of one week, under the guidance of that great tactician, Trevor Foster, and the Rugby League Secretary, Mr. W. Fallowfield. Further comment on our match last Saturday; the one regrettable feature was the ordering off the field of our hooker, Jack Keith. Keith, like the rest of our team, was always in the limelight, hooking the ball nineteen to twelve against a more experienced hooker and heavier pack, and in addition scoring a well deserved try. He was sent off on the instruction of a touch judge for kicking in a "play the ball" action.

Departure.

A departure from our playing staff in Albert Fearnley, second row or loose forward, who on Tuesday last was transferred to Halifax. Fearnley was at his own request placed on the transfer list, and being resident in Bradford and working in Keighley desired to play for a Yorkshire Club; his family ties and travelling difficulties prompted him for a desire to change clubs. The committee being of the opinion that the position of back row forwards on the list at present are adequate, decided to grant Fearnley's request. This player should have played in the loose forward position for Yorkshire this season but had to withdraw from the County side owing to injury. We wish him well with his new club.

AFTER THE MATCH VISIT THE

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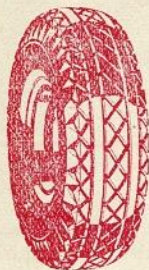
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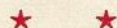
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8 OGDEN, H.	9 CUNLIFFE, J.	10 ANTHONY, L.	
11 LEYLAND, T. H.	12 DAY, B.		
13 GOLDSWAIN, B. V. (Capt.)			

Reserves:—MITCHELL, W. S. TOMLINSON, A.

Referee:

Mr. A. Bolton, Manchester.

Touch Judges:

Mr. A. Ford, Warrington (Red)

Mr. W. Johnson, St. Helens (Blue)

Reserves:—HAZLEHURST, R. WHITBY, F.

13 HUTTON, C.

12 HIGGINS, F.

10 WILCOX, C.

7 ANDERSON, H.

5 HILL, H.

11 LEIGH, F.

8 ROWBOTTOM, R.

6 TWIGG, J.

3 QUINN, J.

2 PARKES, J.

1 BRADLEY, F.

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Central „ 1-8 1-21 p.m.
Werneth „ — 1-24 p.m.

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The Half-time Scores in the Matches given below will be shown on the
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A SWINTON
v.
BELLE VUE

D HUNSLET
v.
LEIGH

B HUDDERSFIELD
v.
LEEDS

E WIGAN
v.
WHITEHAVEN

C BARROW
v.
WARRINGTON

F GATESHEAD
v.
OLDHAM ATHLETIC

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New Players.

Strenuous efforts are being made for the acquisition of new players in the back division. The committee have spent much time in interviewing clubs and players, both Rugby League Internationals and Rugby Union Internationals, all players of proved ability. In some cases a point blank refusal from Rugby League Clubs to part with players and in others the matter is left in abeyance from the players point of view, and which we must agree with. Time alone will tell as to whether our efforts have been successful.

Our Visitors.

To-day our visitors are Widnes, one of the oldest clubs in League, having been formed in 1875, two years after the formation of our own club. This season the going has not been too good for them but they are sure to come again in the limelight, especially when the Challenge Cup Ties come along. They have the honour of having appeared at Wembley on four occasions since 1929, twice being successful and twice on the losing side. Their last appearance at Wembley was May, 1950.

The Widnes Club are noted for fostering local talent and in to-day's team ten of the side are local, plus one each from Wigan, Leigh and Warrington. Their position in the League Table at present is fourth from the bottom, having played thirteen matches and lost ten. We are sure to have a hard game to-day and nothing must be taken for granted; our visitors are capable of playing good football, and possess a sound defence, points against them in the thirteen matches being 141, against our 123 in fourteen matches. They have scored 96 points against our 193. May the match produce the best in Rugby League and ultimate victory be ours.

R. E. HARRISON

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