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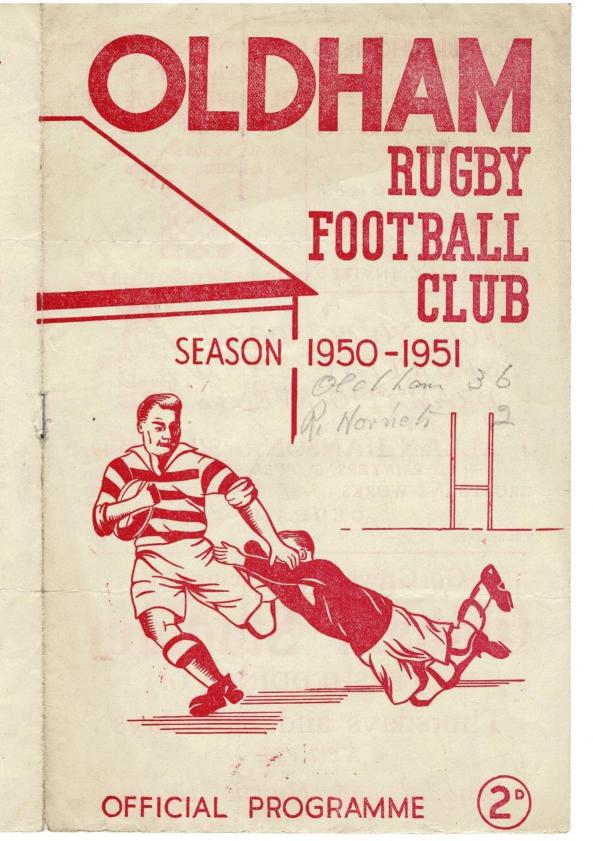
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MONDAY, APRIL 30th, 1951 KICK-OFF 6-45 p.m.

Watersheddings News & Views.

To-night's game is the last match of the season for our first team in the Northern Rugby League Championship, and it concludes a season that has been a mixture from a playing point of view. The team commenced the season as though it was going "to go places" but flattered to deceive, playing good football one match and another time giving a display that requires some explaining. Matches against class teams provided the best entertainment and in the majority of cases we came out on top in the home matches. Defeat when one expected victory against clubs have been too numerous, and after the first twelve matches in the League we appeared to be slipping, when one had hopes that a revival had arrived when we should figure amongst the leading clubs. Although we have been hit by injuries to leading players, this cannot be put down to our fall down the League; bad luck and bad play must be responsible and the lack of efficient reserve strength to replace injured players. At the time of going to press we appear to be the seventh Lancashire Club in the Northern Rugby League and our fixture list for next season does not appear to be too attractive with the Yorkshire clubs, of course several Yorkshire clubs have not concluded their fixtures and their position in the League might be altered, but at the present time the possibility is that we shall have fixtures with either Wakefield or Bradford, Batley, Hull, Hull Kingston Rovers, and York.

Our Visitors.

This evening we entertain Rochdale Hornets in the Northern Rugby League fixture, the original match having been postponed from March 31st owing to the flooded condition of the ground. The Hornets have a very servicable side on view with the following players:

CAHILL, full back. Captain of the team, came to the front with Liverpool Stanley, and was transferred to Hornets at a four-figure fee.

Ron Stanford, wing. One of the Australian importations which is causing a flutter in the dove-cotes—as to his eligibility to play in English football—between the Rugby League and the Australian Board of Control.

McKeown, centre. A recent signing by Hornets from our local club, Higginshaw.

Jones, centre. A Welshman, previously with Salford and is giving good service to Hornets. FLETCHER, wing. A local player, who, given his chance in the first team, has taken it with both hands and is improving each match.

REDFORD, out half. Another Hornets' junior from West Lancashire.

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13 GOLDSWAIN B. V. (Capt.) Reserves - WARD K. WINSLADE C.

Referee: Mr. P. Cowell, Warrington

Touch Judges: Mr. W. Skerrett, Warrington (Red) Mr. T. Taylor, Swinton (Blue)

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12 SCHOFIELD

II DUFFY

9 WATT 10 BOOTH

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KELLY, scrum half. Australian, who has settled down to English conditions; more will be heard of this player next season.

MITCHELL, forward. Previously with Liverpool Stanley, has been playing as hooker. WATT, Hooker. Another Australian; has just concluded his contract with Hull and is on trial with Hornets.

Booth, forward. Has seen service with Huddersfield prior to being transferred to Rochdale

Duffy, forward. Still another Australian, and a good player in the loose.

Schofield, forward. A local player, commenced his Rugby League career with the Hornets and has advanced to 1st team status.

ELLEON, loose forward. One of the fine Australian players to be signed and retains his position as loose forward; not over big but gives all he has in the game.

Publicity.

As it is with all great businesses its greatest asset to popularise its wares is advertising and publicity, and it is regretted that the Rugy League should deem it not necessary to give our game the finest publicity possible, that is television. Connected with the Rugby League is a sub-Committee styled The Press and Publicity Committee and their action in turning down the offer of the B.B.C. to televise the Challenge Cup Final at Wembley on Saturday, 5th May, is one that must be regretted. Money should never enter the value the R.L. get from any such publicity by television, people would look at television who have never seen Rugby League and possibly never heard of it. It is an impossibility for all who so desire to go to Wembley, and there are people would use their television sets no matter what is on, and we are sure that these people who have never seen R.L., would desire to see the game in the "Flesh." What a golden opportunity has been missed, some one has blundered and the wrong must be righted for the good of the game and efficient propaganda that can be offered by the B.B.C. by radio and television.

In conclusion may we offer thanks to the advertisers who have contributed to the no mean success of this match programme and may their confidence in advertising in our issue been of beneficial interest to the various business they are connected with. We trust that the efforts and matter contained in the programmes have been interesting, and it is our intention next season to enlarge upon the programme and to issue one comparable with the best in the sporting world.

R. E. HARRISON

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