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Fixtures for the Season

1954-55	Opponents	Venue	K.O.	1954-55	Opponents	Venue	K.O.
Aug. 7—	Rochdale (Charity)	Home	3-0	Dec. 18—	Keighley	Away	
14—	Wakefield T.	Away		25—	Swinton	Home	2-30
21—	Batley	Home	3-0	27—			
25—	Salford (Wed.)	Away	7-0	Jan. 1—	Belle Vue R.	Home	2-30
28—	St. Helens	Away		8—	Leigh	Away	
Sept. 4—	Barrow	Away		15—	Warrington	Home	2-30
11—	1st Round Lancs. Cup			22—	Workington	Away	
14—	Liverpool (Tues.)	Home	7-0	29—	Rochdale Hornets	Home	3-0
18—	Batley	Away		Feb. 5—	Barrow	Home	3-0
25—	Wakefield T.	Home	3-0	12—	First Round R.L. Cup		
Oct. 2—	Blackpool	Away		19—	St. Helens	Home	3-0
9—	Workington	Home	3-0	26—			
16—	Rochdale Hornets	Away		Mar. 5—	Second Round R.L. Cup		
23—	Hull	Home	3-0	12—	Belle Vue Rangers	Away	
30—	Liverpool S.	Away		19—	Widnes	Home	3-0
Nov. 6—	Blackpool	Home	3-0	26—	Warrington	Away	
13—	Widnes	Away		Apr. 2—	Wigan	Home	3-0
20—	Whitehaven	Home	2-30	8—	Swinton (Friday)	Away	
27—	Wigan	Away		9—	Hull	Away	
Dec. 4—	Salford	Home	2-30	11—	Keighley (Mon.)	Home	3-0
11—	Whitehaven	Away		16—	Leigh	Home	3-0

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- ◆ **JIMMY BREEN** Ace reporter

**in the OLDHAM EDITION of the
Manchester Evening Chronicle**

No. 20—Saturday, April 2nd, 1955

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. WIGAN

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

Our visit to Warrington on Saturday last proved an unfortunate affair inasmuch that we suffered our heaviest defeat of the season, but the score did not represent the true facts of the run of the game. Admitted that our opponents scored eighteen points to our four points, but they had all the luck that was going—and luck you must have in any game, we have had some of the good luck in some of our previous matches. Two interceptions by that great player, Brian Bevan, just put paid to our efforts and must have been very discouraging to our players in their valiant attempts to turn the run of the game into our favour.

The match was played under conditions that could not have been worse, but, to the credit of both sides, they gave an exhibition of Rugby League and how it should be played. Both teams gained many friends for their efforts in putting on such a good show.

This was our fourth defeat in the League this season and it is to the credit of Warrington that they claim a double victory over us. However, we may meet again—we hope—at Maine Road for the Final of the League Championship on May 14th.

Buying success is considered an easy way to success, nevertheless, more often than not it fails. What a wonderful thing it is to bring up and train your own players and see them become stars. The schoolboy of to-day who plays Rugby League is the star of the future. In 1962 there is an English team due to visit Australia and the composition of this team must consist of boys who are now playing schoolboy football. It is up to the clubs to see that the "A" team is playing every week during the season, legislative power will have to be brought forward and it is the intention of this club to raise this matter at the Annual Meeting of the Rugby League, to be held this summer, with a view to re-introducing the Rugby League Combination.

OUR VISITORS

For the second time this season we welcome the Wigan club to Watersheddings, and we are sure of a game that will be worth talking about afterwards. It was our privilege to dismiss the Wigan club in the first round of the Challenge Cup at Watersheddings on Saturday, February 12th, by the very narrow margin of five points to two, after a splendid game in which the result could have gone either way—easy goal kicks being missed by both sides.

However, in to-day's match, our team have a lot at stake and cannot afford to make any slip-up as we are hungry for League points both for the Northern Rugby League Championship and the Lancashire League Championship—this match could count in both leagues. We cannot afford to have any more lost matches owing to our position in the League. What an great achievement it would be to finish the number-one club in the League, and to fulfil our aim to eventually be worthy champions. It would not be out of our turn, success is bound to come as we consider that our team is full of youth and gaining wide experience, and we can, with luck, expect some of the honours coming Watersheddings way several times in the near future.

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RESULTS

OLDHAM

Blue and White

1. STIRRUP, F. 2
2. CRACKNELL, R.
3. BARROW, R. 11/11, J.
4. DAVIES, A., Captain
5. O'GRADY, T.
6. AYRES, D. 11/11, F. 3
7. PITCHFORD, F.
8. OGDEN, H.
9. KEITH, J. 3
10. JACKSON, K.
11. WINSLADE, C.
12. TOMLINSON, A. 11/11, S.
13. GOLDSWAIN, B.V. 3222

WIGAN

Red and White

1. PLATT
2. BOSTON
3. BROOME
4. CUNLIFFE
5. HURST
6. BOLTON
7. 11/11
8. GRUNDY
9. RICHARDSON
10. FEATHERSTONE
11. McTIGUE
12. CHERRINGTON
13. HILL

Referee: Mr. G. S. PHILLIPS of Widnes

Touch Judges:

Mr. H. Holland, St. Helens (Red)

Mr. E. Cunningham, Widnes (Blue)

ALL
THE
R. L.
NEWS

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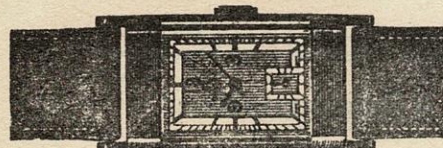
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"A" TEAM FIXTURES

Our "A" team are having a very lean period as regards the playing of matches. This can be put down to the most unsatisfactory procedure that is adopted regarding the fixing of the season's fixtures.

In Lancashire, there are not enough clubs playing each other to fill the season in, yet in Yorkshire, there are sufficient clubs to guarantee full fixtures including the season's competitions.. Admitted that several matches have been postponed owing to weather conditions and that congestion at the end of this season is apparent, but this does not solve the problem of having the "A" team engaged each week as are the first teams. Why Lancashire and Yorkshire should segregate themselves instead of having inter-county fixtures is beyond conception and is a problem for the clubs to solve, but solved it must be.

In the main, too little interest is taken by club managements in "A" teams, they seem to fail to realize that the "A" team is the life-blood of our game. Anyone with sufficient money can go and buy a ready-made player which when all is said and done, is only using other people's brains as regards talent spotting.

BRIEFS

The Hull team will visit us on Monday, April 18th, 1955, and the kick-off is now fixed for 6-30 p.m.
kick-off 3-0 p.m.

The semi-finals for the League Championship will be played on Saturday, April 23rd, the top club playing the fourth club and the second playing the third. The final for the Championship Cup will be played on Manchester City's ground, Maine Road, Moss Side, Manchester, on Saturday, May 14th, 1955.

Challenge Cup final at Wembley will be played on Saturday, April 30th, and the Association Cup final at Wembley on Saturday, May 7th.

A very busy end of season is going to be the lot of our first team. In the first place, it is obvious—unless something very serious happens—that we shall have a play-off semi-final at Watersheddings, with the possibility of appearing in the final. Two testimonial matches are to be played, one for L. Platt, and the other for the dependants of the late John Feather, and an application from Halifax F.C. to play a similar match on May 21st, for Stan Keilty. There have been applications for several of our players, resident in the Leigh area, to play in the C. Pawsey Testimonial match. The close season will be all too short for many players.

HOLIDAY ATTRACTIONS AT WATERSHEDDINGS

Good Friday, April 8th, kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM "A" v. SWINTON "A"

Easter Monday, April 11th (kick-off to be announced later)

OLDHAM v. KEIGHLEY

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