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**OLDHAM**

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 8th, 1955.**

*Kick-off at 3-0 p.m.*

**CLUB GOSSIP.**

It is pleasant to be able to record the continued improved performances of our team. In our games last week we gained our first League point in home matches against Wigan since the war, and succeeded in winning at Leigh for the sixth time in seven seasons. Both games abounded with thrills and provided excellent entertainment.

For the match at Leigh we had to make several changes in our team. Brian Critchley and Jack Tonge were both unfit as a result of injuries received against Wigan, and it was thought advisable to rest Cliff Berry. Tommy Holder had the great misfortune to lose his mother on Friday, and naturally did not feel like playing. Consequently, Alan Easterbrook moved to centre, with Gerald Doughty on the left wing, and Les Woods, Eddie Cheetham and Gordon Haynes were brought into the forwards.

In contrast to the Wigan match, when we were never in arrears, in the match at Leigh the lead changed hands six times, and the scores were level on two occasions. Both Leigh and Swinton held the lead three times, but we were in front when it was most important.

This afternoon, for the third match in succession, we play against "Top Four" aspirants, our visitors from Oldham now lying second in the League table. This will be an important game for them, for in addition to their struggle with Warrington for the leadership, they cannot afford to lose any points in the Lancashire League Championship.

Details of the leading positions in both the Northern Rugby League and the Lancashire League are given below—

NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Warrington.....	33	27	4	2	690	295	56
Oldham.....	31	26	4	1	554	257	53
St. Helens.....	32	24	7	1	597	342	49
Leeds.....	32	24	7	1	568	322	49
Wigan.....	32	23	8	1	579	294	47
Leigh.....	29	19	9	1	592	326	39
Halifax.....	27	18	8	1	398	229	37

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE

	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Warrington.....	26	21	3	2	554	238	44
Oldham.....	26	21	4	1	457	211	43
St. Helens.....	26	19	6	1	464	182	39
Wigan.....	24	17	6	1	456	237	35

Oldham are one of the most improved teams in the League this season. Finishing twelfth in the League last year, they have been at the top of the League most of this season. From August 25th to January 15th they were undefeated in League games. Great credit is due to Griff Jenkins, our former coach who now has charge of the players at Oldham, for his efforts in welding the side into such a formidable combination.

In the match at Oldham on Christmas Day, our boys put up a very good show losing by only 8—5. Now they will be all out to better that performance to-day.

To-morrow we visit our very good friends and near neighbours Salford for the return match. We hope that all our supporters will be at The Willows to encourage our boys.

In our remaining home games we have Doncaster on Saturday, April 16th (kick-off at 3-0 p.m.) and Rugby League Cup Finalists Barrow on Wednesday, April 20th (kick-off at 6-30 p.m.).

**Local Schoolboys Rugby League.**

In the Area Final of the *Daily Dispatch* Schoolboys Competition played last Monday, Cromwell Road School defeated the Ambrose Barlow School by 9—0. The Cromwell Road team will now meet the winners of the Wigan Area in the Second Round of the Shield Competition proper. We wish them every success.

Many of the boys at the recently opened Ambrose Barlow School have not played Rugby League football before, and their

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**NEXT MATCH at Station Road**

**SWINTON v. DONCASTER**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16th.**

*Kick-off at 3-0 p.m.*

Referee : Mr. N. T. RAILTON (Billinge)

Touch Judges : Mr. F. S. Rowley (Blue), Mr. V. Waddilove (White)

**SWINTON**

(Blue Jerseys, White Pants)

1. GOWERS
2. NORBURN
3. CRITCHLEY
4. PARKINSON
5. BERRY
6. BLAN
7. THOMAS
8. BILLINGTON
9. HUNT
10. THOMPSON
11. TONGE
12. EASTERBROOK
13. HOLDER

**OLDHAM**

(Red & White Jerseys, Blue Pants)

1. STIRRUP
2. O'GRADY
3. DAVIES
4. BARROW/ETTY
5. CRACKNELL
6. AYRES/DALEY
7. PITCHFORD
8. OGDEN
9. KEITH
10. JACKSON
11. WINSLADE
12. LITTLE/TOMLINSON
13. GOLDSWAIN

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displays in this Competition have been a most encouraging reward for the efforts which Cliff Evans has made to teach them the game.

We hope that it will be possible to arrange for the Swinton District Schools Team to play Barrow Schoolboys prior to the match with Barrow on April 20th. Further details of this game will be given in our next programme.

#### APPEARANCES AND SCORERS TO DATE

	Played	Goals	Tries	Points
BERRY .....	9	—	5	15
BILLINGTON .....	15	—	1	3
BLAN .....	33	39	7	99
CRITCHLEY .....	18	—	5	15
DOUGHTY .....	23	—	10	30
EASTERBROOK .....	22	—	1	3
GOWERS .....	13	17	—	34
HAYNES .....	21	—	3	9
HOLDER .....	29	—	2	6
HULME .....	3	—	—	—
HUNT.....	19	—	—	—
JEVONS.....	6	—	2	6
LAWRENSON .....	11	2	1	7
LEA .....	3	—	1	3
MCGOWAN .....	6	—	—	—
NORBURN .....	30	—	10	30
OSMOND .....	14	—	—	—
PARKINSON .....	33	—	7	21
PARTON .....	2	—	1	3
PEARSON .....	3	—	1	3
PHILLIPS .....	17	—	—	—
PRITCHARD .....	1	—	—	—
SENIOR .....	9	—	—	—
STOTT .....	4	4	1	11
THOMAS .....	26	—	6	18
THOMPSON .....	12	—	—	—
TONGE .....	11	—	2	6
WOODS .....	27	—	1	3
WINKWORTH .....	1	—	—	—
CARTWRIGHT .....	6	—	—	—
CHEETHAM .....	2	—	—	—

# FIXTURES AND RESULTS

## First Team

1954		F.	A.
Aug. 7—Salford	A	12	3
(Red Rose Cup)			
14—Batley	A	11	5
16—Hunslet	H	15	6
21—Wakefield T.	H	9	10
25—St. Helens	A	9	28
28—Warrington	A	11	28
Sept. 4—Liverpool C.	H	24	14
6—Leigh	H	5	20
11—Workington	A	0	27
(Lancs. Cup)			
18—Warrington	H	16	23
25—Hunslet	A	12	18
Oct. 2—			
9—Blackpool	H	22	15
16—Doncaster	A	14	22
23—Lancs. Cup Final			
30—Wakefield T.	A	13	21
Nov. 6—Rochdale H.	H	2	3
13—Whitehaven	A	8	12
20—Belle Vue R.	H	8	11
27—Rochdale H.	A	15	4
Dec. 4—Whitehaven	H	0	17
11—Liverpool C.	A	3	2
18—Workington	H	10	21
25—Oldham	A	5	8
27—Widnes	H	5	0
1955			
Jan. 1—			
8—Barrow	H	4	17
15—			
22—			
29—Workington	H	12	16
Feb. 5—Widnes	H	9	18
12—Wigan	A	10	24
19—Barrow	A	—	—
26—Blackpool	H	—	—
Mar. 5—Wigan	H	7	22
12—St. Helens	A	7	39
19—Salford	A	2	7
26—			
April 2—Leigh	H	9	22
8—Oldham	A		

## 'A' Team

1954		F.	A.
Aug. 14—Barrow	H	6	10
(L.C.C.S.)			
23—St. Helens	H	2	22
28—Warrington	H	25	26
Sept. 4—Liverpool C.	A	2	20
11—Barrow	A	8	21
(L.C.C.S.)			
18—Warrington	A	16	20
25—Oldham	H	13	16
Oct. 2—Salford	H	23	11
9—Blackpool	A	20	10
16—S.P. & D. R.L.	H	28	2
23—Leigh	A	9	17
30—M. & D. R.L.	H	9	2
Nov. 6—Rochdale H.	A	6	9
20—			
27—Rochdale H.	H	5	18
Dec. 4—Whitehaven	A	5	5
11—Liverpool C.	H	—	—
18—Workington	A	8	2
25—			
27—Widnes	A	2	20
1955			
Jan. 1—			
8—Barrow	H	4	17
15—			
22—			
29—Workington	H	12	16
Feb. 5—Widnes	H	9	18
12—Wigan	A	10	24
19—Barrow	A	—	—
26—Blackpool	H	—	—
Mar. 5—Wigan	H	7	22
12—St. Helens	A	7	39
19—Salford	A	2	7
26—			
April 2—Leigh	H	9	22
8—Oldham	A		



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