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WIGAN v. OLDHAM

(NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE)

SATURDAY, 19th NOVEMBER, 1955

Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

OFFICIAL NOTES...

After all our good performances away from home it was most disappointing that our players gave such a poor display before our own supporters last Saturday. Leigh deserve credit for some grand football, but there is no doubt our team had their worst game for a long time. We were never really in the game with a chance, and the defeat nullifies our fine win at Kirkhall Lane a few weeks previously. Our programme between now and Christmas is a very hard one, and it is important for our team to recover if we are to retain our place in the First Four. Last Saturday's defeat means a drop of one place to third position; York take over second place with their win over Doncaster. Warrington, after a poor start, have put on some splendid performances recently and have now reached fourth place. Our match at Wilderspool next week is therefore going to be vitally important.

OUR VISITORS

Like Warrington, Oldham had a fairly poor start to the season, but they have latterly been getting well into their stride and are slowly climbing the League table. Only two weeks ago they won handsomely at Leigh with a great rally after being eleven points down, and last week they accounted for Liverpool City at Watersheddings. Earlier in the season they did not seem to settle down to their classy type of football which won so many admirers last year, but it is reported that in the last few weeks they have begun to recover and are playing more like their old selves.

In the backs they have outstanding players in Alan Davies (centre), Dick Cracknell (wing) and Pitchford (scrum-half), but are unfortunately without the services of Terry O'Grady at the moment. He was injured in a floodlit game in London a few weeks ago, but it is good to know he is making a good recovery. Forward they have several stalwarts, including Little, Keith and Goldswain, all with plenty of experience, and their two new forwards, Rodgers (signed from Salford) and Turner (from Hull K.R.), seem to be settling down now with their colleagues.

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To-day's game is absolutely vital to both clubs, for while we cannot afford another home defeat, Oldham also, after their bad start to the season, must keep winning if they are going to secure a place in the Championship play-off. It should be a really first-class game, as it usually is between these two clubs. Oldham's League record to date reads as follows:—

Played 11; Won 6; Drawn 0; Lost 5.

Points For 189; Points Against 153. Position in Table: 15th.

"A" AND "B" TEAMS

Last week our "A" team won their fifth consecutive Combination match by completing the double over Leigh. It was a hard-fought and at many times a thrilling game, but our pack got on top in tight and loose and we were always in a winning position. We have now won seven out of ten Combination games, and this present form should give us a fair chance of the Combination Championship. The final margin at Kirkhall Lane was 17—12. Don Platt, who made a welcome return to football after his long lay-off with a groin injury, kicked three goals and Tommy Parr one. Our try-scorers were Parr, Bird and Clubb.

Our "B" team tackled Highfield last Saturday at the Pemberton Rovers ground, but were beaten in a very even game.

SCHOOLBOY FOOTBALL

If ground conditions are favourable, Wigan Schoolboys will be playing Oldham Schoolboys in a curtain-raiser prior to the big match to-day. At the Leigh match last week the schoolboys held a collection which amounted to over £25 and which will benefit local Schoolboy Rugby League.

AFTER THE MATCH—

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SHAREHOLDERS AND SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

The S. and S. Association ask us to announce that they are holding a dance in the Ince Public Hall on Saturday next, 26th November, from 7-30 to 12. Tickets are 3s. 6d. and can be obtained from the Shareholders Hut or from members of the S. and S. Committee.

CUP FINAL TICKETS

In the past there has been a demand for seating tickets at the Cup Final which far exceeded the supply. Consequently, organisations (e.g., clubs, leagues or individuals) were taking up block bookings of these tickets in the autumn and then disposing of them a few weeks before the Final was played. Supporters wishing to attend the game would probably be a little bewildered to find the market flooded with tickets in March when six months earlier the Rugby League announced that all seating tickets were sold.

This season, in an endeavour to ensure that tickets are sold direct to those wishing to go to the match and not to those who wish to resell them at a later date, block bookings are being carefully scrutinised and broken down.

Supporters are warned that they may not now be able to obtain tickets in March as many have done in the past. A limited number of seating tickets (25/-, 12/6, 10/6 and 6/6) are still available at the Rugby League Offices, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7.

If you want to see the game, place your order NOW and avoid disappointment. The game will not be televised.

Standing enclosure tickets at 3/- are also available and can be reserved now.

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Threequarters:

2—HURST
3—BROOME
4—McGILICUDDY
5—ASHTON

Half Backs:

6—CHISNALL
7—HOOPER

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8—ARMSTRONG
9—MATHER
10—HAYWARD
11—CHERRINGTON
or GRIFFIN
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7—PITCHFORD

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9—KEITH
10—LITTLE
11—ROGERS
12—GOLDSWAIN
13—TURNER

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NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLE

(up to and including 12th November, 1955)

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Points		Pts.	P.c.
					F.	A.		
St. Helens	12	11	0	1	356	131	22	91.67
York	13	10	0	3	225	156	20	76.92
Wigan	12	9	0	3	249	121	18	75.00
Warrington	13	9	0	4	261	159	16	69.23
Bradford Northern	13	9	0	4	270	181	18	69.23
Featherstone Rovers	13	9	0	4	204	192	18	69.23
Hull	13	8	1	5	335	231	17	65.38
Keighley	14	9	0	5	224	245	18	64.28
Workington Town	11	7	0	4	213	146	14	63.64
Rochdale Hornets	13	8	0	5	213	146	16	61.54
Halifax	13	8	0	5	228	157	16	61.54
Leigh	10	6	0	4	226	200	12	60.00
Leeds	12	7	0	5	264	231	14	58.33
Swinton	12	6	1	5	138	145	13	54.17
Oldham	11	6	0	5	189	153	12	54.54
Widnes	11	6	0	5	162	148	12	54.54
Hull Kingston Rovers	15	8	0	7	173	253	16	53.33
Barrow	13	7	0	6	273	246	14	53.85
Hunslet	14	7	0	7	199	252	14	50.00
Salford	15	7	1	7	205	211	15	50.00
Huddersfield	12	5	0	7	252	218	10	41.67
Wakefield Trinity	15	6	0	9	247	255	12	40.00
Liverpool City	13	4	0	9	176	238	8	30.77
Dewsbury	13	4	0	9	136	267	8	30.77
Batley	14	4	0	10	185	275	8	28.57
Doncaster	13	3	1	9	153	210	7	26.92
Castleford	15	3	0	12	199	358	6	20.00
Bramley	12	2	0	10	183	322	4	16.67
Whitehaven	13	2	0	11	132	215	4	15.38
Blackpool Borough	12	1	0	11	147	346	2	8.33

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Wigan 'A' v. Warrington 'A'

(Lancashire Rugby League Combination)

Saturday, 26th November, 1955

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WIGAN PLAYERS' RECORDS Season 1955-56

FIRST TEAM

APPEARANCES AND TRIES SCORED

(up to and including 12th November, 1955)

	Appear- ances	Tries		Appear- ances	Tries
Abram, R.	1	—	Hayward, D. J.	1	—
Armstrong, A.	16	—	Hill, K.	7	2
Ashcroft, E. J.	15	4	Hooper, J. R.	9	1
Ashton, E.	14	10	Hurst, R.	1	2
Bolton, D. R.	14	4	McGillicuddy, M.	4	2
Boston, W. J.	13	25	McTigue, B.	5	—
Broome, J.	15	3	Mather, R.	15	—
Cherrington, N.	10	1	Parr, T.	6	3
Chisnall, R.	4	1	Platt, D.	3	—
Collier, W.	1	—	Ralph, A.	1	—
Cunliffe, J.	13	1	Richardson, J.	1	—
Featherstone, J.	2	—	Street, H.	6	1
Griffin, F.	16	4	Williams, T. R. R.	15	2

Total number of Tries: 66.

GOALS SCORED

Ashton, E.	27
Bolton, D. R.	1
Cunliffe, J.	19
Parr, T.	4
Platt, D.	1

Total number of Goals: 52.

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FIRST TEAM

"A" TEAM

		F. A.		F. A.
Aug. 13 ...	Warrington (Charity) H	10-19	Warrington (Charity) A	18-29
20 ...	DewsburyH	52- 5	Blackpool BoroughA	38- 0
23 ...	Blackpool BoroughA	31- 6		
24 ...			St. HelensA	21-20
27 ...	WarringtonH	15-16	WarringtonA	26-13
	(Lancs. Cup)		(Lancs. Shield)	
31 ...	Liverpool CityH	17- 9		
Sept. 3 ...	HalifaxA	2-15	Warrington (L. Shld.) H	15-17
10 ...	Wakefield TrinityH	36-11	OldhamA	12-23
12 ...	England v. Other Nat. H	16-33		
17 ...	Featherstone Rovers ...A	6-13	St. HelensH	13-20
21 ...			BarrowH	16- 6
			(Lancs. Shld. 2nd Rd.)	
24 ...	New ZealandH	17-15	Leigh (Friendly)A	15-34
28 ...	Huddersfield (Floodlit Comp. in London)...	11-33		
29 ...			WhitehavenA	7-28
			(Lancs. Shld. S.F.)	
Oct. 1 ...	Wakefield TrinityA	21-10	WarringtonA	9-24
8 ...	WhitehavenA	15- 9	WhitehavenH	20- 8
15 ...	Leigh v. WidnesH	26- 9		
	(Lancs. Cup Final)			
22 ...	LeighA	14-10	LeighH	23-20
29 ...	WhitehavenH	29- 2	WhitehavenA	44- 6
Nov. 5 ...	Rochdale HornetsA	15- 7	Rochdale HornetsH	9- 8
12 ...	LeighH	11-24	LeighA	17-12
19 ...	OldhamH			
26 ...	WarringtonA		WarringtonH	
Dec. 3 ...	Workington TownH		Workington TownA	
10 ...	DewsburyA		Blackpool BoroughH	
17 ...	HalifaxH			
24 ...	SwintonH		SwintonA	
26 ...	SalfordA		Salford (a.m.)H	
27 ...	St. HelensH		Liverpool CityA	
31 ...	BarrowA		BarrowH	
Jan. 2 ...	WarringtonH			
7 ...	SwintonA		SwintonH	
14 ...	WidnesH		WidnesA	
21 ...			St. Helens (Friendly) ..A	
28 ...	Salford (Friendly)H			
Feb. 4 ...	Swinton (Friendly)H		St. Helens (Friendly) ..H	
11 ...	R.L. Cup (1st Round)		OldhamH	
18 ...	OldhamA		Rochdale HornetsA	
25 ...	Rochdale HornetsH			
Mar. 3 ...	R.L. Cup (2nd Round)			
10 ...	Liverpool CityA		Liverpool CityH	
17 ...	BarrowH		BarrowA	
24 ...	Blackpool BoroughH			
30 ...	St. HelensA			
31 ...	Hull (Friendly)H			
April 2 ...	SalfordH		Salford (a.m.)A	
7 ...	WidnesA		WidnesH	
11 ...	Featherstone Rovers ...H			
14 ...	Workington TownA		Workington TownH	
21 ...				
28 ...	R.L. Cup Final			