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Fixtures for the Season

Date	Opponents	Venue	Date	Opponents	Venue
Aug. 9—	Rochdale Hornets	Away	25—	Swinton	Home 2-30
16—	Halifax	Home 3-0	26—	Hunslet	Away
19—	Blackpool	Away	27—	St. Helens	Away
23—	Wakefield	Away	1959		
30—	Whitehaven (L.C.)	Home 3-0	Jan. 3—	Leigh	Home 2-30
Sept. 2—	Workington	Home 6-15	10—	Barrow	Away
6—	Halifax	Away	17—	St. Helens	Home 2-30
13—	Wakefield	Home 3-0	24—	Salford	Home 3-0
20—	Rochdale H.	Away	31—	Leeds	Away
27—	Blackpool	Home 3-0	Feb. 7—	Warrington	Home 3-0
Oct. 4—	Warrington	Away	14—	Leigh	Away
11—	Rochdale H.	Home 3-0	21—	R.L. Cup	
18—	Liverpool	Away	28—	Whitehaven	Away
25—	Hunslet	Home 3-0	Mar. 7—	R.L. Cup	
Nov. 1—	Featherstone	Away	14—	Hull	Away
8—	Featherstone	Home 3-0	21—	Barrow	Home 3-0
15—	Salford	Away	27—	Swinton (G.F.)	Away
22—	Leeds	Home 2-30	28—	E.S.	
29—	Wigan	Away	30—	Hull (E.M.)	Home 3-0
Dec. 6—	Widnes	Home 2-30	April 4—	Liverpool	Home 3-0
13—	Workington	Away	11—	Widnes	Away
20—	Wigan	Home 2-30	18—	Whitehaven	Home 3-0

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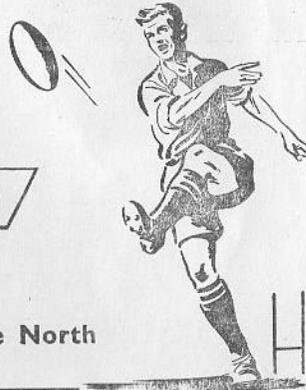


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No. 7—Tuesday, 30th September, 1958

Kick-off 5-30 p.m.

OLDHAM v. WIDNES

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS & VIEWS

The chief topic in local football news was the transfer of Don Vines from our club to Wakefield Trinity. There is no doubt that Don is a very good forward but when differences arise between player and management the player eventually becomes dissatisfied and in consequence is unhappy. When this state of affairs comes along and the differences cannot be bridged, often they are settled by reason, the obvious thing to do is to grant the players request. The committee much regret parting with a good player, one who is on the verge of international honours, but they think the right thing has been done in accepting the players request for a move to another club. We can say this that Don has been a whole eighty minutes player and has given his best, he must have done to keep his place in our first team when fit. The fact remains that we have eight first-class forwards still available and only six can play in one match is a problem, and a very good problem from our point of view to keep these players contented. Although we are in the top flight of clubs we cannot afford to relax and must have good and efficient reserves to call upon in case of injury or loss of form. No matter how good your team may be the board of directors or committee's cannot afford to sit back and think that team will last for ever. Events of the past have proved this by clubs playing great football and carrying off the major trophies of the game and where are they to-day, down the League table. Apathy crept into the game of these clubs instead of re-enforcing as they were riding on top of the world allowed the team to go to pieces by playing the same players too long, great players in the football world at the time were allowed to outlive their prescence, the players were kept together too long with the result that the spirit was there but the flesh would not allow for the pace of the game. There is an old saying that a player at 20 years of age when knocked down on the field of play bounces up, at 25 years of age he gets up and when turned 30 years of age he wants helping up. And so it is in all games, youth must have its day and the old must make way for the young, is not this true throughout life?

BRIEFS

Ken Jackson had a run out with the "A" team on Saturday, 20th September against Hornets "A", but he does not feel confident yet to trust his knee in a first team match. We think a little longer rest will see Ken back to fitness.

THE CHEMICS ARE ALWAYS RARE TRIERS

By Cyril Briggs

They (the "knockers") used to say that Widnes could never show their best form when they lost sight of the town chimney stacks and factories. The jibe might have been true in some post-war seasons, but now the Chemics are among the top flight. They have their own style of play. It's a Widnes tradition. Every man plays to help his colleagues and that's the reason why two, three, and sometimes four men go into the tackle.

Believe me, because I have followed the fortunes of the club for many years and know lots of inside stories of the Naughton Park set-up, the keen Widnes tackling is not dirty. It is not offensive. It is just what the book says, quick and keen. Widnes have always been renowned for their enthusiasm on the field of play. They play hard and take hard knocks. Maybe there's not a Dick Cracknell, or Brian Bevan in their ranks when it comes to speed, but for sheer clever rugby, the Widnes boys know their stuff.

GIANTS OF THE PAST

Players like Tommy Shannon, Tommy McCue, Peter Topping, Percy Jacks, Jack O'Garra, Jerry Laughton, Paddy Douglas and the fearless men who packed down with the best in the land, made the name 'Widnes' ring throughout the R.L. world. Alec Higgins, (now a committee member), Fred Higgins, Danny Naughton, Jimmy Jones, Nat Silcock (father of the present Warrington player) and Harry Millington, were forwards who could have brought a King's ransom to-day.

To see McCue, Shannon and Millington in action was a joy for the eyes of any R.L. enthusiast. They had more tricks up their sleeves than half-a-dozen men who earn four-figure fees on T.V. They still talk about McCue, Shannon and Millington almost every day in Widnes. But now new names are on the horizon. Frank Myler, the lad who can play any kind of ball game, is in Shannon's shoes, although he cannot get the votes at the gatherings of club officials. Myler created a great impression last season at Watersheddings.

That night, late in the season, Myler got two fine tries, and Widnes almost created a shock. The Oldham crowd cheered (sympathetically), I must point out, when little Johnny Smith was carried off the field with a nasty injury. Poor Johnny. He has a heart as big as the tallest forward who has worn the famous black and white jersey. Luck is always against

him. Some while ago he had a spin on a motor-cycle he was a learner at the time and had the misfortune to spend a while in hospital. He's still not fit to play. But if there's any chance he will be back in harness again.

A FINE LEADER

Widnes, like McCue, Shannon and Millington always have something up their sleeves, so look out Oldham. Jack Broome, the ex-Wigan international, who is now leading the town team of his birth, has done a marvellous job at Naughton Park. He is a hard task master, and Widnes players have to be on their toes. As for shocks, remember the time when they played the great Wigan team in a Lancashire Challenge Cup final at Wilderspool. The wise boys, and wide ones too, told us Widnes had no chance of winning at all. Wigan won, but only by a point.

The Widnes followers went home that night convinced that someday they would win the Lancashire Challenge Cup. They did at that. Came the resumption of football after World War two. It was the old cherry and white jersey which was thrown into the Widnes player's faces. Did they care? Not a bit of it. They beat Wigan, but unfortunately some of the stars were at the evening of their careers.

VISIT TO WEMBLEY

So, it came to pass that Widnes did not appear in any other finals after 1945 until 1950. Then they came up against the might of Warrington and it was not a happy day for Widnes at Wembley. Warrington were intent on winning that game at all costs judging by the way they prepared for the final.

Since then there have been many ups and downs at Naughton Park, but there was a revival in 1955 when the side met Leigh in the Lancs. Challenge Cup final at Wigan. Luck was against the black and whites that day, because Peter Davies (Dai to his pals) got a leg injury which put him out of action.

In the 1957 Challenge Cup tourney Widnes looked like going to Wembley—remember they had been there four times previously—but fate was against them. A penalty goal knocked them out at Whitehaven, after they had won a great battle at Bradford in mid-week when things looked like going Northern's way in the second round.

In the first round they had beaten Liverpool City in a hectic engagement at Knotty Ash. So the Chemics were again away from home this time in Cumberland. If only the game had taken place at Naughton Park, it may have been Widnes's trophy that year.

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9

OLDHAM
Red and White

- 1—GANLEY B. - 3 GOALS
- 2—CRACKNELL R.
- 3—DAVIES A.
- 4—NOON J.
- 5—SIMS, G.
- 6—KELLETT, A.
- 7—PITCHFORD, F. - 1 TRY
- 8—ROWBOTTOM R.
- 9—KEITH J.
- 10—DUFTY, R.
- 11—WINSLADE, C.
- 12—LITTLE, S. D.
- 13—TURNER, D.

Referee:

Mr. M. COATES
of Pudsey

4

WIDNES
Black and White

- 1—KINSEY
- 2—HEYES
- 4—THOMPSON, W.
- 3—BROOME
- 5—DAWSON - 2 GOALS
- 6—MYLER
- 7—KEAVNEY
- 8—SMITH
- 9—KEMEL
- 10—BATE
- 11—GRIFFIN
- 12—THOMPSON, J.
- 13—MAJOR

Touch Judges:

Mr. F. J. Howker, Milnrow (Yellow)
Mr. E. Lawrenson, War'ton (C'son)

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Visit to Wembley—continued

But despite that reverse, Widnes have memories of past triumphs. They gained an 'impossible' victory against a star-studded St. Helens team in the Wembley final of 1930 and that really put the club on the map. Disappointment when Hunslet beat them at the Empire Stadium in 1934, but the cup was back in Widnes in 1937 when the team were far too good for Keighley.

Pleasant memories for the Chemics. Win or lose they will come back into the limelight again. Rugby is a tradition in the town and faith in the club knows no bounds among their supporters.

THE ITALIAN VENTURE

A party of Italian sportsmen were last week given instructions at Headingley, ground of the Leeds Football Club, and at Rugby League Headquarters by Mr. L. Gant who is a qualified Rugby League coach. All this was work of a hard nature as Mr. Gant had to work with an interpreter, but some good has been done. The Italians returned yesterday and Mr. Gant is following on later for a period of three weeks for coaching of the various teams that will take our game up in Northern Italy. We wish success to the venture.

PLAYING STAFF

Name & Birthplace	Height	Weight	Name & Birthplace	Height	Weight
	ft.	in.	ft.	in.	st. lb.
FULL BACKS					
Mee, L., Leigh.....	5	8-10	8	Moat, R., Hull.....	5 7-11 4
Ganley, B., Leigh.....	5	9-12	7	Pitchford, F., Leigh.....	5 7-11 6
THREE-QUARTERS					
Ayres, D., Oldham.....	5	10-12	8	Stirrup, F., Leigh.....	5 7-10 10
Cracknell, R., H'field ...	5	11-13	4	FORWARDS	
Davies, A., Leigh.....	5	10-13	8	Carruthers, I., Oldham	5 10-11 10
Etty, J., Batley.....	5	11-13	2	Chatterton, D., Widnes	6 0-13 7
Edwards, J., St. Helens	5	11-12	6	Byrne, B., Leigh.....	5 10-12 7
Pendlebury, B., Leigh ...	5	10-13	0	Dufty, R., Oxford.....	6 1-14 10
Needham, R., Oldham....	5	9-12	0	Goddard, P., Sheffield...	5 10-13 4
Nestor, V., Leigh.....	5	10-11	12	Govan, J., Golborne ...	5 11-14 4
Noon, J., Oldham.....	5	9-12	6	Hunter, J., Leigh.....	6 0-14 7
O'Brien, J., Oldham....	5	9-11	0	Jackson, K., Oldham ...	6 0-14 12
Sims, G., Leigh.....	5	10-10	10	Keith, J., Hunslet.....	5 11-12 11
HALF-BACKS					
Daley, F., Wigan.....	5	9-12	10	Little, S., Carlisle.....	6 1-14 8
Hatherall, B., Leigh.....	5	6-10	7	Lomas, H., Oldham.....	6 0-15 1
Jones, A., Oldham.....	5	7-10	10	Lloyd, K., Ashley.....	6 0-13 8
Kellett, A., Ovington ...	5	10-11	11	Mckeown, D., Oldham	6 1-13 4
Laverty, L., Oldham ...	5	6-10	13	Rogers, J., Leeds.....	6 0-15 1
				Rowbottom, R., Widnes	6 0-15 7
				Turner, D., Ossett.....	6 1-14 2
				Watson, J., Oldham.....	6 1-13 6
				Winslade, C., Maesteg...	6 1-15 0

LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(Up to and including Saturday last)

Player	A.	G.	T.	Player	A.	G.	T.
Ganley	10	48	1	Winslade	10		3
Cracknell	10		5	Little	6		2
Nestor	3		1	Daley	1		
Ayres	5		1	Noon	5	4	1
Etty	4		2	Edwards	2		
Kellett	10		5	Vines	5		
Jones	2		2	Turner	9		1
Rowbottom	6		1	Stirrup	4		
Keith	10		5	McKeown	7		2
Lomas	2			Sims	5		3
Davies	6		8	Hatherall	1		
Pitchford	3		1				
Dufty	4		1				

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Leeds	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	St. Helens	Swinton	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow			8-7											25-5
Blackpool				12-34						23-20	9-21		
Leeds	32-20	.....		59-20										
Leigh			21-5			9-22					20-15
Liverpool				20-16	.....								
OLDHAM									30-4
Rochdale					13-14	.....	16-26	5-15						
Salford							
St. Helens						
Swinton	13-6									.....		25-10	6-0		
Warrington		32-15		23-26				15-29		.....			
Whitehaven			24-12
Widnes						34-11		25-16		13-17	.....		
Wigan	49-16														.....
Workington							19-12				17-9	14-34		.....

Home Team on left Away Team on top Home Team's score given first

Briefs—continued

Frank Daley has had an operation upon a finger which had been broken and the ligaments were not functioning. The operation has been successful and Frank will now be able to resume his piano playing of classical music.

DISMISSALS FROM THE FIELD

It was most unfortunate that our captain and full back, Bernard Ganley was dismissed from the field at Rochdale on the 20th September. It was an unfortunate incident on the field and cost Bernard one match suspension. This was the first time he had been dismissed from the field in his long career, it was very regrettable, but there it is and Bernard has taken his punishment with honour.

There have been many worse incidents on the field that led to the dismissal of the two players at Rochdale, but the game must be kept clean and free from incidents that are not in the rule book. The Management Committee of the Northern Rugby Football League recently met the senior referees at a get together meeting and one of the main topics was the dismissing of players from the field for foul play. The referees were of the opinion that the sentences given to dismissed players was too lenient and that sympathy was shown the player, even when not appearing before the Disciplinary Committee. There is no doubt that leniency has been shown to players.

There is one thing a referee does not like doing and that is ordering off the field players who cannot control themselves and resort to unfair tactics. The referee is in sole charge of the game and it is the referee who must give his decisions to the best of his proved ability. There is no doubt that the Disciplinary Committee are going to get tough with malcontents who bring ill-feeling into our game and in future they will get what they deserve, so let there be no moaners or squeallers in the future. It is the players who make the game what it is, the referee does not stop them from playing football, he is there to control the game, and control it he must with firmness and justness. One player of a Yorkshire Club has recently got one match suspension for what is called ungentlemanly conduct. The incident happened on the field of play after the referee had blown "time" when his remarks about the referee, and which the referee heard, that if we had a referee we would have won the match, the sequel of this is that the referee is in charge of the players whilst on the field of play even when the final whistle has gone. It is now a lesson to this player to miss one match and to respect the referee's ruling, whether they are good or bad.

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