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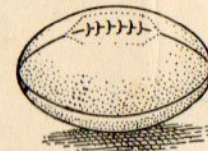
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WIDNES R.F.C.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME



NAUGHTON PARK
Lowerhouse Lane

WIDNES
v.
OLDHAM

SATURDAY
30th JANUARY, 1960
Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

Nº 981

PROGRAMME - PRICE THREEPENCE

WIDNES FOOTBALL CLUB

Naughton Park, Widnes

Tel. 2792

SEASON 1959-60

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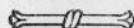
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OLDHAM—A GREAT CLUB

The post-war rise to the heights of the Oldham club is indeed one of the highlights of the R.L. code. The team had shown great improvement and therefore it came as no surprise when there was exceptional progress in the Lancashire Challenge Cup tournament.

After success in 1956, the club gained a "hat trick" of cup successes in 1958. The Oldhamers twice beat St. Helens and there was a victory over Wigan, which is an indication of the calibre of the Watersheddings outfit.

But while the club has done quite well in the Northern League "play off" (once winners and once runners-up) in post-war seasons, the R.L. challenge cup has escaped them.

Perhaps the club will be able to show some progress this season seeing that they are drawn at home in the first round against Huddersfield. Apart from that hard game, Oldham have a very good record in the challenge cup tourney in pre-war seasons.

They have won the challenge cup three times and been runners-up on four occasions. In one period they were finalists for three consecutive seasons.

MANY STAR PLAYERS

The Oldham team of the present day contains many players who have made their mark in the game. There is Alan Davies, one of the best centre threequarters of our time and who has gained many honours in the code.

A strong and speedy player, he is always a threat to the defence when in possession. Then we have Ike Southward, who like Bobbie Chisnall has had the honour of playing in Service Rugby Union games and occasionally on the sacred turf at Twickenham.

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When Southward moved from Workington Town (he is a relative of "Fergy" Southward who played for Salford for many years) he cost Oldham the record fee of £10,650. That record still remains because Eric Ashton (£13,000 was the value placed on his head by Wigan) and Bobbie Greenough (£12,000 was Warrington's value) have decided to remain with their clubs.

FINE GOALKICKER

Then there's Bernard Ganley, who like Alan Davies, is the son of a noted R.L. player of the past. Ganley kicked 192 goals in 1958-9 and 224 the following season. Last term his total was 197. That's consistency for you.

Bernard has won many games for his side by his accurate place kicking and in the 1957-8 season he beat Jim Sullivan's world record.

Frank Pitchford and Alan Kellett are always a half back combination to be reckoned with and it looks like being a thrilling tussle between this pair and Brian Keavney and Frank Myler. We sincerely hope that the four will be on duty today.

Geoff Sims who plays on the opposite flank to Ike Southward is one of the many fine signings Oldham have made from the Leigh district. Sims is a very fast winger.

KEITH DEPARTS

The pack may not be so devastating as it was some time ago. Veteran Jack Keith, the master of the "dummy" pass, has gone to Halifax and the important job as No. 9 is now held by Len McIntyre who was previously with the Saints and Barrow.

Wakefield Trinity collared two great Oldham forwards in Derek Turner and Don Vines. We also note too that John Etty, another player who did great service at Watersheddings, is with the Belle Vue club.

However, Ken Jackson, another tourist, Charlie Winslade, Roger Dufty and Geoff Robinson remain. Geoff also cost a huge sum when he left Whitehaven for Oldham. Last week against St. Helens, he played in the second row to allow Gordon Haynes (ex Swinton) to come in as loose forward.

Haynes a former Birkenhead Park R.U. player, assisted Orford Tannery in the Warrington and District Amateur League and figured against many of our junior players.

With Oldham fighting hard to get a place in the "top four," and our boys keen to return to winning vein, spectators look like having plenty of thrilling entertainment this afternoon.

In any case, the pitch will not hinder the players too much, if at all. Certain grounds we have seen in recent weeks are certainly not in the same condition as the Naughton Park field, which is often described by visiting players and officials as one of the best in the league. This unsolicited testimonial is appreciated by the committee and also the people responsible for the upkeep.

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

It seems strange that it was last year when we won our last game! Of course this is early New Year, but it was when we beat Liverpool City at Naughton Park on December 26th that we last tasted league points.

The away games at Featherstone (who gained a double) and at Swinton were lost and then the greatly improved Huddersfield team confirmed their Far-town win over us, although it was touch and go on this occasion.

Had we taken all our chances at Swinton we must have won. There were several times when the finishing touches weren't just applied, and this meant lost points and grateful thanks from Swinton players.

We were level at the interval, and it was a late try by Roberts which swung the game in favour of the Lions.

THE BIG "DERBY"

Besides having lost those points, Bobbie Chisnall had the misfortune to be accidentally kicked by Jimmy Bright. These mishaps often occur in R.L. football and are not difficult to explain when two or three players are rushing at a man who is about to pass the ball to a colleague.

Bobbie has had the misfortune to break a small bone in the nose and he will be out in a week or two. We are very hopeful that he will be fit for the big "Derby" clash on February 13th at Naughton Park.

Yes, the thousands of locals who clustered around their television sets on Saturday evening, were delighted when the number 27 ball representing Widnes, was paired with Number 25 of Warrington.

The Wires will be here in the first round of the Challenge Cup and we feel that this is an excellent pairing and one which will be welcomed by supporters of both clubs.

There have been some stirring encounters between the respective clubs in the past, even in cup ties. We feel sure that there will be a fine crowd to witness what should be a thrilling fixture. We take encouragement from that 9-9 draw at Wilderspool on Christmas Day.


GET YOURS EARLY

We will not be able to fulfill all the demands for stand tickets. Naturally, the prior call goes to the stand ticket holders. They will be accommodated at this afternoon's game.

Applicants should go to the Development Office, the entrance to which is in Lowerhouse Lane. Further applications will be dealt with at the Treasurer's office on Monday evening. If there are any tickets available after that day, then they will be up for sale to the general public.

It is strongly advised that stand ticket holders will obtain their tickets at the first available opportunity. Tickets can be obtained before, during or after today's game.

We should also like to explain that under the cup rules the visiting team is entitled to one-third of the stand tickets. Warrington's quota is about 400



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and seeing that they have more shareholders than this number, the tickets will be in very short supply.

"A" TEAMERS DO WELL

While the first team has not been making much progress, the reserves have been collecting points by the dozen. It can safely be said that the Chemicals' second string is one of the best reserve XIII's in the Lancashire Combination as well as the R.L. Combination.

A fine game was seen last week against Swinton "A" who included several players who have performed first team duty.

Our "A" teamers won on their merits. It is also encouraging to see so many of our supporters giving vocal encouragement to the junior players. Many excellent games have been witnessed when the "A" teamers have been on view and we hope that more public support will be forthcoming.

The "A" teamers have won 19 games and drawn one. In two instances where there have been defeats, it has been only by one point. Up the "A" teamers.

Will supporters note that the match between Widnes "A" and Wigan "A" will now be played on Saturday next. The game has been brought forwards from April 20th. Here is another attractive match for Naughton Park.

The first team match at York which was postponed on 16th January has been re-arranged for Saturday, 30th April.

RAYMOND SIGNS

The signing of Raymond Owen is a most interesting event because of family associations with the club. Raymond's brother, Harry, has played for the club for a long while, and his father was a member of two Wembley final teams, besides figuring on the wing for many seasons.

THE LATE MR. J. O'GARRA

This is the first opportunity we have had to express sympathy with the relatives of the late Mr. Jack O'Garra, in their sad loss. Mr. O'Garra died recently. The club was represented at the funeral. Jack, who was once a member of the Naughton Park committee, performed great service for the club on and off the field.

He was a great player and one of the men who has carried the name "Widnes" to many parts of the world. Yes, he was one of the Tourists and a very great player. Jack was present when the Australians were at Naughton Park this season.

1959 AUSTRALIAN TOUR

The 1959 Australian touring team was watched by 343,992 people and the twenty-four games attracted gross gate receipts of £54,589. The tourists share was £25,483. Only once before have the tourists received a greater amount and that was in 1948 when they received £37,126—but three extra games were played

TO-DAY'S LINE-UP

Referee: Mr. N. T. Railton (Wigan)

Touchjudges: Mr. W. E. Higginson (Pink Flag).

Mr. W. Unsworth (Orange Flag).

WIDNES

1. ANDREWS
2. HEYES
3. MYLER
4. THOMPSON
5. DAWSON
6. WALKER
7. KEAVNEY
8. SMITH
9. KEMEL
10. BATE
11. HILL
12. WINSTANLEY
13. GALLIGAN

OLDHAM

1. GANLEY
2. SOUTHWARD
3. DAVIES
4. LORD
5. SIMMS
6. NOON
7. PITCHFORD
8. JACKSON
9. GODDARD
10. DUFTY
11. WINSLADE
12. ROBINSON
13. HAYNES

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by that particular team. The 1956 touring team played only nineteen games and were watched by 225,620.

The three Test Matches in 1959 yielded gross receipts of £22,061 as against £13,400 in 1956, £20,883 in 1952 and £21,597 in 1948.

When comparing current figures with previous years it should be remembered that in the 1948-52 period the attendances at League games were at a peak. As goods were rationed and there was no Hire Purchase the public had plenty of money to spend on entertainment. The public nowadays spend less on sport and have become more selective but they will turn out to see good games as is shown by the 1959 tour figures.

NEW LAWS OF THE GAME

Of the two new laws which came into operation on Saturday last the one relating to the penalty is simple and straightforward and needs no further clarification.

The removal of the advantage law as applied to scrummaging has not been quite so trouble-free according to preliminary reports received on Saturday's games. Spectators are perplexed and irritated because another scrumming is ordered although the ball has been quickly got away from the first scrumming. The public have not observed the infringements committed by forwards of both sides and the ire of the crowd has, therefore, been focused on the referees.

The present laws now stipulate that the ball must come out of the scrum behind the front row after being inserted fairly and struck for correctly by the hookers. If it does not come out in the proper manner then the Referee must either order it to be put in again if both sets of forwards are offending simultaneously or alternatively award a penalty where one player offends before the other. He **cannot** now allow the advantage to the non-offending side by letting play proceed if the non-offenders get the ball.

Referees must be extremely alert to detect the first offender otherwise there will be endless scrumming.

The clubs can play their part by pointing out to their forwards the consequences under the new rule of incorrect scrumming. If players are not prepared to scrum properly there will be numerous penalties.

CUP FINAL TICKETS

Supporters of the club are reminded that tickets for the Cup Final next May—May 14th to be exact—have been on sale for several months at League Headquarters, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7. Some tickets at all prices—25/-, 15/-, 12/6, 7/6 and ground at 3/—are still available but in a few weeks time will be in very short supply. ORDER YOURS NOW. Send a stamped addressed envelope and remittance with your application.

WORLD CUP

The Rugby League World Cup will be played in this country starting September 24th, 1960. The match programme and venues will shortly be fixed after which stand tickets will immediately be on sale. Supporters should keep their eyes open for future announcements.

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS AT NAUGHTON PARK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6th
WIDNES 'A' v. WIGAN 'A'
KICK-OFF 3-0 P.M.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13th
WIDNES v. WARRINGTON
KICK-OFF 3-0 P.M.

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	Goals	Tries	Points
A. Pimblett	66	2	138
R. Chisnall	0	14	42
W. Thompson	0	14	42
D. Heyes	0	12	36
F. Myler	0	10	30
H. Dawson	13	0	26
J. Walker	0	7	21
B. Winstanley	0	6	18
W. Major	0	4	12
B. Keavney	1	3	11
W. Wright	5	0	10
J. Bright	0	3	9
H. Owen	0	2	6
H. Kinsey	0	3	9
G. Kemel	2	0	4
K. Hill	0	1	3
H. Dawson	0	1	3
E. Bate	0	1	3
J. Andrews	1	0	2
Total ..	418	pts	

(Inclusive of all cup and league games as well as Australian game).

* Myler scored three tries for Lancashire v. Yorkshire at Leigh on November 11th.

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HALE'S

FIRST TEAM				" A " TEAM			
Date	Opponents	Venue	Result F. A.	Date	Opponents	Venue	Result F. A.
1959				1959			
Aug. 8	Leigh (A & B Cup) (F)	A	11 17	Aug. 8	Leigh (Farrell Cup) (F)	H	48 12
" 15	St. Helens ..	H	14 27	" 15	St. Helens ..	A	5 17
" 19	Wigan ..	A	12 16	" 20	Warrington ..	H	31 23
" 22	Huddersfield ..	A	16 26	" 22	York (R.L.C.) ..	H	32 16
" 29	Barrow (L.C.) ..	H	21 15	" 29	Barrow ..	A	16 11
Sept. 2	St. Helens ..	A	0 22				
" 5	Bradford N. ..	A	10 12	Sept. 5	Whitehaven ..	H	39 3
" 9	St. Helens (L.C.) ..	H	9 24	"	Blackpool (LCCS)	H	23 11
" 12	Featherstone ..	H	12 27	" 12			
" 19	Oldham ..	A	12 24	" 19	Oldham ..	H	49 0
" 26	Leigh ..	H	24 5	" 26	Leigh ..	A	7 25
Oct. 1	Australia ..	H	15 45	" 30	Salford (S.F. LCCS)	H	24 19
" 3	York ..	H	28 7	Oct. 3			
" 10	Hull K.R. ..	A	13 30	" 10	St. Helens ..	H	27 0
" 17	Barrow ..	H	36 0	" 17	Warrington ..	A	3 16
" 24				" 24	St. Helens LCS Final	H	10 5
" 31	Workington T. ..	H	7 8	" 31	Workington T. ..	A	18 8
Nov. 7	Blackpool B. ..	A	20 10	Nov. 7	Blackpool B. ..	H	32 9
" 14	Rochdale H. ..	H	14 3	" 14	Rochdale H. ..	A	6 6
" 21	Barrow ..	A	16 10	" 21	Keighley (R.L.C.)	H	49 7
" 28	Whitehaven ..	H	22 5	" 28	Whitehaven ..	A	7 8
Dec. 5	Dewsbury ..	H	25 2	Dec. 5			
" 12	Salford ..	A	6 23	" 12	Salford ..	H	24 10
" 19	Hull K.R. ..	H	44 11	" 19	York (R.L.C.) ..	A	12 13
" 25	Warrington ..	A	9 9	"			
" 26	Liverpool C. ..	H	22 5	" 26	Liverpool C. ..	A	38 8
1960				1960			
Jan. 2	Featherstone ..	A	15 34	Jan. 2	Rochdale H. ..	H	29 3
" 9	Huddersfield ..	H	5 12	" 9	Wakefield (R.L.C.)	A	10 5
" 16	York ..	A	P	" 16	Liverpool ..	H	27 3
" 23	Swinton ..	A	8 11	" 23	Swinton ..	H	16 10
" 30	Oldham ..	H		" 30	Oldham ..	A	
Feb. 6	Dewsbury ..	A		Feb. 6	Wigan ..		
" 13	R.L.C.C. 1st Rnd.			" 13			
" 20	Blackpool B. ..	H		" 20	Blackpool B. ..	A	
" 27	R.L.C.C. 2nd Rnd.			" 27	Wakefield (R.L.C.)	H	
Mar. 5	Workington T. ..	A		Mar. 5	Workington T. ..	H	
" 12	Whitehaven ..	A		" 12	Whitehaven ..	H	
" 19	Swinton ..	H		" 19	Swinton ..	A	
" 26	Bradford N. ..	H		" 26			
Apr. 2	Wigan ..	H		Apr. 2		A	
" 9	Leigh ..	A		" 9	Leigh ..	H	
" 15	Warrington ..	H					
" 16	Rochdale H. ..	A		" 16	Keighley (R.L.C.)	A	
" 18	Liverpool C. ..	A		" 20	Wigan ..	H	
" 23	Salford ..	H		" 23	Salford ..	A	
" 30				" 30	Barrow ..	H	

(F)—Friendly Matches

(R.L.C.)—Rugby League Combination

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