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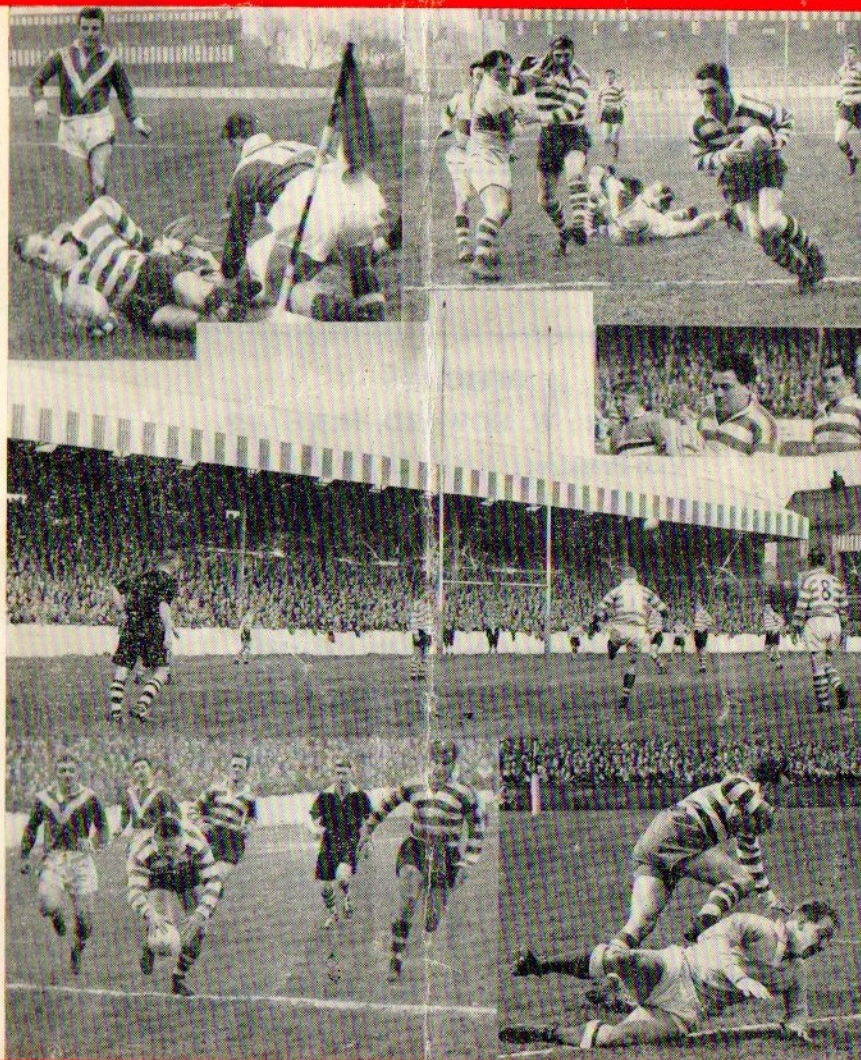
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Date	Opponents	Venue	Date	Opponents	Venue
1959			19	Dewsbury	home 2-30
Aug. 8	Rochdale (Charity)	home 3-0	25	Swinton	home 2-30
15	Leeds	home 3-0	26	Workington	away 2-30
18	Dewsbury	away 7-0	1950		
22	Salford	away 3-0	Jan. 2	Liverpool	away 2-30
25	Warrington	home 6-30	9	Wakefield	home 2-30
29	Whitehaven	away 3-0	16	Leigh	home 2-30
Sept. 5	Halifax	away 3-0	23	St. Helens	away 3-0
8	Halifax	home 6-30	30	Widnes	away 3-0
12	Hunslet	home 3-0	Feb. 6	Salford	home 3-0
19	Widnes	home 3-0	13	R.L. Cup	
26	Blackpool	away 3-0	20	Wakefield	away 3-0
Oct. 3	AUSTRALIA	home 3-0	27	R.L. Cup	
10	Barrow	away 3-0	Mar. 5	Leeds	away 3-0
17	Workington	home 3-0	12	Wigan	home 3-0
24	Warrington	away 3-0	19	Leigh	away 3-0
31	Barrow	home 3-0	26	Hunslet	away 3-0
Nov. 7	Rochdale	away 3-0	Apr. 2	Liverpool	home 3-0
14	Blackpool	home 2-30	9	St. Helens	home 3-0
21	Whitehaven	away 2-30	15	Swinton G. F.	away 3-0
28	Rochdale	home 2-30	15	E. S.	
Dec. 5	Wigan	away 2-30	18	Whitehaven	home 3-0
12	Hu'l	home 2-30	23	Hull	away 3-0

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THE PAVILION : WATERSHEDDINGS



SEASON - 1959-60

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No. 23, Monday April 18th, 1960

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. WHITEHAVEN

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

We consider that Saturday the 9th of April, 1960 was the most disappointing day of the whole football season. We shall remember this day as the day we went out of the Challenge Cup competition very ingloriously to Hull at Swinton. When all set that this would be our Wembley year our hopes were dashed to the ground.

This was what we may term "laid-on-the-plate" for us after having the luck of the draw in having three home matches, Huddersfield, Walney Central and Bramley, and in meeting Hull in the semi-final on neutral ground our confidence was never higher, but our players gave a display on the day that never inspired that confidence that was expected of them.

It is often said that a team plays as well as its opponents allow them, but we expected that we should dictate the method of play and we commenced the game in great style against a strong wind, but we flattered to deceive and our opponents soon rattled up ten points which appeared to have a discouraging effect on our players but we managed to secure a good try by Vincent Nestor and half time arrived with our team losing by twelve points to three points.

With a strong wind in our favour in the second half we expected our team to put on pressure but owing to the strong defence of the Hull team we could only register three goals by our captain, Bernard Ganley. From a spectacle of Rugby League football it is best forgotten as the finer points of the game were absent and we only hope that a better game is put over at Wembley.

Our captain was sent off the field in the dying seconds of the game ended a most unfortunate day for the club, disconsolate members and supporters returning home of visions of what might have been, but once again it appeared that we should never have the pleasure of appearing at Wembley especially with the prospects so bright.

The season is fast drawing to a close and after today's match we have only one more home match and that against the redoubtable St. Helens, the date of replay up to the time of going to press has to be arranged.

OUR VISITORS

Today we entertain visitors from Whitehaven who appear to have had a successful season and are well in the top half of the League.

This season we have played at Whitehaven twice. The first time was August 29th last when we met in the first round of the Lancashire Cup and we retired beaten by twenty three points to five points. On November 21st we visited them in the League match and once again they beat us by twenty three points to nine points.

So today we have something to rub off for the two matches they registered forty six points against our fourteen points. The Whitehaven team is noted for its good pack of forwards and have some very adaptable backs including their full back, McKeown, who is a splendid goal kicker.

McKeown had once retired from the game but the urge to get into the game again was too great so once again we see a player who has rendered great service to his club and also the game. Our team today will have to give of its best, but we can expect two tired teams on show. The Whitehaven team have played Dewsbury on Friday at home and St. Helens away Saturday.

SCHOOLBOY FOOTBALL

Schoolboy football as far as Rugby League is concerned is thriving in Oldham but so little is told of its activities from a publicity point of view. Many new schools have started rugby and apart from 22 teams from secondary schools there are now 7 schools playing in the junior schools league and 13 schools in the junior cup competition. The fact that junior schools have taken up the game is a help as two of the Oldham Schoolboys Town team started playing rugby at the age of seven.

The Oldham Schoolboys Town team defeated Swinton Schoolboys in a curtain raiser at Watersheddings on Saturday, April 2nd and therefore reached the play-off for the championship of the county for the first time for a quarter of a century.

Oldham meet the runners-up in the other section of the Lancashire competition for the semi-final and the team is the best for some years. This match will be played at Watersheddings on Wednesday, 4th May, 1960 and we ask as many of our members and supporters to come along and watch these schoolboys in action, it will be an evening well spent we can assure you, come and encourage these boys, they are the stars of the future and someday you may be cheering one or two of them playing for the Oldham first team, one never knows. The time of kick-off will be advertised later.

DROP GOALS DO COUNT

writes Cyril Briggs

I make no apologies for once again returning to the matter of the drop goal in the Rugby League game. What has prompted me to do so is through the keen criticism which has been levelled at this scoring move by a noted Northern writer.

There is nothing dishonest about the drop goal, and there's certainly nothing wrong about seeking an early incentive through the agency of such a score.

Take Whitehaven for instance. They won their cup tie at Leigh recently simply because they got their noses in front when "Eppie" Gibson their player coach, made sure of two points.

What I keep telling young players, and also impressing on the youthful sports writers on my staff, is that once a team has scored there's nothing on this earth which will rub off those points. Simple logic, but it's a axiom which so many people don't understand.

OFF BEAM

Now I think that the writer—I'm not knocking, but just disagreeing with his viewpoint—read his report of the game as he put it down on paper, a little off beam.

The man who essays a shot at goal is like the fellow who goes for an interception. If the move "comes off" then the crowd have every praise for his prowess. If not, then come the moans and the groans.

R.L. will be spoilt if there is any brake on the drop goal experts, in fact, there was a time when the art seemed to be dying.

Stars like Willie Horne, Bernard Ganley, Billy Banks, Syd Lowden and Mel de Lloyd revived the drop goal. De Lloyd won for Warrington at least four games in one season by his trusty foot, and earned praise as well as cash as a reward for his quick thinking.

Cup ties and cup finals have been won by the player who has caught the ball cleanly and taken careful aim as he has sent the ball flying to the posts on the half volley.

But far more drop goals have proved failures in contrast to the number which have proved "scorers."

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- 5—NESTOR V. *NEEDHAM*
- 6—KELLETT A. *HATHERALL*
- 7—PITCHFORD F. *PRAYNE*
- 8—JACKSON K.
- 9—McINTYRE L.
- 10—PAYNE W. *CROOK*
- 11—WINSLADE C. *PARKER*
- 12—McKEOWN D.
- 13—ROBINSON G.

Referee:

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WHITEHAVEN

(Royal Blue and Gold)

- 1—McKEOWN J.
- 2—SMITH W. *SNOW*
- 3—HUGHES H.
- 4—GIBSON E.
- 5—WOLLVERIDGE A. *WILMER*
- 6—HADLEY A.
- 7—DAVIES A.
- 8—McALONE W.
- 9—McKINNELL J.
- 10—VINCENT R.
- 11—TEMBY J.
- 12—HOLLIDAY W.
- 13—MORGAN R.

Touch Judges:

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

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SCORING CHANGE?

If the Wigan club want to change the value of goal scoring from two points to one, I'll not grumble, but the try, must also be reduced.

It should be remembered by all R.L. legislators that while a try is often the result of some spectacular teamwork, we often see opportunist tries and easy ones as well.

The man who drops a goal from any position has many handicaps with which to contend.

If the opposition are quick enough they could even "bury" him as he has taken the shot (or even before). Then there are the elements—a windy day, a slimy foothold and more difficult still a slippery ball.

NEVER SAW IT!

One player who shall be nameless, once dropped a goal to the amazement of everyone including himself. But spare a tear for this brave forward, for he did not even see the ball fly over the bar.

Reason: he was under a ruck of players after he had kicked. Aye, a simple goal—but the player never tried a shot again. It was a shot in a million.

But being an intelligent man "Eppie" Gibson, remembered as he squared up for that Leigh cup tie goal, the death blow of the Geoff Stevenson, then playing for Leeds in the semi-final of 1957.

Gibson had learnt his lesson long before that Leigh shot. Pity the dose could not have been administered against Leeds!

Say what you will about the lucky shot by Peter Bateson, the Hull full back, in last week's semi-final at Swinton. But the ball went over the bar after nearly breaking it. All the same, it was two points even though the shot was not as brilliant as that by Bernard Ganley which the wind carried wide.

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TO MUCH SCRUMMAGING

Tradition dies hard in Rugby League as it does with many organisations which are determined to retain the links with the past. I was going over the markings of a R.L. field—incidentally the plan of the field is the first law of the game—and for the life of me I couldn't understand why the ten yard mark for scrummaging had ever been invented, writes CYRIL BRIGGS.

There was no doubt some reason for this mark which runs parallel to each touch line and is the indication to each of the hookers where the scrumage must be formed. But why ten yards, why not five or fifteen? Preferably 15!

Paragraph four of Section One in the official guide dealing with the scrum says that the scrum must be formed as near as possible to the place of the infringement, but not less than ten yards from touch.

IT IS AUTHENTIC

The ten yards rule has been accepted by everyone as such an important part of the laws that few people have raised the question of its authenticity.

Let us (that is to say the followers of R.L. and R.U.) admit that much of the stop-go as well as trouble in many forms happens in and around the scrum. There's all kinds of sharp practices in the games when 12 or 16 men are locked in combat.

Take a pencil and paper with you to the next R.L. or R.U. game and make notes of the occasions when the hookers are guilty of this or that offence, or when the scrum half is trying to hoodwink the referee by incorrect feeding.

Penalties follow in a stream and the uninitiated watching the games on T.V. are puzzled why all this scrum business should take place.

It's my view, and most referees agree with me, that if the ten yard scrum rule was increased to 15 there would be more play around the scrum, and probably less scrums. That's what we want in rugby of any description—less scrummaging and less rucking—its bordering on all-in-wrestling, and that sport has some unsporty tactics.

(This article will be continued in the St. Helens match programme).

LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

Player	A.	G.	T.	Player	A.	G.	T.
Ganley	36	166	1	Davies	35		11
Southward	24		30	Robinson	32		4
Ayres	2			Quinlan	3		3
Noon	38	18	20	Stirrup	5	2	2
Sims	25		8	Smith	8		
Kellett	38	1	16	Nestor	25		17
Hatherall	5			Petley	1		
Jackson	26		1	Pitchford	29		4
McIntyre	30		5	McKeown	11		2
Goddard P.	17		1	Jones	4		1
Winslade	32		7	Pendlebury	3		
Dufty	36		6	Cawthra	1		
Pugsley	5		1	Haynes	11		
Keith	14		1	Mumberson	1		
Lord	3		1	Ogden	1		
Payne	2			Gray	3		
Crook	1						

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Dewsbury	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	Swinton	St. Helens	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow	...	15-4	40-13		22-29	22-5	6-21		8-16	13-17	2-15	10-16			2-5
Blackpool	11-5	...	14-5	15-30	5-5	13-29	5-9		7-46	7-26	5-12	5-11	10-20	7-4	15-5
Dewsbury	14-14	8-10	...	9-24	26-15	7-35	14-18	13-14	8-10	15-20	11-29	2-17		7-35	9-30
Leigh	12-12		37-4	...	22-0		11-7	25-12	14-14	4-12	10-12	12-12	13-17	22-22	
Liverpool	5-13	19-8	7-9	2-8	...	17-15	11-9	6-18	20-14	6-45	16-19				14-5
OLDHAM	20-9	34-5	46-7	22-0	33-9	...	25-3	20-15	35-10		6-10		24-12	10-11	28-2
Rochdale	18-13	44-9	12-5	10-6	5-8	0-45	...	7-8	7-12	4-40	5-8			0-7	10-12
Salford	13-5	2-5	26-0	10-30	19-3	12-12	13-6	...		2-2	7-15	23-14	23-6	13-20	31-5
Swinton	5-0	23-9	61-7	26-5	63-8			12-5	...	9-32	13-5		11-8		32-3
St. Helens	13-12	59-17	25-4	14-10	40-17	27-6	26-2	40-11	46-10	...	40-6				11-12
Warrington	24-10	30-12	48-12		26-8	27-8	16-0	37-5	12-19	16-19	...	30-2	9-9	16-6	
Whitehaven	6-19	33-13		20-11	5-0	23-9		34-10	13-5	12-15	7-0	...	10-12	7-7	20-4
Widnes	36-0	19-4	25-2	24-5	22-5	0-10	14-3		14-27			22-5	...	9-42	7-8
Wigan	43-3	47-3	58-6	12-10	17-6	27-7	8-18	37-6	7-19	34-5	31-12	16-12	...		7-11
Workington		17-8	28-13	5-12	26-11		12-7		10-18	6-21		0-24	19-2	0-6	...

Home Team on Left...Away Team on Top...Home Team's score given first

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