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(T. & T. MERRIMAN)

Turf Accountant

**33 ANN STREET
WIDNES**

Est. 1923



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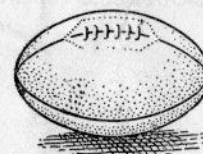
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2486 2487

Residence: WIDNES 5056; PENKETH 2431

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WIDNES R.F.C.

OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME



NAUGHTON PARK
Lowerhouse Lane

WIDNES
v.
OLDHAM

SATURDAY
11th MARCH, 1961
Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

No 1179

PROGRAMME - PRICE THREEPENCE

WIDNES FOOTBALL CLUB

Naughton Park, Widnes

Tel. 2792

SEASON 1960-61

President: Alderman T. SWALE

Committee:

MR. C. MOLYNEUX (Chairman)

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MR. F. DEVONALD

MR. G. E. LESTER

MR. A. HIGGINS

MR. W. E. LYNN

MR. R. C. HIRONS

MR. R. STIRRUP

Hon. Secretary:

MR. W. JOHNSON

21 Woodland Avenue,

Widnes

(Telephone: Widnes 4435)

Hon. Treasurer:

MR. H. DITCHFIELD

31 Shakespeare Road, Widnes

(Telephone: Widnes 3572)

Rugby League Council

Representative:

MR. R. STIRRUP

Lancashire County

Representative:

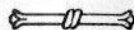
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OLDHAM HERE WITH PURPOSE

It cannot be denied that today's visitors, Oldham, are not quite as virile a side as they were a few seasons ago when they were well among the honours. But when a club loses some of its personalities, then it is often a hard job to build up again. Oldham in recent seasons have lost such outstanding players, as Derek Turner, now with Wakefield Trinity, Don Vines (St. Helens), Denis Ayres (Swinton), Ike Southward (Workington Town), while Syd Little an outstanding forward, decided to retire from the game having taken up a business appointment in the Midlands.

Even though these are grievous losses Oldham still have a host of crack players. Bernard Ganley, who has been recalled to the team, has hundreds and hundreds of goals to his credit, many of them being really brilliant efforts. Alan Davies, has played in a series of internationals, while Keith Holden went from Wigan to Watersheddings for a very big figure indeed. Vin Nestor, Alan Kellett and young Pycroft (the latter came from Leeds) are also very useful players and in the pack, there are such well known men as Charlie Winslade, who has proved such a grand servant over the years to the East Lancashire Club, and Geoff Robinson, another costly signing from Whitehaven.

OUT OF ACTION

Frank Pitchford, one of the best half backs in the game, is out through injury. And just for the record, the team is in charge of Gus Risman who has had similar posts at Workington Town and Salford. Gus was still playing in his early 40's, and has been a fine advertisement for the game.

As far as we are concerned, well, names which we have read so many times on the team sheet are missing today through various reasons, yet all amounting to the same thing—injuries.

Hardly a game seems to pass without a player being hurt and it will be something out of the ordinary when the Chemics finish a game with a full complement of players.

Jimmy Bright was hurt on Saturday at Wigan, and Harry Dawson has had to go on the casualty list, along with Frank Myler, Arthur Pimblett, Tommy Galligan, Geoff Smart and Willie Thompson. If we did not have some up and coming lads we don't know where we should be. It is all so disappointing when we cannot field our strongest side.

Still the lads in the "A" team, which is going from strength to strength, are eager for a first team chance which they hope to take with both hands.

RATHER FLATTERED

We are not prone to advance any kind of excuse, but those who saw the match at Wigan on Saturday think that the margin rather flattered the cherry and whites. Had it not been for Boston, the Wigan side would have been fighting for points at the end. It was a very stiff task for Bob Randall. He only switched to the professional code a few months ago, but has shown up well, so well that the chance of a first team spot was bound to come quite quickly. However, he had quite a "baptism" on Saturday, playing against the redoubtable Wigan outfit who have their eye on the challenge cup and league championship.

While the Wigan club is almost certain of a place in the Challenge Cup semi-finals, they will not have to drop any more points, otherwise they will be out of the reckoning for "first four place." Bob had to play against many of his own town folk, but he came through the test with credit and never flinched on defence.

Our first team has lost two league games since the cup replay, but this afternoon we are hoping to return to winning form. It is however, always a difficult job when you consider that many changes have to take place through injuries.

OFFICIAL STATEMENTS

It will have been observed elsewhere that Bill Major has asked for a transfer, but the Committee have refused his request. These days all kinds of stories are printed in the Press and we hope that our supporters will follow the official statements which are made from time to time and not those which are often a figment of imagination. No club likes to hear from a player that he is unsettled, and Widnes Club are no exception. We have interviewed the player—everyone gets a fair hearing at Naughton Park—and we have refused his request for a move. We all hope that the player concerned will remain with the club, because we feel that he has a big future here.

The club gave Bill his first big chance and he has appeared in the County team. There are eventualities which arise from time to time and therefore these unforeseen circumstances cause us to make changes in the team to meet the occasion. It is a difficult task running a team, never mind a club and problems are just as hard for officials as they are for the players.

YOU MUST COME

It does seem remarkable that while our first team have taken a rare old hammering of late in certain engagements, the "A" teamers continue to win golden opinions for their classical displays, which have put them on the top of the Lancashire Combination and also the Rugby League Combination.

No matter what first team calls are made on the reserves, they still provide our supporters with thrilling displays, and next Saturday they will be all out to retain the Challenge Shield, which they won last season. We are hoping to see a big turn out for this important match.

Many club officials have told us that they are envious of our "A" teamers, and this is one department of the club which is making progress! We must at all times encourage the young idea. More and more local lads are being given trials, and in quite a lot of cases they show most promising form.

One player who has figured in a lot of "A" team fixtures over the last few seasons and has also had a spot in the first team for a period, has also asked for a transfer. We refer to Wally Hurstfield. Wally would like regular first team games, and the committee after considering his application placed him on the list at £1,000.

THE CUP TIES

Reverting to the final of the Lancashire Combination Shield—we play Whitehaven in a replay—if the game should result in another draw, the game will take place at Wilderspool Stadium, Warrington.

Mention of competitions reminds us that we will attempt to give you the half time scores in the third round of the R.L. Challenge Cup ties which take place today.

Here are the ties and we have allowed space for you to mark in the scores.

Wigan	Salford
St. Helens	Swinton
Hull	Featherstone
Halifax	Rochdale

Had the Supporters' Club score-board been finished, we would have flashed the scores up there, but there has been another set back in the delivery of the "rollers." There are only a few firms in this country which carry out this job, and as there is a book full of orders (especially for overseas) it will be some weeks before delivery. But we claim that our score-board is one of the best in the league, and when it is completed it will be **the best**.

Because the Supporters' Club bar has been well patronised—there was a complete "sell out" for the St. Helens re-played cup tie—it is quite possible that the officials will contemplate improvements and enlargements to deal with the increasing trade.

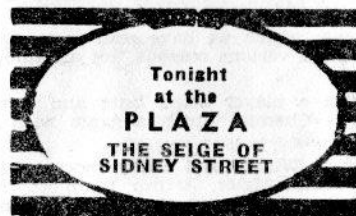
When finished, this club room will also be a tremendous asset to the supporters and the club.

For those of you who like to study league tables here are the present charts for the Lancashire Combination and R.L. Combination "A" teams.

LANCASHIRE RUGBY LEAGUE COMBINATION

Up to and including 4th March, 1961

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pt
Widnes	16	15	1	0	336	83	30
Whitehaven	18	13	4	1	237	136	27
Oldham	18	13	5	0	278	160	26
Blackpool B.	20	13	7	0	217	151	26
St. Helens	18	10	7	1	230	203	21
Swinton	18	9	8	1	225	184	19
Barrow	22	9	13	0	209	246	18
Rochdale H.	17	9	8	0	200	251	18
Leigh	19	8	10	1	193	183	17
Wigan	16	5	10	1	159	209	11
Warrington	14	5	9	0	121	188	10
Workington T.	17	4	12	1	160	239	9
Salford	16	4	12	0	99	223	8
Liverpool C.	19	4	15	0	194	402	8



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RUGBY LEAGUE COMBINATION

Up to and including 25th February, 1961

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pt
Widnes	14	12	2	0	270	100	24
Hull	11	8	3	0	132	100	16
Whitehaven	14	9	4	1	190	121	19
Leigh	16	9	6	1	190	160	19
Huddersfield	11	6	5	0	124	150	12
Rochdale H.	13	7	6	0	138	187	14
St. Helens	14	7	6	1	181	165	15
Wigan	11	5	5	1	155	124	11
Keighley	10	4	5	1	102	158	9
Hull K.R.	12	5	7	0	172	209	10
Hunslet	12	5	7	0	155	214	10
Leeds	12	4	7	1	140	175	9
Swinton	12	4	8	0	146	138	8
Halifax	12	4	8	0	137	150	8
York	11	3	8	0	90	123	6
Warrington	11	3	8	0	98	146	6

T. SMITH TESTIMONIAL FUND

The Widnes Cricket Club's headquarters were crowded on Monday, when many local figures in the sporting world attended the hot pot supper to boost the Tom Smith Testimonial Fund.

We should also like to remind our supporters that there is a public dance to aid the fund on April 21st in the Queens Hall.

Dancing is from eight o'clock until one, and the Embassy Band has been engaged. It is hoped to have a licensed bar. Tickets are priced at 6/-.

AMATEUR RUGBY LEAGUE

The town teams in the three grades Under 17, Under 19 and Open Age are all making excellent progress in the Inter-Town Competition and the Amateur League officials are to be congratulated on the very high standard of rugby played by these teams. St. Patrick's, as yet undefeated in league and cup matches this season, look likely winners of the Lancashire Cup for Under 17 teams and St. Ambrose are also firm favourites for the Under 19 trophy. We wish both of these teams success. Patrons at Naughton Park will have ample opportunity in the next month or so to see the local teams in action and we commend these matches as very worthy of your support.

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TO-DAY'S LINE-UP

Referee: T. W. Watkinson (Manchester).

Touch Judges: Mr. W. Fitzroy (Pink flag).

Mr. J. Heap (Orange flag).

WIDNES 6

OLDHAM 38

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. RANDALL 3G | 1. GANLEY 7G |
| 2. CHISNALL | 2. HOLDEN T |
| 3. KINSEY | 3. DAVIES |
| 4. HOLLYWOOD | 4. NOON T |
| 5. RYAN | 5. LORD /PATTERSON T |
| 6. LOWE G. | 6. KELLETT 2T |
| 7. OWEN R. | 7. PYCROFT T |
| /KEAVNEY B. | |
| 8. SMITH | 8. PAYNE |
| 9. CONNOLLY | 9. GODDARD T |
| 10. BATE E. | 10. DUFTY |
| 11. BATE R. | 11. WINSLADE |
| 12. WINSTANLEY | 12. ROBINSON/RAE |
| 13. MAJOR/HUGHES | 13. PARKER D. T |

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FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS AT NAUGHTON PARK

Saturday, March 18th—

Lancashire Combination Shield Final (Replay)

WIDNES "A" v. WHITEHAVEN "A"

KICK-OFF 3-0 P.M.

Saturday, March 25th—

WIDNES v. LEIGH

KICK-OFF 3-0 P.M.

SCHOOLS' INTER-TOWN CURTAIN RAISER

KICK-OFF 1-45 P.M.

FOR

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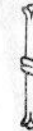
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FIRST TEAM SCORERS

	Goals	Tries	Points
H. Dawson	48	12	132
R. Chisnall	0	14	42
A. Pimblett	9	1	21
W. Thompson	0	6	18
F. Myler	0	6	18
H. Kinsey	0	5	15
J. Bright	0	4	12
B. Winstanley	0	3	9
W. Wright	3	1	9
B. Keavney	1	2	8
W. Major	0	2	6
E. Bate	0	2	6
T. Galligan	0	1	3
D. Heyes	0	1	3
J. Hollywood	0	1	3
G. Kemel	0	1	3
R. Owen	0	1	3
R. Randall	0	1	3

This list does not include the scores in the A & B Cup match but does include all league and cup matches.

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FIXTURE LIST

FIRST TEAM					"A" TEAM				
Date	Opponents	Venue	Result		Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	
			F.	A.				F.	A.
1960					1960				
Aug. 6	Leigh (A & B Cup) (F)	H	28	32	Aug. 6	Leigh (Farrell Cup) (F)	A	17	10
" 13	Rochdale ...	H	23	14	" 13	Rochdale ...	A	22	6
" 17	Swinton ...	A	5	21	" 20	Barrow ...	H	19	7
" 20	Barrow ...	A	9	17	Sept. 3	Salford (L.C.C.C.)	H	35	0
" 27	St. Helens (L.C.)	H	17	19	" 10	Hunslet ...	A	43	9
Sept. 3	Batley ...	A	10	4	" 17	York ...	H	9	8
" 10	York ...	H	30	15	" 21	Blackpool B. ...	H	22	8
" 17	Hunslet ...	A	0	32	" 24	World Cup ...	A	9	18
" 21	Blackpool B. ...	H	22	8	Oct. 1	World Cup ...	A	9	18
" 24	World Cup ...	A	9	18	" 8	World Cup ...	A	26	13
" 28	Salford ...	A	9	18	" 15	Barrow ...	H	26	13
Oct. 1	World Cup ...	A	9	18	" 22	Oldham ...	A	5	25
" 8	World Cup ...	A	9	18	" 29	Warrington ...	H	10	14
" 15	Barrow ...	H	26	13	Nov. 5	Workington T.	A	8	11
" 22	Oldham ...	A	5	25	" 12	Swinton ...	H	7	12
" 29	Warrington ...	H	10	14	" 19	Halifax ...	A	5	15
Nov. 5	Workington T.	A	8	11	" 26	Wigan ...	H	5	3
" 12	Swinton ...	H	7	12	Dec. 3	Huddersfield ...	H	9	2
" 19	Halifax ...	A	5	15	" 10	Rochdale H. ...	A	2	9
" 26	Wigan ...	H	5	3	" 17	Halifax ...	H	10	5
Dec. 3	Huddersfield ...	H	9	2	" 24	Whitehaven ...	H	17	6
" 10	Rochdale H. ...	A	2	9	" 26	Liverpool C. ...	A	16	7
" 17	Halifax ...	H	10	5	" 31	Hunslet ...	H	22	10
" 24	Whitehaven ...	H	17	6	1961				
" 26	Liverpool C. ...	A	16	7	Jan. 7	Blackpool B. ...	A	13	10
" 31	Hunslet ...	H	22	10	" 14	Blackpool B. ...	A	2	0A
					" 21	Batley ...	H	8	0
					" 28	Huddersfield ...	A	P	P
					Feb. 4	Workington T.	H	2	5
					" 11	St. Helens (R.L.C.C.)	A	5	5
					" 16	" " Replay	H	10	29
					" 18	St. Helens ...	A	7	44
					" 25	R.L.C.C. 2nd R'nd	A	5	24
					Mar. 4	Wigan ...	A	5	24
					" 11	Oldham ...	H		
					" 18	Whitehaven ...	H		
					" 25	Leigh ...	A		
					Apr. 1	Leigh ...	H		
					" 8	Salford ...	A		
					" 15	R.L.C.C. Semi Finals			
					" 19	St. Helens ...	H		
					" 22				
					" 29	York ...	A		

(F)—Friendly Matches
(P)—Postponed