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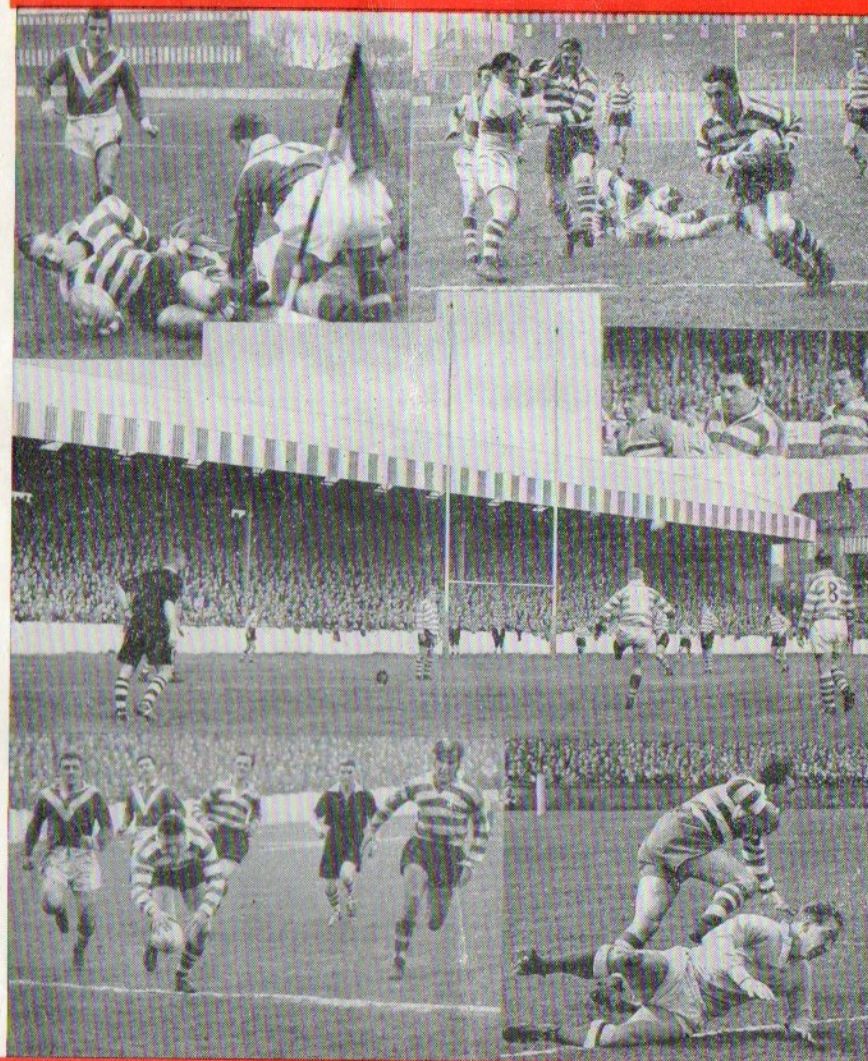
Fixtures for the Season

Date	CLUB	Grd.	F. A.
Aug. 19	HALIFAX	Home	
21	BARROW	Away	
26	BLACKPOOL B.	Away	
28	YORK	Home	
Sept. 2	BARROW (Lancs. Cup)	Away	
4	OLDHAM/ROCHDALE 13		
	v. NEW ZEALAND	Home	
9	HALIFAX	Away	
16	ROCHDALE H.	Home	
23	HUNSLET	Away	
30	BARROW	Home	
Oct. 7	WORKINGTON T.	Home	
14	YORK	Away	
21	WARRINGTON	Home	
Nov 4	WHITEHAVEN	Away	
11	HUDDERSFIELD	Away	
18	HULL	Home	
25	SALFORD	Away	
Dec. 2	WHITEHAVEN	Home	
9	WORKINGTON T.	Away	
16	ST. HELENS	Away	
23	SALFORD	Home	

Date	CLUB	Grd.	F. A.
25			
26	SWINTON	Home	
30	WIDNES	Home	
Jan. 1			
6	WARRINGTON	Away	
13	WIGAN	Away	
20	WIGAN	Home	
27	ROCHDALE H.	Away	
Feb. 3	LIVERPOOL CITY	Away	
10			
17	LEIGH	Home	
24	WIDNES	Away	
Mar. 3			
10	LEIGH	Away	
17	ST. HELENS	Home	
24	HULL	Away	
31	LIVERPOOL CITY	Home	
Apr. 7	HUNSLET	Home	
14			
20	SWINTON	Away	
21	BLACKPOOL B.	Home	
23	HUDDERSFIELD	Home	

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No. 3—Monday, 28th August, 1961

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OLDHAM v. YORK

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

WARNING

It may not be generally known that a club is held responsible for the action of its spectators. Throwing missiles at referees or touch judges, or other acts of hooliganism can involve a club in serious consequences and may even result in a club being suspended. Supporters of this club are asked to co-operate.

OUR VISITORS

This evening we entertain infrequent visitors from York and we extend a welcome to them. Last season finished No. 19 in the League, but comparisons are of no value so early in the season. However we hope for an entertaining game and we hope our supporters will be satisfied with the result.

INJURIES

We are having above our share of injuries very early in the season with Davies, Noon, Rae, Holden and Mills soon in the wars. Holden is in a Manchester Hospital suffering from severe bruises to ribs and may be out of the game for a couple of weeks or so. All others are responding to treatment and should return to duty very soon.

OPENING GAMES

Our opening games against Halifax at home and Barrow away resulted in one win and one lose. We cannot say that in these two matches we showed the form we are capable of, of course against Barrow we were minus the services of Davies, Noon, and Dave Parker and our replacements did as well as expected. We visit Barrow again on Saturday, 2nd September in the first round of the Lancashire Cup when we hope to field a full strength team and reverse the result.

SOMETHING NEW

This season is a unique one in that Clubs throughout the season will be competing for first division places. It is no surprise that something new is also being attempted in respect of the current New Zealand tour. For one thing the New Zealand League decided to send its team over here in time to coincide with the beginning of our season. The team is also carrying out a shorter programme of matches than usual.

Another novel feature is that for the first time, a Rugby League game will be played at the White City Stadium, Manchester. This will kick-off at 7-15 p.m., on Wednesday, 20th September and will be played under floodlighting. Tickets for this game can be obtained in advance from the White City Stadium, Gorton, Manchester 18. Prices of seating tickets are 7/6, 6/- and 5/-.

FORGOTTEN MEN

Much has been said and written about 1st team Rugby League football but what of "A" team football.

One very seldom hears these Cinderellas of our game mentioned, they, like the junior movement, are forgotten men until they are required. It is a lamentable state of affairs so far as Lancashire "A" teams are concerned. There are 14 Lancashire Senior teams who run "A" teams, and 16 in Yorkshire. In Lancashire, unlike Yorkshire, it is impossible to get a full list of fixtures for "A" teams, and as an example our "A" team have seven blank Saturdays during the season and which can be taken as a general average of the Lancashire clubs. Yorkshire clubs are well off in comparison.

It is not very encouraging for "A" team players to continually turn up for training and find out that they have no match for two Saturdays. We have tried and tried again to have matters corrected but the only reply we get is, "that it is up to the clubs to alter matters."

Not enough interest is taken in "A" team football, there are too many glamour boys who want nothing only first team football. Last season we had the Rugby League Combination, but alas this has died, it has been murdered by the clubs, not all the clubs, which formed it. It cannot be on the grounds of expense for there is no club in financial difficulties, owing to the Pools Organisations which all clubs run. It is simply a case of no interest and the sooner all clubs in the Rugby League puts its house in order and concentrates more on the game, from juniors to seniors, the longer Rugby League football will live and THRIVE. Without a feeding line we shall decay and from decay ultimate extinction and a game of the past.

MAGIC OF THE LANCASHIRE CHALLENGE CUP

It just seems like last week when we were congregating at Wembley Stadium, having rushed through an early breakfast to catch the London train and then spending hours of sight-seeing or discussing the day's match in detail. County Cup-ties are around again—next Saturday to be exact and so long as these competitions exist there will be no state of bankruptcy in the Rugby League world.—writes CYRIL BRIGGS

It was way back in 1905 that some gentleman suggested the competition to be held, and the tournament was a great success straightaway. Wigan, who have won the cup more times than any other club, drew in the final with their near neighbours Leigh. Not a point was scored in that game, which for some unexplained reason was played on the Wigan ground.

Nine days later, the final was re-played (it was in December in those days), Wigan won by eight points to nil at Broughton. And unusually so, Broughton were the next team to win the cup, victims being Warrington—ground Wigan.

There was joy in Oldham (who can remember that day?) when the locals in 1907 took the cup from Broughton at Rochdale. It was again Oldham's turn three years later, with near neighbours Rochdale Hornets having the honour the following season.

Oldham once again collected the cup in 1919. This was the only time when there were two competitions in the same year. Rochdale held the trophy in May and Oldham in December.

RUNNERS UP TOO

In 1924 Oldham won the cup again and there have been successes in 1933, 1956/7/8. It will be seen from the figures that there were many blank years. On the other hand there have been five occasions when Oldham players have collected runners up medals.

Yes, the club has done very well indeed in the county cup, and there have been some tight finishes. The closest was way back in 1908 when Wigan won by a single point, and in 1913 Wigan were beaten by five points only. What a turn up there was in 1919! Oldham went down by 22 clear points only to surprised the Hornets a short time afterwards by seven points to nil. Both games were played at Salford. This was the season after World War One.

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- 5.—BIRD, M.
- 6.—KELLETT, A.
- 7.—PITCHFORD, F.
- 8.—PAYNE, W.
- 9.—McINTYRE, L.
- 10.—WINSLADE, C.
- 11.—ROBINSON, G.
- 12.—RAE, J.
- 13.—PARKER, D.

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- 2.—FOSTER
- 3.—LITTLER
- 4.—COGLAN
- 5.—ELLIS
- 6.—FLANNERY
- 7.—STEVENSON
- 8.—YORKE
- 9.—MILNER
- 10.—DAWSON
- 11.—PARKIN
- 12.—KIDD
- 13.—WARD

Touch Judges:

Mr. C. A. Moseley, Stretford (Cm.)
Mr. A. E. Jones, Warrington (Yellow)

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WILSON'S FAMOUS ALES

When Warrington won the cup for the first time in 1921 at Broughton, only two points separated the teams. It was nearly a draw. A vital goal kick was missed in the second half. In the 1920's a new club and a fine team at that, had sprung up. I refer to St. Helens Rec. They captured the cup in 1923 by clearly outpointing Swinton.

LOCAL RIVALRY

One of the most interesting games of the competition involved two St. Helens teams. This was in 1926 when the Saints beat the Recs. 10-2 at Warrington. I suppose that because there were the St. Helens and the St. Helens Recs. teams, the crowds, in an effort not to confuse the issue, called them the Saints (and it has been that ever since) and the Recs.

Another unusual feature: Salford in their palmy days were another club which won the cup in three consecutive years. They beat Wigan on each occasion. Wigan, Oldham and Salford have secured "hat tricks", but Wigan won the cup six times on the trot. This was in the post war era when Wigan had one of their greatest ever teams.

After that glorious spell however, Wigan have not won the cup again, although they have been finalists twice. Another team which is no longer with us, like St. Helens Recs. is Broughton Rangers. They have their name inscribed on the cup as winners and runners up. They ran Wigan very close indeed in two post war finals.

It is said that the old days are best, but one has to remember that the Leigh and Barrow clubs had not won the cup previous to the post war period. They had to wait a long time. And so had Warrington. They succeeded in 1959. Their last win before that was back in 1937.

Only three grounds have been used for the final since the war—Warrington, Swinton and Wigan. Another interesting point is that the Cumberland clubs also take part in the tournament. They have yet to score a success. But let us not forget that they have only come into the league since the war.

TWO "LEGS" DROPPED

For several years after the war, the two "leg" system was in vogue for the first round. It was a money spinner, all right, but the system favoured the stronger clubs and the county committee dropped the idea as did the Rugby League for the challenge cup tournament.

THE LANCASHIRE CUP

Here is this season's draw:-

Barrow v. Oldham

Liverpool City v. Salford

Rochdale v. Blackpool B.

St. Helens v. Leigh

Swinton v. Warrington

Widnes v. Whitehaven

Workington v. Wigan

A disappointment that Oldham are not at home. But its quite a good draw all round. Don't you agree?

NEW ZEALAND AT OLDHAM

Please do not forget that the New Zealand Team visit our ground on Monday, 4th September to play a combined team of Oldham and Rochdale Hornets players. The kick-off is 7-0 p.m., Guaranteed seat tickets for this match are on sale from the Secretary's Office in the Pavilion for both Enclosure and "E" Stand at 6/- each. Make a note of the date and secure your ticket NOW.

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FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS—1961-62

(Up to and including 21st August, 1961)

Palyer	App.	T.	G.	Palyer	App.	T.	G.
Sims	2	0	4				
Patterson	2						
Holden	2	1					
Davies	1						
Kenny	2	1					
Kellett	2	1					
Pitchford	2						
Payne	2						
McIntyre	2						
Winslade	2						
Dufty	2						
Rae	2						
Parker, D.	1	1					

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE

Final Table 1960-61

		P	W	L	D	For	Against	Pts.
Swinton	...	28	23	4	1	552	182	47
St. Helens	...	28	23	5	—	659	215	46
Warrington	...	28	22	5	1	570	191	45
Leigh	...	28	21	7	—	426	217	42
Wigan	...	28	20	8	—	502	248	40
Oldham	...	28	18	10	—	518	288	36
Workington	...	28	15	13	—	369	377	30
Halifax	...	28	13	14	1	382	369	27
Whitehaven	...	28	11	15	2	294	394	24
Widnes	...	28	10	18	—	302	428	20
Blackpool B.	...	28	8	18	2	248	393	18
Salford	...	28	7	19	2	237	569	16
Barrow	...	28	6	20	2	199	484	14
Rochdale H.	...	28	6	22	—	200	618	12
Liverpool City	...	28	1	26	1	196	681	3

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