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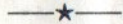
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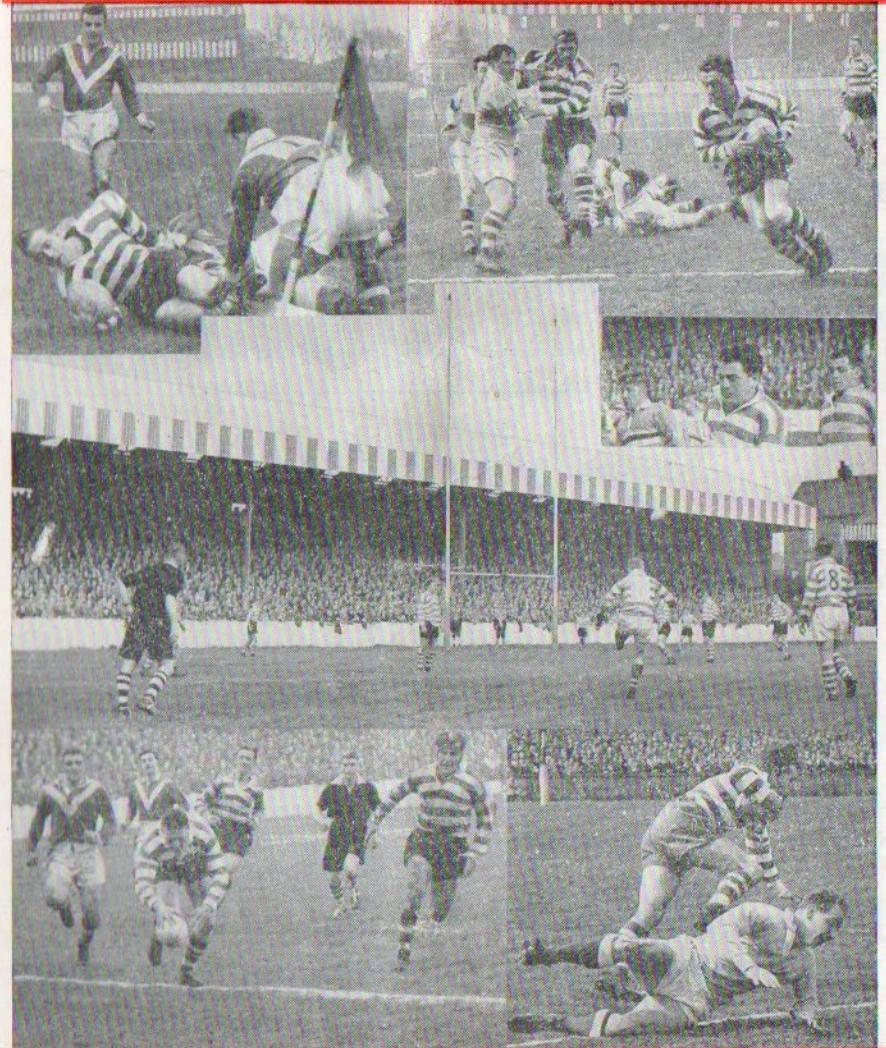
Fixtures for the Season

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. 20—Saturday, 7th April, 1962

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OLDHAM v. HUNSLET

OUR VISITORS

Today we entertain the Hunslet Club and we extend a welcome to them and we hope to avenge the unexpected defeat we received at Hunslet on September 23rd last, by 12 points to 7 points. The Hunslet team are having a very mixed season and at present are the fifth club from the bottom in the league table, this is not the Hunslet position we knew of several seasons and not so very long ago. The Club possess some very capable players, but bad luck and injuries have played havoc with their progress.

On Saturday last they lost to Whitehaven by the phenomenal score of 61 points to nil. There must be a reason for this, as there is never this great a difference between the two teams as the score suggests.

We have always had an interesting match against Hunslet and we trust that today's game will prove no exception.

EXPLANATION

May we correct a wrong impression that is going about regarding the postponement of the Salford match on Monday last at so late an hour.

Instructions issued from the Rugby League Headquarters regarding wet grounds are "That home clubs are recommended never to take the responsibility of cancelling a match because of watery or muddy conditions, because there is always doubt existing as to whether or not a game of Rugby League can be played in genuine cases of flooding. Whenever possible the referee should be in attendance before the gates are opened and his decision shall be FINAL. A decision shall be taken one hour before the scheduled time of kick-off."

The referee, Mr. L. Gant of Wakefield arrived at 5-15 p.m., and declared the match off at 5-35 p.m. There is no doubt that if we had to make a decision we should have agreed with the referee.

The drains in our playing area are in first class condition and if we could have had one hour of fine weather before the scheduled kick-off, the match would have been played, so well does our ground take the water, but incessant rain for ten hours was too much for the drainage system, good as it is.

THE UPS AND THE DOWNS

It is amazing what clubs have a successful period for a few seasons and then comes a time when they sink to the lowest depths. Arising from the depths, achieving greatness, and then down where the dead men lie. Some teams get together a team that develops into a star outfit, continues for a time until it wears itself out, and all the team appear to go from star players to mediocre ones overnight. The blame for this must be put on the management of the clubs in allowing this state of affairs to arise. No matter how good your first team may be, Managements must always be on the lookout for talent better than they have already got, and what is more important still, the feeding line, i.e., up and coming young stars must be recruited for the "A" team.

One wonders sometimes if "A" teams personnel are the forgotten players of our game. There are many clubs today in the bottom half of the League Table and one may say some in the top half, who do not take a great deal of interest in their 'A' teams. All clubs go through a transitional stage at one period in their career and it is hard work creating a star team, but, moreover, it is harder to stay at the top.

Take the case of Bradford Northern, a great team from 1944 to about 1953, but how things have altered at Bradford. The team is at the bottom of the League Table, having won only two of the last twenty-seven matches. They have not only lost a great team, but they have also lost their support to an alarming extent, but we hope they will come again and be a power in the game, a hard task lies ahead, but not above the capabilities of the board of directors who are now administering the affairs of the club.

Take our own club, we have had our ups and downs, and from the great team of five years ago, there are not many of our idolised star team left with us.

Players of proven ability are very hard to come by, but we think we have a young enough team to develop into a combination to be feared. Our "A" team has not lacked recruits, and up to date it is a record for a season's signings, including first team signings, we have recruited 15 new players this season. Three of our players have left the club, these being Winslade, Davies, and Dufty.

The newcomers to the club are :-

Forwards : Johnson, Johns, Morgan, Mills, Mitchell, Wood, Whitehead, Gaskell and Smethurst.

Backs : Bird, Kenny, Price, Raines, Crowther, and Howard

GET RID OF THE BOO BOYS

by CYRIL BRIGGS

The "boo boys" are at it again, and they are spoiling the afternoon's entertainment at many R.L. grounds. Unfortunately for the game, there are some fans who are not keen on open play. They want to see the rugged stuff and if it is not presented, then they are yelling for tough work by the forwards.

Quite recently, when there had been some he-man stuff, several stand spectators began inciting some of the local players to avenge themselves. I calmly whispered into the ear of one of the annoyed fans that he should desist, and after a time he did so. Now he believes that the retaliator often comes off worse than the man who started the argument on the field.

I have often seen players ordered off the field who have not by any means been the instigators of the brawl. It is unfortunate that sometimes the referee sees the tail-end of the argument and therefore he has to go on what he has witnessed.

The amazing thing about R.L. football is the queer twist to the regulations. A touch judge can report a player for ungentlemanly conduct and that player can receive his marching orders even though the referee may not have seen the incident. But the touch judge cannot interfere with referee's judgment when this official has made up his mind that a man must take an early bath for some indiscretion.

BEHIND THE POSTS

The "boo boys" often ruin the game, and in fact at one time the visiting goal-kickers were often put off their shots by the lads who choruised "watch him miss it" as the kick was being taken. Clubs have often ticked off the youngsters for their unsportsmanlike conduct. They have put in appeals in the club programmes and also made statements over the loud speakers.. But the amazing thing about these appeals is that clubs place the boys' pens behind the goal-posts !

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- 3—HOLDEN, KELLETT T
- 4—NOON, J.
- 5—NESTOR, V.
- 6—KELLETT, A. PYECROFT
- 7—PITCHFORD, F.
- 8—MUMBERSON, A. PAYNE
- 9—McINTYRE, L.
- 10—ROBINSON, G.
- 11—SMETHURST, P.
- 12—PARKER, D. T
- 13—PARKER, T. T

Referee:
Mr. C. WHITELEY
of Ossett

HUNSLET 5

(Myrtle, Flame and White)

- 1—LANGTON G
- 2—SMITH, D. White
- 3—SHELTON Newall
- 4—NEWALL Render T
- 5—RENDER Smith
- 6—GABBITAS Garforth
- 7—STEVENSON Watts
- 8—ADAMS
- 9—SMITH, S. Gomersall
- 10—HARTLEY Eyre
- 11—WHITEHEAD
- 12—WILSON
- 14—GUNNEY

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WILSON'S FAMOUS ALES

Not only are youngsters at fault but so are many of the adults. A few weeks ago I saw a tip top referee barracked continually because he had made certain decisions. The fact of the matter was that the referee had been influenced by the touch judge and had acted according to the rules and regulations. But the crowd yelled against the final decision.

The rules, or rather laws as they are officially called, does not allow the referee to change his mind. Once the decision has been made there is no alteration. The touch judge is the sole arbiter of the side line and also touch in goal. The referee must accept his decision. But when the flag has been knocked down in a try skirmish, spectators who are not in a position to argue about the legitimacy of the score, raise their voices in protest whichever way the referee may think.

I think it would be a good idea if all clubs used their official programmes and re-printed the rules (pardon laws), because very few people appear to be au fait with the many changes which have taken place in the last few seasons. There are all kinds of appeals during the games, from the terraces.

COURT OF REFEREES

If some people had their way, referees would be going about their jobs with white sticks and guide dogs, or wearing the colours of the opposing team. R.L. referees have had to run the gauntlet many times, but I do wish that some of the people who demonstrated could be hauled before a court of referees and asked to give their views on the game and the laws.

In the main, R.L. followers are not too conversant with the laws. Often you hear the remark "free kick". There is no such thing in the game unless a player makes a "fair catch" and appeals for a "mark". A referee awards a penalty for an infringement but not a "free kick". Lots of people are still hazy about the points relating to offside—but they will not admit it—except to make fools of themselves on stand and terrace by vocal criticism.

The official manual of the Rugby League is a poor seller. Why? It is chock full of details about the game; its history, records, and all kinds of data which a Rugby League fan should have at his finger tips. But there are many thousands who don't buy this official publication, but hope to get by, season after season, merely on memory.

RULE CONSCIOUS

Of course it will not do. R.L. crowds must become rule conscious. Even the players are not always au fait with the official rulings, but there are some sharp customers who are ever ready to circumvent any rule, old and new, to their own purposes, and for their own personal game.

If Rugby League wants the crowds to become more law conscious, then why not publish extracts from the manual on the walls of club houses etc? Illustrations are also sadly lacking, and that's why we often get a number of interpretations on certain rules. Clubs must do something about this trend of muddling through by the main body of supporters.

REMAINING FIXTURES

Though the season is drawing to a close, we still have five very good matches (not including today's) before our programme is complete. We shall be going all out to win these, for although, more or less certain to be in division one next season, we wish to consolidate our position to give our team that added confidence it will need in the 1962/63 season.

The remaining matches are as follows :-

Saturday, 14th April—v. Widnes, kick-off 3-0 p.m.—Home

Good Friday, 20th April—v. Swinton kick-off 3-0 p.m.—Away

Saturday, 21st April—v. Blackpool, kick-off 3-0 p.m.—Home

Easter Monday, 23rd April—v. Huddersfield, kick-off 6-30 p.m.—Home

Saturday, 28th April—v. Swinton, kick-off 3-0 p.m.—Home

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FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS—1961-62

(Up to and including Saturday last)

Player	App.	T.	G	Player	App.	T.	G
Noon	27	19	13	Morgan	1		
Sims	31	9	102	Parker T	3		
Patterson	20	3		Robinson	21	5	
Holden	25	11		Nestor	22	9	
Davies	3			Bird	14	11	
Kenny	4	2	3	Smethurst	21	2	
Kellett	31	13		Pycroft	4		
Pitchford	31	8		Goddard, P.	18	4	
Payne	26			Mumberson	4		
McIntyre	29	5		Lord	14	10	
Winslade	11			Lloyd	2		
Dufty	11	3		Price	4	2	
Rae	22	6					
Parker, D.	29	3					

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Huddersfield	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	St. Helens	Swinton	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow	.....	20-10	9-5	14-19	33-0	11-5		7-13	2-34	9-3					
Blackpool	18-10	.....	2-23	13-7	23-0	5-20	20-4				6-18	9-5		8-33	5-22
Huddersfield		33-12	.....	15-5		16-7				7-2		34-10	8-6		
Leigh	19-5		.....	.....	18-12	4-7	33-10								23-12
Liverpool			5-9	.....	.....	7-13		11-22		4-34		5-10		0-39	5-28
OLDHAM	40-0					.....	53-9		10-7		35-5	45-10		2-7	14-12
Rochdale		15-15	0-10			7-17	.....	8-6	2-14	10-23		6-6		8-28	4-14
Salford	16-15	2-11	8-26		8-5	4-50	28-10	.....	7-24		16-0				
St. Helens	30-6		39-5			16-5						44-0	13-8		16-7
Swinton			11-9					34-10	15-6	.....	18-9	17-5	16-2	4-7	
Warrington	36-9	31-8	7-7		27-2	12-15		32-11	11-7	18-12	.....	25-4	15-10		
Whitehaven			5-5	5-15	34-4	7-25	17-3		3-10	0-24		.....	4-8	6-26	
Widnes	20-18	28-10	8-18	12-0					13-12	4-3		11-7	.....		8-16
Wigan	39-3	31-5		25-6	45-0	16-13	22-5			6-13		31-11		.....	25-8
Workington	24-10	25-5	30-5			17-5	23-2	52-0	23-7		11-2		26-5	10-16

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

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