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OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

THE PAVILION — WATERSHEDDINGS

OLDHAM

versus

FEATHERSTONE

Saturday, 9th March

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

SEASON — 1962-63

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME . . . 3d.

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6 CLEGG STREET, OLDHAM

No. 14—Saturday, 9th March, 1963

Kick-off 3 p.m.

OLDHAM v. FEATHERSTONE

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

At last, we hope, we are having a match at Watersheddings today. Our last home match was on Saturday, 15th December and it is only the second time in the history of the Club that our ground has been vacant for such a long period during a season. The whole league has been thrown in chaos owing to the backlog of fixtures that have to be fulfilled. In another part of this programme we publish a list of remaining fixtures, but there is one more match to arrange and that is Warrington away.

Of the two matches we have played this year, at Widnes on the 2nd of February and at Leigh last Saturday, we have seen a considerable improvement in the form of our team, especially in the forwards and we hope that this good form will continue.

Today will see the home debuts of Harry Major and John Donovan, transferred to us from Warrington and St. Helens respectively. Without doubt they have created an improvement in our team and we hope that their careers and successes will be long and happy with us.

Saturday last saw our team celebrate the first round of the Challenge Cup with a resounding victory at Leigh by 18 points to 10 points and we entered the second round with a display worthy of victory. However, the second round draw was not a lucky one for us, for we have to travel to Workington on the 16th of March. On paper the task is a great one, but our players are full of confidence and will enter the game with the same spirit as they did at Leigh. We have been to Workington in a cup-tie before and won and we can do so again.

Tickets for a stand seat for the Workington match are on sale from the Secretary's Office in the Pavilion at 6/- each. We have only a limited number and early application is desirable.

OUR VISITORS

Today we give a welcome to Featherstone Rovers from over the border. Although their visits to our ground are infrequent, we have had many good games with the Rovers and we hope that today's game will be no exception. So welcome the Rovers.

INJURED PLAYERS

Jimmy Gaskell who received concussion in the match at Leigh on Saturday last, is progressing. But medical opinion advises him not to play in today's game. This perky and hard as teak player reported at Water-sheddings after being discharged from hospital on Tuesday evening last.

Brian Lord has had the plaster removed from his cracked ankle bone but reports back to hospital in a fortnight's time for further observation.

REMAINING FIRST TEAM FIXTURES FOR 1963

Saturday, 9th March, kick-off 3 p.m.—FEATHERSTONE—Home
Saturday, 16th March kick-off 3 p.m.—WORKINGTON (Cup)—Away
Saturday, 23rd March, kick-off 3 p.m.—HULL KINGSTON—Away
Saturday, 30th March, kick-off 3 p.m.—WIDNES—Home
Saturday, 6th April, kick-off 3 p.m.—BRAMLEY—Home
Tuesday, 9th April, kick-off 6-30 p.m.—*WORKINGTON—Home
Good Friday, 12th April, kick-off 3 p.m.—SWINTON—Away
Easter Monday, 15th April, kick-off 3 p.m.—HULL—Home
Saturday, 20th April, kick-off 3 p.m.—BRAMLEY—Away
Tuesday, 23rd April, kick-off 7 p.m.—*SWINTON—Home
Saturday, 27th April, kick-off 3 p.m.—CASTLEFORD—Away
Saturday, 4th May, kick-off 3 p.m.—*WARRINGTON—Home
Monday, 6th May, kick-off 7 p.m.—*ST. HELENS—Away
Wednesday, 15th May, kick-off 6-30 p.m.—*FEATHERSTONE—Away
Saturday, 18th May, kick-off 3 p.m.—*HALIFAX—Home
Tuesday, 21st May, kick-off 7 p.m.—*HULL KINGSTON—Home
Monday, 27th May, kick-off 7 p.m.—*HULL—Away
Thursday, 30th May, kick-off 7 p.m.—*ST. HELENS—Home

*Re-arranged Fixture

WORLD RECORD RECEIPTS

Structural alterations to the Wembley Stadium necessitated a review of the prices for seating, ticket sales already total £35,550, so world record receipts for any Rugby League game are assured. Seating ticket prices are : 30/-, 20/-, 15/-, and 10/-. The ground admission charge is 4/-.

The previous record receipts for the Rugby League Cup Final were £35,352 in 1961.

Many ground enclosure tickets are still available for sale. Altogether there are 50,197 ground enclosure tickets so it can be seen that if the attendance once again reaches the capacity mark of 95,000 then the total receipts could reach approximately £46,000.

'FANS' WANT MORE SAY IN AFFAIRS

The announcement that a soccer club's supporters have donated nearly £100,000 over the past few years, is not quite as surprising as one would imagine after examining the figures. —(writes CYRIL BRIGGS)

That clubs, and particularly those who favour the Rugby League code, are now more dependant than ever on the pools profits, is a well known fact.

But almost everywhere receipts are down and while trade, or rather the lack of it in some areas, has affected the takings, it should be quickly remembered by club officials that supporters are not now as keen on the local football pools as they were at the outset.

One of the reasons is because some fans are not at all pleased with the way the amazing funds have been spent, and therefore they have withdrawn their support.

NOT DISTURBED

The weekly 'flutter' has lost a lot of its attraction in family sporting circles, and not one club is disturbed about the fall off, and is therefore appealing for new agents and fresh members to help the weakening budgets.

What limited companies are facing is not quite a rosy picture, and one wonders whether there will be an end of shareholders' clubs and a return to organisations run entirely by people who take out season tickets.

I have no ambitions of becoming a financial genius, but the facts speak for themselves. Clubs are not quite as pally with their bank managers as they were a few years ago, even when the entertainment tax was affixed to gate receipts.

OVERDRAFTS

There are overdrafts here and there, and while the question of immediate bankruptcy does not arise because ground assets are quite considerable, it is about time directors faced up to the situation.

Rugby League clubs who are in the red, but could at a drop of a hat satisfy all creditors if their grounds were sold to speculative builders, must not be too complacent. There must not be any Accrington Stanleys in the Rugby League.

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- 2—DONOVAN, J.
- 3—FISHER, R.
- 4—SMETHURST, P.
- 5—SIMMS, T.
- 6—KELLETT, A.
- 7—PYCROFT, J.
- 8—MUMBERSON, A.
- 9—McINTYRE, L.
- 10—ROBINSON, G.
- 11—MAJOR, H.
- 12—PLATT, D.
- 13—PARKER, D.

Referee:

Mr. R. APPLEYARD
of Leeds

FEATHERSTONE

(Blue and White)

- 1—FENNELL
- 2—WATERWORTH
- 3—COOPER
- 4—GREATOREX
- 5—JORDON
- 6—LINGARD
- 7—FOX
- 8—TERRY
- 9—FAWLEY
- 10—DIXON
- 11—RAMSHAW
- 12—CLAWSON
- 14—NICHOLSON

Touch Judges:

Mr. W. E. Higginson, Warr'ton (Crim)
Mr. E. P. Cunningham, Widnes (Yell.)

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Presentation

Birthday

Here the position of the famous Lancashire club was not fully realised until it was too late to save the day. It could have been saved, so we are told, by guarantors and by public demand.

FEW DIVIDENDS

I know that shareholders have invested a lot of money, and that in some districts a man cannot become a director of a club until he has a maximum shareholding of £50.

But as no club, or at least very few, have paid a dividend, or at least likely to do so, then that money shown on the share holding certificates is more or less 'dead'. Payment could be met however if a club sold up, but that would only be if things became very desperate.

On most clubs' articles of association there are such implications as "no traffic in shares" which means that one could not dispose of holdings unless they were in accordance with the directorate's wishes. And blocks of shares cannot be broken up and disposed of unless there is official approval.

FUNDS HAVE GONE

Yet how long can the position of original capital invested in a club be maintained when the figures in the balance sheets show that the funds have run out on such things as ground improvements? A new share issue would be necessary.

I would not like the job of inviting new share capital. I think there would be a disappointing response, probably not in every case, but in the majority of them.

Then what is the answer? Members' clubs. I feel strongly about it, and let us not forget that two of the clubs who are doing well at the moment are run by members who can say "yea" or "nay" to proposals at the annual meeting.

AN INDICATION

The present fall off in the pools takings is an indication that the ordinary supporter wants more say in club affairs, and has dropped out of the weekly sweep because he is not satisfied with the way official business is conducted.

The pools have been able to keep the pulses of the clubs moving, but they are not the lifeblood of the game. The enthusiasm of the individual must be considered at all costs.

TELEVISION

The second half of our match against Leigh on Saturday was televised on B.B.C., and we have had several letters complimenting our team on their display. Two viewers, one from Coventry and the other from Wimbourne (Dorset) have sent letters regarding the injury to Jimmy Gaskell, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope for information as to the well being of our half back.

SCHOOLBOY NOTES

Today at Central Park, Wigan, Lancashire Schoolboys meet Yorkshire Schoolboys in the annual 'roses' match. We offer our congratulations to two Oldham boys who have been capped by Lancashire, G. Eckersley of Hollinwood S. M. School as full back and I. Entwistle of St. Anselm's R.C. S. M. School as hooker.

Lancashire Schoolboys Rugby League Association celebrate their Golden Jubilee this year. A small body of interested school masters met in 1913 to arrange fixtures and elect officials. Since that day, schoolboy rugby league has steadily increased its popularity amongst the schools of the county.

The Earl of Derby who is this year's President of Lancashire Schoolboys R. L. will be present at Wigan to meet the boys of both teams and present the trophy to the winning team. We hope that the game will be worthy of the occasion, matching many of the great encounters in the past 50 years.

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FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS — SEASON 1962

(Including all Matches to date)

Player	App.	T.	G.	Player	App.	T.	G.
Sims, G.	17	3	31	Pycroft	8		
Lord	22	6		Patterson	14	3	10
Holden	13	5		Jones	5		1
Price	5	1		Lloyd	1		
Simms, T.	24	10		Rae	2		
Noon	16	6	6	Gaskell	7	1	
Pitchford	5			Platt	7		1
Robinson, G.	23	1		Crowther	1	1	
McIntyre	23	4		Wood	2		
Goddard, P.	16			Johnson	1		
Bott	22	1		Fisher	9		
Parker, D.	12	2		Elliott	6		
Smethurst	16	1		Ogden	6		
Mumberson	20	3		Hill E.	1		
Nestor	13	1		Major, H.	2		
Kellett	4			Donovan	2		

FIXTURES AND RESULTS — SEASON 1962/63

OLDHAM'S SCORE GIVEN FIRST

Date	Opponents	Grd.	Rsult.	Date	Opponents	Grd.	Rsult.
Aug. 18	WHITEHAVEN	Away	8-18	Feb. 2	WIDNES	Away
21	BARROW	Home	17-0	Mar. 2	LEIGH (R.L. Cup)	Away	18-10
25	LEIGH	Home	16-10				
28	ROCHDALE	Away	2-10				
Sept. 1	WHITEHAVEN	Home	40-9				
8	Lancs. County Cup Competition						
15	BARROW	Away	15-13				
22	ROCHDALE H.	Home	22-7				
29	LEIGH	Away	17-24				
Oct. 6	WORKINGTON T.	Away	15-44				
13	HUDDERSFIELD	Home	9-8				
20	LEEDS	Away	5-23				
27	WAKEFIELD T.	Home	3-15				
Nov. 3	WIGAN	Away	14-14				
10	WORKINGTON T.	Home	Post.				
17	HUDDERSFIELD	Away	5-6				
24	LEEDS	Home	8-10				
Dec. 1	WAKEFIELD T.	Away	19-12				
8	WIGAN	Home	0-19				
15	CASTLEFORD	Home	2-10				
22	HALIFAX	Away	14-16				

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