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RUGBY FOOTBALL
LEAGUE

Northern League
Championship Match

OLDHAM ³⁴
v.

WHITEHAVEN ¹⁴

SATURDAY,
2nd SEPTEMBER,
1967

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

6^p

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THE DIFFICULT PROGRAMME CONTINUES

Following our League defeat against Liverpool City, we have lost another two games, both in Yorkshire, against Bradford Northern and Hull.

The match at Bradford is best forgotten because we failed to find anything like our best form. In fact, we turned in a very inept show. The Bradford crowd certainly gave their team every encouragement, and despite the fact that Bradford, in my opinion, are not a brilliant team, very few teams can be expected to pull off a victory at Odsal if their tremendous following continues.

We introduced Terry Price into the rough and tumble of Rugby League but he was in no way tested to any great extent. He will certainly find it more difficult by the time the return match comes along in October and some of our injured key players are back in action.

At Hull, we were even more handicapped by the absence of Geoff Shelton and Peter Smethurst. Our team had a very unfamiliar look about it and took a full 40 minutes to settle down. Then the revival came, which had to be seen to be believed. For the full second half of the match we ran Hull into the ground. Every man played his part in a tremendous fight-back which, but for the one and only mistake in the second half, could have brought a victory. This was at the kick-off when Curry had just pulled the score to 20-24 with a penalty goal. The Hull scrum-half kicked-off, the ball was fumbled, a Hull centre picked up the ball, passed to his wingman and he scored behind the posts for a try which was completely against the run of play. The forward pass which was obvious in this movement is another story.

Had we been fortunate enough to get the ball, as we should have done, it was on the cards that we would have scored again, for at this stage of the game there was only one team in it.

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Our local Press man, reporting on the magnificent fight-back at Hull, began his editorial on Monday with, "Remember these names . . ." It is noted that Bob Irving, back to his international form, was apparently overlooked. Bob was strong in both attack and defence and he moved particularly well when he sent in hooker Kevin Taylor for our first try.

Jim McCormack, making a welcome return to the senior side, must also get a special mention for his performance. Throughout he was in the thick of things and got through a tremendous amount of work. It was no surprise, in fact, when at Tuesday's meeting, Jim was removed from the transfer list.

Whilst on the subject of the transfer list, it is noted that the fees of the following have been reduced: Trevor Sims from £1,500 to £1,000, Stan McLeod from £2,000 to £1,000, Ken Wilson from £5,000 to £3,000, and Graham Wood from £1,500 to £1,000.

Today's match is against Whitehaven, who have, perhaps, more worries than we have at the moment despite the fact that they are the proud owners of a League win, having taken an unexpected two points away from the Athletic Grounds recently. Since then, however, they have suffered disappointing defeats at home to Liverpool City and Doncaster, and a heavy defeat at their near neighbours, Workington Town.

Unfortunately, Alan Burns, who the Whitehaven Board bought from us recently, will not be available to play because of illness. This is disappointing, because Alan was a favourite at Watersheddings with everyone and it is hoped that before long he will be back in the forwards at Whitehaven striving to get the team back on winning ways.

Alex Cassie, Whitehaven's Scotland-based utility back, is again in goal-kicking form this season, so his chances of goal shots must be limited as much as possible.

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Despite Whitehaven's recent losses, we can almost guarantee that they will keep the game open today and if our team turn in a display as they did in the second half at Hull, then today's game should prove interesting.

Turning back to ourselves, we find in front of us a difficult week of football.

On Monday we travel to Blackpool to meet the Borough in a League game. Blackpool must not be underestimated, however, and the game must be treated in the same manner as the Cup-tie against Swinton will be treated next Thursday. The kick-off at Blackpool is 3 p.m. Supporters will probably remember that in past seasons the kick-off for this holiday fixture has been in the evening, but the greyhounds are now a commanding force at Blackpool and they have meetings on Monday evenings.

The Lancashire Cup second round match against Swinton will, as I say, be played at Station Road, Swinton, on Thursday next, kick-off at 7.30 p.m.

Stand tickets for this game can be purchased from the Secretary's office after today's game. They are priced as follows: Townsend Road Stand, 5/6; Centre Stand, 6/6.

Two days after this tough Lancashire Cup-tie we travel again, this time to Warrington to meet a Warrington side who are in top form at the moment, having brought off wins against Workington at home and Widnes away, not to mention a win at Central Park.

So next week is a trying time for us and if we pick up four valuable League points and succeed in gaining a place in the Lancashire Cup semi-final, then everyone will be happy, except, of course, the defeated team in each case!

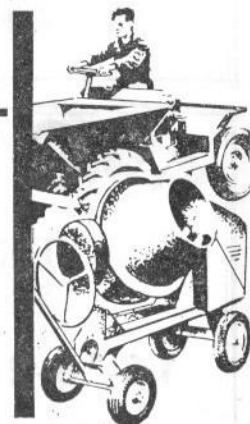
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- 8—OGDEN, A. T
- 9—TAYLOR, K. T T T
- 10—FLETCHER, G.
- 11—SMETHURST, P.
- 12—IRVING, R. T
- 13—MOONEY, M.

Substitutes—
14—BROOMHEAD, W.
15—A. N. OTHER

Referee :
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- 7—BONNAR, J.
- 8—TEMBEY, J. T
- 9—HILL, T. R.
- 10—IRVING, K.
- 11—McFARLANE, M.
- 12—FOWLER, T. G. T
- 13—McCOURT, C.

Substitutes—
14—POWE, J. A.
15—MOSS, F. L.

Touch Judges :
H. Jackson
W. Rigby

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About the "A" Team

"A" team won 27-19

Today's visitors, Whitehaven, have re-instated their "A" team to the Lancashire Combination after a season playing in an amateur league, and our "A" team visit the Recreation Grounds this afternoon for a Lancashire Combination fixture.

Our "A" team put up a tremendous show against Swinton last week and were rather unfortunate to be held to a draw, for they led for almost all the game.

Elliott, fresh after a foreign holiday, scored three fine tries and a trialist centre also notched a try.

Including substitutes, no fewer than nine trialists were named and an 18-18 draw against a strong Swinton "A" side was certainly a fine feat.

RUGBY LEAGUE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

The Rugby League World Championship games will be played in Sydney, Brisbane and Auckland, starting 25th May, 1968, and finishing with the play-off for the trophy in a Grand Final on Monday, 10th June, 1968, in Sydney. Members of clubs and supporters who are interested in making the trip should contact the Rugby League Secretary, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7. The discount for group travel is 30%, which is a considerable saving, i.e. approximately £140 on the round-the-world air ticket.

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CUP FINAL TICKETS

The demand for Rugby League Cup Final tickets is greater than ever. The seating tickets were all reserved some time ago but tickets for the standing enclosures at 5s. 0d. (all under cover) can still be obtained from the R.L. Offices, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7. These standing enclosure tickets are being sold faster than usual this year. Supporters who intend to go to the match should get their tickets now to avoid the possibility of being disappointed later on.

TEST MATCH TICKETS

The three Test Matches against Australia will be played at:—

Headingley, Leeds (seating tickets at £1, 15/- and 12/6), on Saturday, 21st October, 1967. Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

White City Stadium, London (seating tickets at £1, 15/- and 10/-), on Friday, 3rd November, 1967. Kick-off 7.45 p.m.

Swinton (seating tickets at £1, 15/- and 12/6) on Saturday, 9th December, 1967. Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

Seating tickets can be obtained from the home clubs or from the R.L. Offices, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds.

NEXT MATCH AT WATERSHEDDINGS

LANCS. COMBINATION

OLDHAM 'A' v WARRINGTON 'A'

SATURDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER, 1967

Kick-off 3 p.m.

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FIXTURES 1967-8

1967 Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	1968 Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 15	(Tu) Liverpool City	Home	L 12-13	Jan. 1	(M) Workington T.	Away	
" 19	(S) Leigh (Lancs Cup - 1)	Home	W 17-11	" 6	(S) Batley	Away	
" 23	(W) Bradford Northern	Away	L 10-28	" 13	(S) Wigan	Away	
" 26	(S) Hull	Away	L 20-29	" 20	(S) St. Helens	Home	
Sept. 2	(S) Whitehaven	Home	W 24-84	" 27	(S) Barrow	Away	
" 4	(M) Blackpool Borough	Away	L 15-19	Feb. 3	(S) (1)		
" 7	(Th) Swinton (Lancs C - 2)	Away		" 10	(S) Batley	Home	
" 9	(S) Warrington	Away		" 17	(S) Widnes	Home	
" 16	(S) Rochdale H.	Home		" 24	(S) (2)		
" 23	(S) Whitehaven	Away		Mar. 1	(F) Rochdale H.	Away	
" 30	(S) Wigan	Home		" 9	(S) Workington T.	Home	
Oct. 3	(Tu) Hull K.R.	Home		" 23	(S) Leigh	Home	
" 14	(S) Bradford N.	Home		Apl. 12	(F) Swinton	Home	
" 20	(F) Salford	Away		" 15	(M) Hull K.R.	Away	
" 28	(S) Blackpool Boro*	Home					
Nov. 4	(S) Leigh	Away					
" 7	(Tu) Salford	Home					
" 17	(F) Widnes	Away					
" 25	(S) Hull	Home					
Dec. 2	(S) Liverpool C.	Away					
" 8	(F) Warrington	Home					
" 16	(S) St. Helens	Away					
" 26	(Tu) Swinton	Away					
" 30	(S) Barrow	Home					



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