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RUGBY FOOTBALL
LEAGUE

Northern League
Championship Match

OLDHAM 19
v.
WIDNES 12

SATURDAY,
17th FEBRUARY,
1968
Kick-off 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

6^p

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WELCOME, WIDNES

We extend a warm welcome to our friends from Naughton Park, Widnes, who we always find a hard side to beat, especially on their neat little ground in Lower House Lane. Two years ago, Widnes 'caned' our boys to the tune of 49-5 at Naughton Park and this is a scoreline not easy to forget.

On this occasion, Robin Whitfield kicked eleven goals against us out of twelve attempts. At present Robin is not catching the team and a look at the form of the present full-back, Ray Dutton, tells us why.

Dutton is a fine full-back and also an excellent goalkicker.

Dennis O'Neill is certainly a starlet of the future. Dennis recently won his County cap, being on the winning side when playing for Lancashire against Yorkshire at Widnes. Dennis had a great match against the Yorkshiremen and scored Lancashire's match-clinching try in the last minute with a spectacular run covering three-quarters of the field to score by the flag.

O'Neill's half-back partner is former Blackpool star Jim Boylan, a real live wire around the scrum.

In the Widnes pack, Ray French is doing a grand job and the 'Chemics' have come on in leaps and bounds since he joined them from St. Helens. In fact, it would appear, with O'Neill playing so well for Widnes and French being a tower of strength in their pack, the transaction with St. Helens which saw Great Britain star Frank Myler join the Saints and two forwards (including French) joined Widnes, plus a very handsome cheque, the Naughton Park club did not do too badly.

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The pack, however, is by no means a one-man-band, with such experienced players as George Kemel, Larkin and Carden in the front line with Newton and Nicholls packing down with French, their pack set-up is a formidable one and our forwards will have to be in peak form to hold them.

Like ourselves, Widnes are still in the Challenge Cup Competition. They beat Doncaster away from home in the first round by 10 points to nine. In the next round they have a reasonably easy task against Keighley at Naughton Park.

We are still smarting from our 33-11 defeat by Widnes earlier in the season. We shall be all out to avenge that defeat here this afternoon.

R.L. CHALLENGE CUP SECOND ROUND

Our game against Bradford Northern in the second round of the Rugby League Challenge Cup will be played on Saturday, February 24th, 1968, kick-off 3.0 p.m. The referee for the game will be Mr. D. S. Brown, from Preston.

Coaches will be leaving from all over the town to Odsal Stadium and coaches will also be running from our Social Club. For further details of time of departure and cost, contact our Club Manager in the Social Club after the match.

Tickets for the big game are now on general sale from the Secretary's office. The tickets available will be announced on the loudspeaker system this afternoon.

At the time of going to press it would appear that all the 10/- tickets will have been sold but it is likely that 7/6 and 6/6 tickets will be obtainable.

The lads put up a tremendous show against Hunslet in the first round. Let us see if we can't outnumber what will be a very large Bradford contingent next week, and let us hear you!

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PLAYER'S No. 6 AWARD

This award scheme is still in operation to find the 'Player of the Match' and the 'Player of the Season'.

It is entirely up to you to vote for the 'Player of the Season' by posting your ballot papers in the boxes at all exits of the ground.

An independent judge at each game chooses his player of the match and the player selected receives his £6 award from the Player's No. 6 Personality girl.

This afternoon's player of the match will be presented with his award in the Social Club approximately one hour after the final whistle.

This week, John Player Ltd. have issued an up-to-date League table of awards made to players.

Our player Geoff Fletcher currently tops this table, having been chosen player of the match four times. The leading positions are:—

Geoff Fletcher (Oldham)	4	Ray French (Widnes)	3
Carl Dooler (Featherstone)	4	Dennis O'Neill (Widnes)	3
Stan Gittins (Batley)	4	Bill Holliday (Hull K.R.)	3
Keith Hepworth (Castleford) ...	4	Mick McCone (Doncaster)	3
Ron James (Halifax)	4	Alan Newall (Dewsbury)	3
Ken Tighe (Rochdale)	4	Charlie Renilson (Halifax)	3
Tommy Bishop (St. Helens)	3	Bev Risman (Leeds)	3
Jackie Brennan (Salford)	3	Eddie Tees (Barrow)	3
Chris Davidson (Hull)	3		

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- 8—WILSON, K.
- 9—TAYLOR, K.
- 10—FLETCHER, G.
- 11—IRVING, R.
- 12—McCOURT, C.
- 13—HUGHES, A.

Substitutes:

- 14—DAVIES, T.
- 15—SMITH, C.

Referee

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- 6—O'NEILL
- 7—BOYLAN
- 8—LARKIN
- 9—KEMEL
- 10—CARDEN
- 11—FRENCH
- 12—NEWTON
- 13—NICHOLLS

Substitutes:

- 14—HARE
- 15—BONNER

Touch Judges:

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Leading players in the Player of the Year awards, in which each supporter sends in one vote for one player at each of the senior Rugby League games, are as follows:—

1. Charlie Renilson (Halifax) 36 points
2. Keith Hepworth (Castleford) 35 points
3. Chris Davidson (Hull) 35 points
4. Bev Risman (Leeds) 34 points
5. Bobby Fleet (Swinton) 33 points
6. Dave Horn (Bramley) 32 points
7. Alex Murphy (Leigh) 28 points
8. Martin Murphy (Oldham) 28 points

The judges' choice for the Player of the Match last week were:—

- 27.1.68 Huddersfield/Hull K.R.: R. Millward (Hull K.R.), M. Stephenson (Hull K.R.), 5 points each.
- 4.2.68 Doncaster/Bradford N.: P. Daley (Bradford), 8 points.
- 5.2.68 Castleford/Hunslet: D. Hartley (Castleford), K. Hepworth (Castleford), 6 points each.
- 10.2.68 York/Hull: T. Sullivan (York), A. Hepworth (York), 6 points each.
- 10.2.68 Dewsbury/Leeds: A. Eyre (Leeds), 5 points.
- 10.2.68 Whitehaven/Leigh: S. Roper (Whitehaven), A. Murphy (Leigh), 6 pts. each.
- 10.2.68 Huddersfield/Featherstone: R. Tomlinson (Huddersfield), 8 points.
- 10.2.68 Keighley/Doncaster: A. Kellett (Keighley), 6 points.

NEW SOCIAL CLUB PROGRAMME

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If any young female supporter fancies herself as an expert on Rugby League, here's a chance to prove it. Recently asked by "Double Your Money" producer to nominate a contestant to face Hughie Green, Bill Fallowfield has thrown the gates open wide to all supporters—not necessarily female (although he feels a mini-skirted beauty might have an advantage). If you think your Rugby League expertise can Double Your Money, write to: Vic Hallams, Assistant Producer, "Double Your Money", Rediffusion Television, T.V. House, Kingsway, London, W.C.99.

RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Positions up to and including Tuesday, February 13th, 1968)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds	26	21	0	5	565	229	42
Bradford Northern	25	20	0	5	481	210	40
Hull Kingston Rovers	24	18	1	5	469	231	37
Halifax	25	16	2	7	359	315	34
Leigh	24	17	0	7	315	193	34
Salford	26	17	0	9	337	228	34
St. Helens	22	16	1	5	285	177	33
Wakefield Trinity	25	16	1	8	459	245	33
Castleford	26	16	1	9	398	293	33
Wigan	25	16	0	9	435	230	32
Warrington	24	16	0	8	386	223	32
Huddersfield	27	14	2	11	294	268	30
Workington Town	23	14	0	9	375	261	28
Hull	25	14	0	11	350	344	28
Featherstone Rovers	26	13	0	13	350	324	26
Dewsbury	25	13	0	12	252	335	26
Swinton	24	12	1	11	316	310	25
Widnes	24	11	1	12	369	309	23
Barrow	25	11	0	14	305	317	22
Bramley	24	11	0	13	265	336	22
Rochdale Hornets	24	10	0	14	228	326	20
Hunslet	26	9	0	17	341	416	18
Oldham	26	8	0	18	337	433	16
Whitehaven	24	8	0	16	226	426	16
Liverpool City	23	7	1	15	223	345	15
Keighley	25	5	0	20	205	374	10
Blackpool Borough	24	5	0	19	216	411	10
Doncaster	27	4	1	22	238	599	9
York	25	4	1	20	270	578	9
Batley	25	3	1	21	178	541	7

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FIXTURES 1967-8

1967				1968			
Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
Aug. 15	(Tu) Liverpool City	Home	L 12-13	Dec. 30	(S) Barrow	Home	W 15-10
.. 19	(S) Leigh (Lancs Cup - 1)	Home	W 17-11	Jan. 1	(M) Workington Town	Away	L 5-10
.. 23	(W) Bradford Northern	Away	L 10-28	.. 6	(S) Batley	Away	W 22-7
.. 26	(S) Hull	Away	L 20-29	.. 13	(S) Wigan	Away	P'oned
Sept. 2	(S) Whitehaven	Home	W 34-14	.. 20	(S) St. Helens	Home	L 14-26
.. 4	(M) Blackpool Borough	Away	L 19-15	.. 22	(M) Wigan	Away	L 3-39
.. 7	(Th) Swinton (Lancs C - 2)	Away	L 8-11	.. 27	(S) Barrow	Away	L 13-14
.. 9	(S) Warrington	Away	L 2-26	Feb. 3	(S) Hunslet (RL Cup Rd 1)	Away	W 9-4
.. 16	(S) Rochdale H.	Home	W 13-12	.. 14	(W) Batley	Home	
.. 23	(S) Whitehaven	Away	W 24-12	.. 17	(S) Widnes	Home	
.. 30	(S) Wigan	Home	L 13-17	.. 24	(S) (2)		
Oct. 3	(Tu) Hull K.R.	Home	L 7-9	Mar. 1	(F) Rochdale H.	Away	
.. 14	(S) Bradford Northern	Home	L 14-25	.. 9	(S) Workington T.	Home	
.. 20	(F) Salford	Away	L 6-12	.. 23	(S) Leigh	Home	
.. 28	(S) Blackpool Boro'	Home	W 13-4	Apr. 12	(F) Swinton	Home	
Nov. 4	(S) Leigh	Away	L 2-29	.. 15	(M) Hull K.R.	Away	
.. 11	(S) Australia	Home	L 8-18				
.. 13	(M) Salford	Home	L 0-4				
.. 17	(F) Widnes	Away	L 14-33				
.. 25	(S) Hull	Home	W 31-7				
Dec. 2	(S) Liverpool City	Away	W 13-0				
.. 8	(F) Warrington	Home	P'oned				
.. 16	(S) St. Helens	Away	L 2-10				
.. 26	(Tu) Swinton	Away	L 18-22				


NEXT MATCH AT WATERSHEDDINGS

FIRST TEAM

SATURDAY, 9th MARCH, 1968

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

OLDHAM v WORKINGTON TOWN



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