



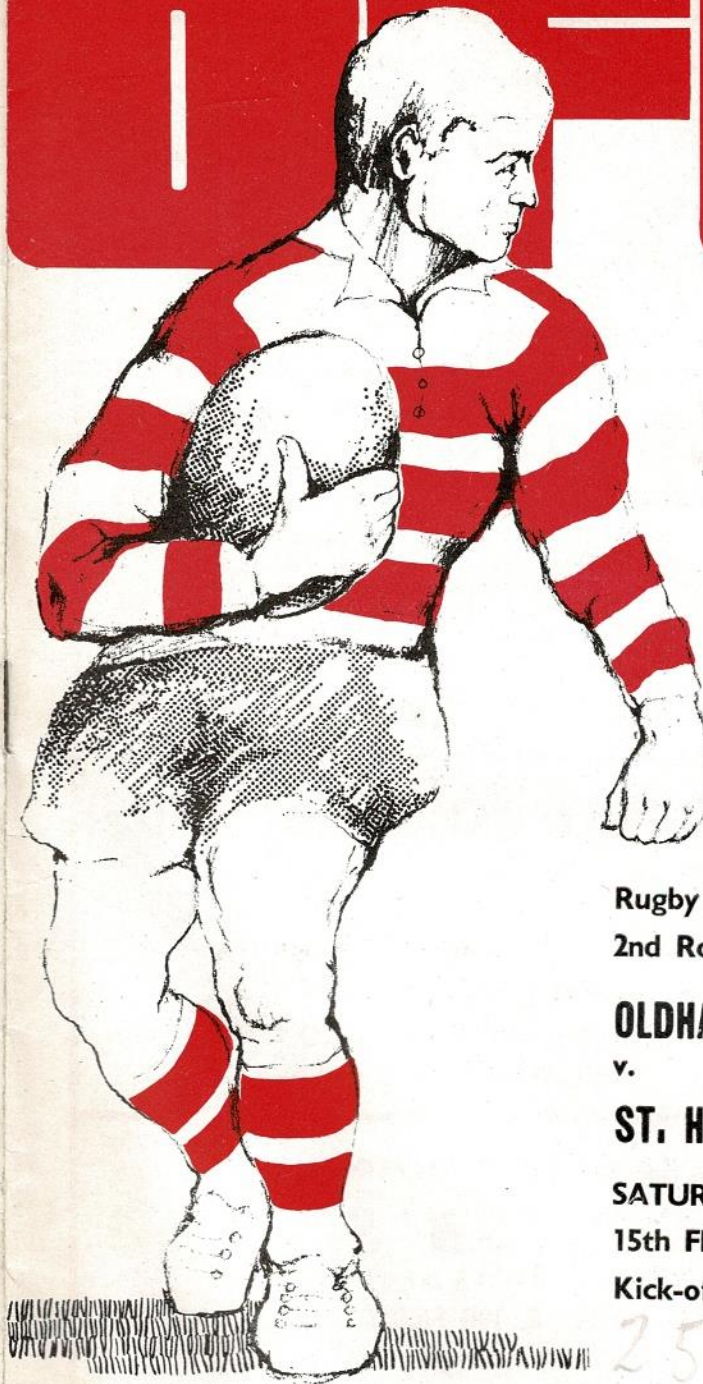
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Rugby League Challenge Cup
2nd Round

OLDHAM

v.

ST. HELENS

SATURDAY,
15th FEBRUARY, 1969

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

2504

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CUP DAY

Today sees the second round of the Rugby League Challenge Cup competition under way and we are proud to have one of the league's most attractive teams, St. Helens, here at Watersheddings.

St. Helens are having a very good season and are up there amongst the leaders at the present moment having lost only two of 23 League games. They have scored 381 points for and have conceded 163 points. We always seem to rise to the occasion when playing St. Helens and have turned in some good performances in the past, we hope that today's game will be no exception.

In our team we have several St. Helens based players and they particularly will be all out to impress.

The game at Leigh two weeks ago was a fiasco. Abandoned after 23 mins. play by referee Graham Scholefield of Salford, spectators swarmed across the field demanding their money back, an exact repeat of the happenings at Oldham on Saturday 14th December, when the two teams were due to meet.

In my opinion the referee made his decision to abandon the game too quickly. He was right in bringing the players off in a terrible rain storm, but soon afterwards, although being a far from pleasant afternoon, the conditions were good enough for the game to

continue. This is a spectators game and they should be given first priority all the time. If these kind of things continue to happen then it is no wonder that spectators stay at home and watch football and racing on television. Mr. Scholefield made his decision after a four minutes wait, if he had waited just a couple of minutes longer, as he was requested to do by the officials of both Clubs, the situation would have resolved itself and everyone would have been happy including the players.

WELCOME — ST. HELENS

It is indeed a pleasure to entertain this afternoon, our very good friends from Knowsley Road, St. Helens. As has been said earlier, the 'Saints' are at present on the crest of a wave and will certainly need some stopping in this afternoon's Cup-tie.

They have a formidable side from No. 1 straight through to loose forward and only a top form display by Oldham will be good enough to get them through to Round 3.

Austin Rhodes and Ken Williams have been filling the full back berth well in the absence of Frank Barrow. It is nice to have players of the calibre of Rhodes and Williams on your register who can fill any vacancy in the backs with equal ability. Frank Barrow is recovering from a serious leg injury.

Centres Myler and Benyon should, in my opinion, have been on the same trip as Messrs. Bishop, Mantle and Watson for the International game in Toulouse a couple of weeks ago. They are certainly centres of the highest calibre and not many in the game today can match them. On the flanks John Wills and Jones are both danger men and will have to be watched very closely.

The Bishop Brothers have occupied the half back positions on a number of occasions this season, but I feel Alan Whittle and Tommy Bishop will be taking their places in the No. 6 and No. 7 jerseys respectively.

It is in the pack where the 'Saints' are perhaps strongest. Warlow, Sayer, Watson, Mantle, Rees and Coslett are certainly a formidable 'six' but Geoff Fletcher and his pack colleagues will be all out to contain them.

200 CLUB

The new 200 Club will commence next week. As the title suggests, 200 members form the Club and they pay 5/- per week to the Club (£5 for 20 weeks). Each week a draw is made for £5 and after twenty weeks a draw is made for a £500 prize.

Anyone interested in joining the 200 Club should contact the Secretary as soon as possible.

RE-ARRANGED MATCHES

The following matches have been re-arranged and supporters are asked to make a note of these dates in their diaries :-

1st Team

Barrow v. Oldham—Now Friday, 21st February, kick-off 7 p.m. at Barrow
Oldham v. Leigh—Now Tuesday, 25th February, kick-off 7-30 p.m.
Oldham v. Swinton—Now Saturday, 12th April, kick-off 3 p.m.

'A' Team

Oldham 'A' v. Barrow 'A'—Saturday 22nd February, kick-off 3 p.m.

FIRST YORKSHIRE MACKESON GOLDEN BALL CHALLENGE TO COME FROM HUDDERSFIELD

The Mackeson Golden Ball—which has remained in Lancashire since its inauguration at the beginning of last October—will be played for by a Yorkshire club for the first time today.

Currently the Ball is back at Warrington for the third time, the Wires having defeated the previous holders Huyton in the Cup and successfully defended it away at Whitehaven. Now, Warrington are due to entertain Huddersfield in a second round cup tie, which could result in the Ball going East of the Pennines for the first time. It is however to be noted that Huddersfield have not won at Wilderspool since the war.

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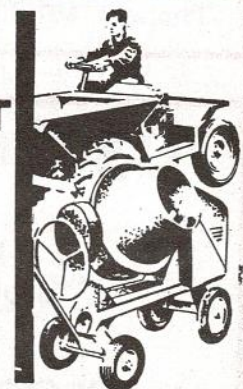
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- 11—IRVING
- 12—McCOURT
- 13—CLARKE

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- 15—OGDEN

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- 6—WHITTLE
- 7—BISHOP (Capt.)
- 8—WARLOW
- 9—SAYER
- 10—WATSON
- 11—REES
- 12—MANTLE
- 13—COSLETT

Substitutes:

- 14—RHODES
- 15—CHISNALL

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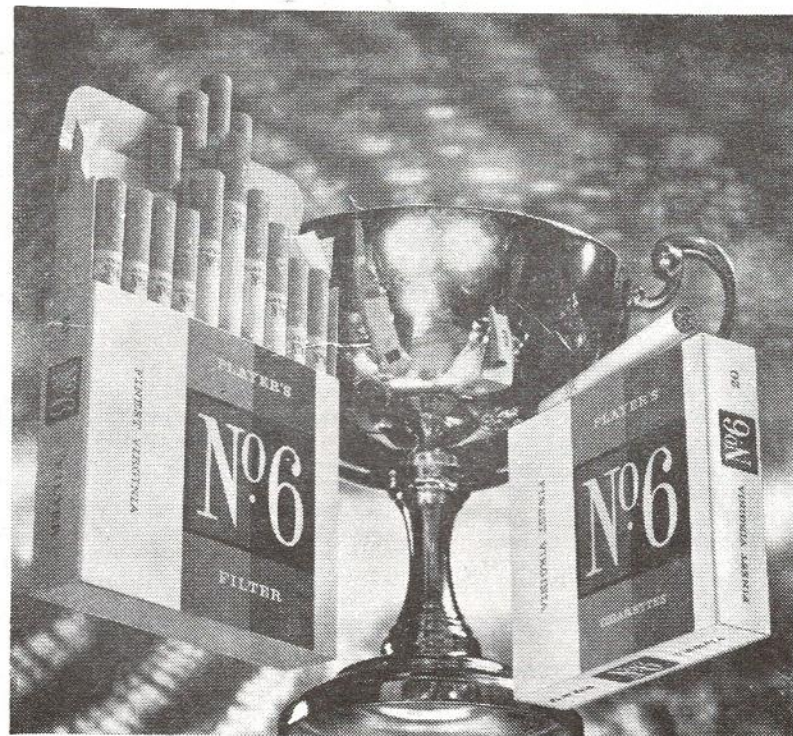
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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES					'A' TEAM FIXTURES				
Date	Club	Grd.	F	A	Date	Club	Grd.	F	A
Aug. 10	Blackpool (friendly) ...	home	37	27	Aug. 31	Workington 'A'	home
17	Huddersfield	away	14	19	Sept. 7	Rochdale 'A' (Shield)	away	.....	.....
19	Blackpool	home	29	5	14	Rochdale 'A' (Shield)	home	.....	.....
24	Featherstone R.	home	22	24	21	Wigan 'A'	away	.....	.....
28	Rochdale H.	away	14	22	Oct. 12	Rochdale 'A'	home	.....	.....
31	Workington T.	away	10	29	19	Widnes 'A'	away	.....	.....
Sept. 6	Rochdale (Lancs. Cup)	away	17	5	26	Salford 'A'	home	.....	.....
9	Blackpool B.	away	44	10	Nov. 2	Whitehaven 'A'	away	.....	.....
14	Hunslet	away	22	14	9	Wigan 'A'	home	.....	.....
21	Wigan	home	4	9	16	Warrington 'A'	away	.....	.....
28	Doncaster	away	26	10	23	Whitehaven 'A'	home	.....	.....
Oct. 5	Huddersfield	home	15	13	30	St. Helens 'A'	home	.....	.....
12	Featherstone R.	away	12	23	Dec. 14	Leigh 'A'	away	.....	.....
19	Widnes	home	17	9	21	Widnes 'A'	home	.....	.....
25	Salford	away	2	4	28	Warrington 'A'	home	.....	.....
Nov. 11	Wigan	away	3	50	Jan. 4	Huyton 'A'	away	.....	.....
15	Warrington	home	14	10	11	Huyton 'A'	home	.....	.....
30	St. Helens	away	.....	.....	18	Salford 'A'	away	.....	.....
Dec. 1	Whitehaven	away	15	6	Feb. 1	Leigh 'A'	home	.....	.....
7	Hunslet	home	30	13	8	St. Helens 'A'	away	.....	.....
14	Leigh	home	.....	.....	Mar. 1	Workington T. 'A' ...	away	.....	.....
20	Widnes	away	5	26	8	Barrow 'A'	away	.....	.....
22	Whitehaven	home	17	7	21	Swinton 'A'	away	.....	.....
26	Swinton	home	.....	.....	Apr. 7	Rochdale 'A'	away	.....	.....
Jan. 4	Huyton	home	5	13	12	Barrow 'A'	home	.....	.....
8	Warrington	away	19	10	19	Swinton 'A'	home	.....	.....
11	Huyton	away	3	7					
18	Salford	home	22	12					
Feb. 1	Leigh	away	.....	.....			
8	St. Helens	home	.....	.....			
Mar. 1	Workington T.	home	.....	.....			
8	Barrow	home	.....	.....			
15	Doncaster	home	.....	.....			
Apr. 4	Swinton (G.F.)	away	.....	.....			
7	Rochdale H. (E.M.) ...	home	.....	.....			
11	Barrow	away	.....	.....			

Times of Kick-off

All Saturday games at home k.o. 3 p.m. Evening k.o.'s as advertised. All 1st & 'A' team matches.

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Next Match at Watersheddings

OLDHAM 'A' v. BARROW 'A'

On Saturday, 22nd February, 1969 - Kick-off 3-0 p.m.



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