

HALF-TIME SCORES

The Half-time Scores in the Matches given below will be shown on the Score Board immediately they are received—

A	BRADFORD NORTHERN v. WAKEFIELD TRINITY	D	BELLE VIEW RANGERS v. BARROW
B	WIGAN v. LEEDS	E	WIDNES v. SALFORD
C	SWINTON v. HALIFAX	F	OLDHAM ATHLETIC v. SOUTHPORT

Saturday next at Watersheddings

Oldham 'A' v. Leigh 'A'

Kick-off at 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

18
OLDHAM

v.

15
LEIGH

Saturday, 6th March, 1948

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

Official Programme - 2d.

CLUB CHAT.

After a hard and strenuous match on Saturday last, we were successful in defeating St. Helens in the second round of the Rugby League Cup, by five points to nil; the attendance being 18,372, and the receipts £1,623 12s. 6d.

Although the game was played in a sporting spirit, injuries were prevalent on both sides. Dixon, the St. Helens loose forward, having to retire mid-way in the second half with a dislocated elbow; and Mitchell, our centre, played the greater portion of the second half on the wing suffering from concussion, the player not knowing the final result of the match. Other minor injuries on both sides was the order of the day, but again we say that all these injuries were because of vigorous tackling; and one must compliment the referee on his control of the game.

In the third round of the Challenge Cup, our luck has deserted us for the time being, and we are due to play away from Watersheddings, our destination being either Bradford or Wakefield.

These two clubs played at Wakefield on Saturday last, and a draw was the result, one try each, and the two clubs had agreed to play at Bradford last Wednesday, but The Cup and Rules Sub-Committee, after conversation with representatives of the National Coal Board, ordered the match to be played to-day, so as not to interfere with production, especially coal. There are several collieries in the Bradford and Wakefield district.

It is pleasing to note that the Rugby League have taken this step and have come into line with the Football Association with reference to the playing of these big matches in mid-week. Possibly we shall have evening matches after March 14th, the date which we shall have the extra hour of daylight.

It is regretted that our "A" team are not kept more active, but this is on account of the small Lancashire Combination League that is in operation in Lancashire. Of the thirteen Lancashire clubs (Workington included as Lancashire) all have "A" teams playing with the exception of Liverpool Stanley. This amounts to twenty-two matches being played, against thirty-six by our senior side; but with the playing of eight District Lancashire Junior League Teams makes our "A" matches up to thirty, which is not enough. There are several "A" teams in Lancashire who play only twenty-two matches.

We consider that the time is now opportune for the re-introduction of the Rugby League Combination which was last in operation in season 1938-39, when our "A" team had inter-county fixtures with Castleford, Hull and Leeds, which would avoid the inactivity of the "A" team. Our "A" team has had one match in the last four Saturdays. This is no good for the well being and development of our players. Training each Tuesday and Thursday is alright in its place, but the actual match practice is the best part of any training, and above all, the experience which is gained by the individual placing his ability against his opponents.

Last Saturday, our "A" team played at Leigh against Leigh "A" and gained their biggest away win of the season. They were up against no mean exponents of the game, seeing that Leigh had only lost three matches this season. Our winger, Hewson, had a good day, and ran in five tries. The team as a unit played very good football and eventually won by twenty-six points to five points.

OUR VISITORS.

To-day we entertain Leigh, a club that has been in the limelight recently through the acquisition of J. Ledgard, the England and Test Match full-back. There is no doubt that Ledgard is a brilliant full-back, and the fee that Leigh paid for his transfer from Dewsbury is the record for a Rugby League player.

In their ranks to-day is one of our old—though yet young in years—players in Ted Kerwick, who has now developed into a very good centre, and has rendered splendid service to Leigh.

Only last Saturday our visitors played against Warrington, at Warrington, but lost by eight points to two in the Cup-tie, which on the face of things was a very good performance, so we must realise that we are up against a team who will give very little away, and our players must be in top form to finish on the winning side.



TO-DAY'S TEAMS

OLDHAM

(BLUE & WHITE)

- 3 Goals*
TRY 2
1. BARRACLOUGH, I.
 2. INGLESFIELD, S.
 3. MITCHELL, W. S.
 4. MAHONEY, J. B.
 5. HARRIS, N.
 6. KENNY, V.
 7. SMITH, R. A. (Capt.)
 8. OGDEN, H.
 9. BROOKS, E.
 10. JONES, W. J.
 11. THOMAS, L. M.
 12. PUGH, N.
 13. GIVVONS, A.

LEIGH

(CHERRY & WHITE)

- 1 Dropkick*
1 Goal
2 TRY
2 Goals
1 TRY
1. LEDGARD, J. A.
 2. DAGNAN, H.
 3. DALEY, F.
 4. KERWICK, E.
 5. WOOD, J.
 6. ROWE, J.
 7. RILEY, P.
 8. MOUNTFORD, R.
 9. DAVIES, J.
 10. EDGE, A.
 11. MOORE, F.
 12. PAWSEY, C. H.
 13. CAYZER, J.

Reserves:

TOMLINSON, A.
HEWSON, P. E.
FROST, W.

Referee: Mr. G. S. PHILLIPS, Widnes.

Touch Judges: Mr. M. CARMODY, Wigan.

Mr. E. E. HILL, Wigan.