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OLDHAM v. ROCHDALE HORNETS

SATURDAY, APRIL 12th, 1952.

KICK-OFF 3-0 p.m.

Watersheddings News and Views.

Another victory was recorded on Saturday last against Belle Vue Rangers by seventeen points to three and our progress is still on the upgrade. Our team are fighting hard for a place in the first four of the Rugby League Table, every match to them is of a cup-tie nature, the tension of the matches are great but the team are playing with a cool and confident nature and if the spirit to win accomplishes a place in the first four our players will deserve the congratulations from friends and foes alike. Last Saturday was not conducive to open football owing to the heavy going and continual rain during the match, but the team played their usual type of football that attracts the crowd, we will agree that mistakes were made, but this can happen to any team when handling of the ball is difficult. Something attempted, something done has been a good motto during the season. Up to the present time we have the best home record in the Rugby League, having only lost one match at home and drawn one match. We have lost matches away by narrow margins, matches which we expected to win we have just lost, disappointments there must be, this is all in the game, but we have the satisfaction of knowing that our team have played football of the highest class. In the long history of this Club never have the National Press given the team so much publicity this season for their excellent play and upholding and showing how the Rugby League game should be played. The team have excelled themselves by their open play and the future is very bright from a playing and financial point.

Our Visitors.

Today we entertain old friends and foes in Rochdale Hornets, we welcome them to Watersheddings. Like many other Clubs the Hornets have had their ups and downs from a playing point and internal troubles, but now they are on a new era and we wish the new board of Directors success in their efforts to bring the Hornets back again to the greatness of the past. In the past the battles between the two clubs engaged today have been great and entertaining, and many memorial games have been staged at Watersheddings and Rochdale to capacity attendances. We hope the Hornets will achieve the come back of their past, it will be to the benefit of Clubs and to the game itself. Derby games when clubs are of equal standing from a playing point create greater interest, partisanship runs high and the rivalry becomes intense and attracts the crowd.

"A" Team.

It is not often that we comment upon our "A" Team in this programme, but we must congratulate them upon the splendid win at Whitehaven on

after the match visit the

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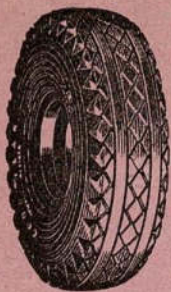
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8 OGDEN, H. 9 KEITH J. 10 DAY, B.

11 WINSLADE, C. 12 LITTLE, S. D.

13 GOLDSAIN, B. V. (Capt.)

Reserves: ANTHONY L. O'GRADY, T. TOMLINSON, A.

Referee: Mr. H. Harrison, Ossett.

Touch Judges: Mr. J. Woodward, St. Helens. (Red Flag). Mr. A. Kemp, Warrington
(Blue Flag).

12 ELLEAN.

12 SCHOFIELD. 11 SLATER.

10 FISHER. 9 WATT. 8 JIMMESON.

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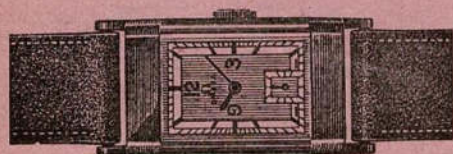
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Saturday last by nine points to two points. Some of our local players appear to be developing on the right lines, especially the forwards. In this department we appear to be well covered and it is the Committee's future policy to get the efficient cover or reserve strength in the backs for any emergency that may occur in the first team through injuries.

Junior attractions.

On Easter Monday morning the Continuation League stage their Howell Cup Final on this ground, the contesting teams are St. Patrick's v. Austerlands, and the kick-off is 11 a.m. Admission is 6d. adults and boys 2d. The source of revenue of the Continuation League is very limited and we appeal to all sportsmen to come along to this match and so help the finances of this League.

Play the Ball Law.

Amendment to the Play the Ball Law has been approved by the International Board and will be in operation next season. The chief points are as follows.

The tackled player must play the ball without delay and the tackler must release his hold on the tackled player immediately the tackle is effective.

The tackled player must drop the ball to the ground in front of him.

An offside player must be penalised if he takes advantage of his position and interferes with play.

The forwards on the tackled player's side must not obstruct by preventing opponents from advancing after the ball has been played. If a player accidentally loses possession of the ball after he has been tackled a scrum shall be formed at the spot. If he deliberately loses possession of the ball after being tackled a penalty shall be awarded against him.

Any player who is not nearer to his own goal line than the tackled player shall be offside and shall be penalised if he gains or attempts to gain an unfair advantage provided that such penalty is not to the disadvantage of the non-offending side.

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