

Player of the Year and Writer of the Year



BRIAN BEVAN

and

JIMMY BREEN



keep you up-to-the-minute on Rugby League
news and views in the

Evening Chronicle

and every Saturday in the **FOOTBALL PINK**

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LEIGH v. OLDHAM

Saturday, November 5th, 1955

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

CLUB NEWS AND VIEWS

Welcome to Kirkhall Lane again today, and a very special welcome to our near neighbours and friends from Watersheddings. After a rather poor start to the Season (at least for Oldham) they are now finding their feet again, and we can be sure of a real hard game today, with no quarter asked for or given by either side.

As we are a little in arrears with our fixtures, our place in the League table does not appear to be too happy and we are all the more anxious to secure the two points today, so we may climb a little higher in the league, at a time when points are precious.

Congratulations to Peter Foster, who has again been selected for Great Britain in the second Test Match at Odsal Stadium, Bradford on Saturday, 12th November. As it was to be expected, the selectors have relied on the same team that won so handsomely in the First Test at Swinton, the only change being Basil Watts, 28-year-old York second-row forward, who has taken the place of Don Robinson (Wakefield Trinity) who was injured after seven minutes at Swinton.

Good luck to you Peter.

NEWS OF PLAYERS

Frank Kitchen's injury has now been diagnosed as cartilage trouble, and he is expecting to go into hospital this week for an operation. We hope his operation will be 100% successful, and look forward to seeing him very soon in our first team again.

Jack Fleming pulled a thigh muscle at Salford and is expected to be out for two matches.

Jimmy Ledgerd and Mick Martyn are in the shadow team for the 2nd Test Match, and Mick is the first choice should any second-row men not be able to play.

OUR VISITORS

Like ourselves, Oldham were one of the original Clubs, in the historic breakaway from the Rugby Union in 1895, and held the distinction of supplying the Northern Union with its first Secretary—Mr. Joe Platt—a distinguished administrator who guided the new professional organisation for a quarter of a century.

It was in 1899 that Oldham occupied their present well-equipped home at Watersheddings and after the first world war became a power in the land. Their record in Rugby League Cup football was remarkable; reaching the Final in four successive years in 1924-5-6-7 and winning the trophy on the second and fourth occasions. They were champions in 1905, 1910 and 1911, and also won the N.U. Cup in 1899.

In their great days of 1920-30 they had some fine players, with a great pack including forwards such as Bob Sloman, Herman Hilton and A. Brough, and in the backs Guardsman Tom Rees (now a Referee), Jack Oster and Sid Rex ; whilst legendary stars of the earlier days were Jim Lomas (a centre of the classic mould), Alf Wood, G. Tyson, W. Longworth, A. Smith, W. Hall and D. Holland—everyone an international and Test Match player.

In recent seasons the team has exasperated its supporters by some very in and out form but the management have been alive to the weaknesses and have endeavoured to obviate them by recent signings.

No doubt they will be all out today to avenge the Lancashire Cup defeat at Watersheddings earlier in the season, and our boys will have to be on their toes today, if they are to secure two vital points.

K.O. TIMES

With effect from 16th November, 1955, until 22nd January, 1956, the k.o. times will be 2-30 p.m. and NOT 3-0 p.m. Will supporters please note the above revised time.

HOSPITAL COMMENTARY

Here are the names of the Hospital Commentators for today's match :-

B. Brogden, 33 Beech Walk, Leigh.

T. Magee, 275 Westleigh Lane, Leigh.

H. Brookes, Ellesmere Street, Leigh.

CUP FINAL TICKETS

In the past there has been a demand for seating tickets at the Cup Final which far exceeded the supply. Consequently organisations (e.g. clubs, leagues or individuals) were taking up block bookings of these tickets in the Autumn and then disposing of them a few weeks before the Final was played. Supporters wishing to attend the game would probably be a little bewildered to find the 'market' flooded with tickets in March when six months earlier the Rugby League had announced that all seating tickets were sold.

This season in an endeavour to ensure that tickets are sold direct to those wishing to go to the match, and not to those who wish to re-sell them at a later date, block bookings are being carefully scrutinised and broken down.

Supporters are warned that they may not now be able to obtain tickets in March as many have done in the past. A limited number of seating tickets (25/- ; 12/6 ; 10/6 and 6/6) are still available at the Rugby League Offices, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, 7.

If you want to see the game, place your order NOW and avoid disappointment.

The game will NOT be televised.

Standing enclosure tickets at 3/- are also available and can be reserved now at the above address.

FUTURE MATCHES AT KIRKHAL LANE

Saturday, 12th November, 1955—'A' v. Wigan 'A'—kick-off 3-0 p.m.

Saturday, 19th November, 1955—'A' v. Whitehaven 'A'—k.o. 2-30 p.m.

Saturday, 26th November, 1955—Leigh v. Swinton—kick-off 3-0 p.m.

HALF-TIME COLLECTION

The half-time collection today is for the Earl Haig Poppy Day Fund PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.

RECORDS OF LEAGUE MATCHES AGAINST OLDHAM SINCE 1946

Year	Result	HOME		Result	AWAY	
		For	Agst.		For	Agst.
1946/7	... Won ...	3	2	Won ...	13	7
1947/8	... Won ...	10	5	Lost ...	15	18
1948/9	... Drawn ...	0	0	Lost ...	0	11
1949/50	... Won ...	17	11	Lost ...	12	13
1950/1	... Won ...	10	5	Won ...	12	4
1951/2	... Lost ...	8	11	Lost ...	11	15
1952/3	... Won ...	17	13	Lost ...	2	9
1953/4	... Lost ...	9	17	Lost ...	7	20
1954/5	... Lost ...	10	22	Drawn ...	15	15

Played 9 Won 5 Lost 3 Drawn 1

Played 9 Won 2 Lost 6 Drawn 1

RECORDS OF CUP TIES AGAINST OLDHAM SINCE 1946

1946/7	... Lost ...	6	11	Lost ...	8	20	
Lancs. Cup				2nd Rd.			
2nd Rd. 1st leg				2nd leg			
1954/5	... Won ...	5	3	1951/2	Won ...	14	10
	R.L. Cup			Lancs. Cup			
	2nd Rd.			S.F.			
				1955/6	Won ...	13	11
				Lancs. Cup			
				2nd Rd.			

CLUB SCORING ANALYSIS

Before Saturday, 5th November, 1955.

Player	App.	Goals	Tries	Points
LEDGARD, J.	12	69	6	156
MARTYN, M.	13	—	11	33
DAVIES, M.	13	—	9	27
HOSKINS, J.	2	11	—	22
MOORE, A.	13	—	7	21
HOLDEN, K.	4	—	6	18
KINDON, W.	5	—	5	15
BARTON, J.	7	—	5	15
CHADWICK, B.	10	—	4	12
HUTSON, E.	3	—	3	9
TABERN, W.	14	—	3	9
GULLICK, D.	9	—	3	9
O'BRIEN, T.	4	—	2	6
OWEN, S.	11	—	2	6
FLEMING, J.	4	—	2	6
FOSTER, P.	12	—	2	6
HURT, D.	8	—	1	3
BAXTER, K.	11	—	1	3
CROOK, J.	7	—	1	3
DICKENS, M.	2	—	1	3
McFARLANE, W.	2	—	1	3

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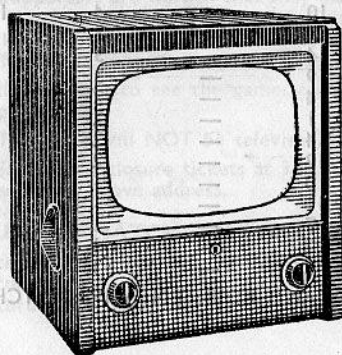
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21	LEIGH (Blue)	H.T. 12	H.F. 10	OLDHAM (Red and White)	30
	1—LEDGARD			1—STIRRUP	
	2—HOLDEN			2—CRACKNELL	
	3—GULLICK			3—NOON	
	4—GIBSON			4—DAVIES (Capt.)	
	5—MOORE			5—ETTY	
	6—CHADWICK			6—DALEY/KELLETT	
	7—FALLON			7—PITCHFORD	
	8—BARTON			8—OGDEN/JACKSON	
	9—TABERN			9—KEITH	
	10—OWEN			10—LITTLE	
	11—HURT			11—ROGERS	
	12—MARTYN DAVIES, P			12—GOLDSWAIN	
	13—FOSTER			13—TURNER	

Referee : Mr. G. S. PHILLIPS (Widnes)

Touch Judges :

Mr. A. Kemp (Warrington) Mr. E. S. London (Cumberland)
(red flag) (blue flag)

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HERE AND THERE

The second World Cup series will take place in Australia in 1957—Australia's Jubilee year.

The 1906/7 Annual Report of the Northern Rugby Football Union (as the Rugby League was then called) there is the following paragraph :—

“Arrangements were made for a visit of a representative New Zealand Team to play Counties and Clubs in membership with the Northern Union.”

That team, led by pioneer A. H. Baskerville played matches in Australia en route to England and led to the formation of the Australian and New Zealand Leagues. In 1957, the World Cup Series will be a wonderful Jubilee of that historic tour.

The Kiwis will tour France after leaving this country and hope to play a game in the States on their way home.

The Courtney Goodwill Trophy which was presented by New Zealander Mr. R. O. Courtney, for International Competition, is at present in France. The International Board decided that henceforth the country having the best International record over each period of four years shall be the holders of the Trophy for the ensuing four year cycle. The first holders, under the new system will be determined in 1957 at the conclusion of the current four year cycle.

The rotation of International Tours is under consideration. The four year cycle is still preferred but the order in which teams undertake tours may be amended. At present France and England visit 'down under' in successive years, and Australia and New Zealand then visit Europe in successive years. It is thought that it is preferable to alternate the visits. For example, if approved, the next four year cycle would be :—

1957	World Cup
1958	Great Britain tour Australia and New Zealand
1959/60	New Zealand tour England and France
1960	France tour Australia and New Zealand
1960/1	Australia tour England and France.

The Kiwis attended a Dance after the match on Wednesday at the Casino, given in their honour by the Supporters' Club. Each member of the party was presented with a writing set as a memento of their visit to Leigh.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

Hello there,

Would you like to contribute to these notes ? All you need is a postcard, a stamp and one or two ideas. Could you, for example, compile a list of five questions relating to our game that would test the Rugby League knowledge of your fellow spectators while they are waiting for

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the match to start ? If you can, then send them to me on a postcard and I will see that they are printed and acknowledged. Don't forget to supply the answers as well. Or perhaps you can express your opinion on some topical point in a few sentences. For instance, do you agree with the sportswriter who wrote, "Forwards today are too anxious to be among the try scorers. Their real job is to shove their hearts out in the scrum." If you have questions or an opinion then send them to me at 247 Devonshire Road, Atherton and include your membership number if you are a member of the Supporters' Club.

Stand tickets for last Saturday's 'A' team game went to No. 0310 J. Speakman, 216 Firs Lane, Leigh and Ground Tickets to No. 1042 A. H. Smith, 16 Edward Street, Leigh. For today's game D. R. Melling of 596 Wigan Road, Atherton, received the Stand tickets and the Ground tickets go to Mr. W. Pomfret, 106 Nel Pan Lane, Leigh.

Congratulations again to Peter Foster on retaining the loose forward berth in the Test side. Would anyone care to nominate the next Leigh player to win a cap ?

After their phenomenal run of success of last season Oldham are having a spell of uncertainty. No doubt they will be out to avenge the Cup defeat earlier this season and we should see a heartwarming game this afternoon. Welcome to those who have come to shout for the "Ruffiys," and may they see football of a character to keep them warm on the terraces.

By the way, have you see the ball point pens in Leigh colours and inscribed with "Leigh Rugby F.C. Supporters' Club" ? They're a neat job and a bargain at 2/6 each.

S.W.

FIXTURES AND RESULTS

1955	First Team	F	A	1955	'A' Team	F	A
Aug. 13	Widnes (C.C.)	H	29 24	Aug. 13	Widnes (C.C.)	A	16 13
20	Leeds ...	H	28 25	27	Widnes ...	A	9 34
24	Swinton ...	A	21 12		Shield-1st Lg.		
27	1st Rd. L. Cup	H	71 14	31	Widnes ...	H	24 11
Sep. 3	Belle Vue ...	H	...		Shield-2nd Lg.		
10	Hull ...	A	23 28	10	St. Helens (F)	H	40 6
17	Hudd'field ...	H	38 11	14	St. Helens (F)	A	P
24	Bradford ...	A	16 35	17			
Oct. 1	Hull ...	H	24 21	24	Wigan (F)	H	34 12
8				28	Leeds (F)	H	31 5
15	Bradford ...	H	...		k.o. 7p.m.		
19	Inter'tional M.	H	...	Oct. 1			
22	Wigan ...	H	10 14	8	Swinton ...	H	...
29	Salford ...	A	21 12	15			
Nov. 2	N. Zealand 7 pm	H	14 13	22	Wigan ...	A	...
5	Oldham ...	H	...	29	Salford ...	H	...
12	Wigan ...	A	...	Nov. 5	Oldham ...	A	...
19	Whitehaven ...	A	...	12	Wigan ...	H	...
26	Swinton ...	H	...	19	Whitehaven ...	H	...
Dec. 3	Leeds ...	A	...	26	Swinton ...	A	...
10	Widnes ...	H	...	3	Hud'field (F)	H	...
17	Blackpool ...	A	...	10	Widnes ...	A	...
24	Blackpool ...	H	...	17	Blackpool ...	H	...
26	St. Helens ...	A	...	24	Blackpool ...	A	...
27	Warrington ...	H	...	26	St. Helens ...	H	...
31	Workington ...	A	...	27	Warrington ...	A	...
1956				31	Workington ...	H	...
Jan. 2	St. Helens ...	H	...	Jan. 2	St. Helens ...	A	...
7	Rochdale... ..	A	...	7	Rochdale... ..	H	...
14	Whitehaven ...	H	...	14	Whitehaven ...	A	...
21	Liverpool ...	A	...	21	Liverpool ...	H	...
28	Barrow ...	H	...	28	Barrow ...	A	...
Feb. 4	Oldham ...	A	...	Feb. 4	Oldham ...	H	...
11	1st Rd. R.L. Cup			11	1st Rd. R.L. Cup		
18	Salford ...	H	...	18	Salford ...	A	...
25	Belle Vue ...	A	...	25	Oldham (F)	A	...
Mar. 3	2nd Rd. R.L. Cup			Mar. 3	2nd Rd. R.L. Cup		
10	Widnes ...	A	...	10	Widnes ...	H	...
17	Liverpool ...	H	...	17	Liverpool ...	A	...
24	Barrow ...	A	...	24	Barrow ...	H	...
30	Rochdale... ..	H	...	30	Rochdale... ..	A	...
31	Hud'field 5-15	A	...	31	Oldham (F)	H	...
Apr. 2	Warrington ...	A	...	Apr. 2	Warrington ...	H	...
7	Workington ...	H	...	7	Workington ...	A	...

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