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Fixtures for the Season

Date	Opponents	Venue	Date	Opponents	Venue
Aug. 9—Rochdale Hornets	Away		25—Swinton	Home	2-30
16—Ha'ifax	Home	3-0	26—Hunslet	Away	
19—Blackpool	Away		27—St Helens	Away	
23—Wakefield	Away				
30—Whitehaven (L.C.)	Home	3-0	1959		
Sept. 2—Workington	Home	6-15	Jan. 3—Leigh	Home	2-30
6—Halifax	Away		10—Barrow	Away	
13—Wakefield	Home	3-0	17—St Helens	Home	2-30
20—Rochdale H.	Away		24—Salford	Home	3-0
27—Blackpool	Home	3-0	31—Leeds	Away	
Oct. 4—Warrington	Away		Feb. 7—Warrington	Home	3-0
11—Rochdale H.	Home	3-0	14—Leigh	Away	
18—Liverpool	Away		21—R.L. Cup		
25—Hunslet	Home	3-0	28—Whitehaven	Away	
Nov. 1—Featherstone	Away		Mar. 7—R.L. Cup		
8—Featherstone	Home	3-0	14—Hull	Away	
15—Salford	Away		21—Barrow	Home	3-0
22—Leeds	Home	2-30	27—Swinton (G.F.)	Away	
29—Wigan	Away		28—E.S.		
Dec. 6—Widnes	Home	2-30	30—Hull (E.M.)	Home	3-0
13—Workington	Away		April 4—Liverpool	Home	3-0
20—Wigan	Home	2-30	11—Widnes	Away	
			18—Whitehaven	Home	3-0

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OLDHAM v. BLACKPOOL

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS & VIEWS

We are still marching on to victory and since our defeat at Wakefield on August 23rd we have won six consecutive matches. Some of the games we have played have not lived up to the reputation of the **GAME**. Although we are delighted with our victory against Wigan in the second round of the Lancashire Cup we are not enthusiastic in "playing the game over again" by the standard it attained. The match against Wakefield on the previous Saturday was a game worth watching and certainly entertaining, the good play of both sides was a delight to watch, both sides giving the ball freedom and which was appreciated by our spectators by the applause they gave our visitors in their efforts to play the game and not the man. The "he man" stuff that is creeping into our game is not doing the game or the players any good, it appears to go worse and it is time a stop was put to end this playing the man instead of the ball. The big majority of spectators do not want it, it is evident by the drawing power of some clubs that they would be well advised to play the game according to the book. Evidence of this rough and tumble is that in the last four matches we have played in four of our players have had to have stitches for face injuries. These injuries cannot be caused in the hurly burly of the game such as a collision, but are caused by a fist or elbow of an opponent. The decision to clean this state of affairs up is round each board room table and directors and committee's of the clubs should insist on their players playing the game. The season has not long been on its way and several players have come under the ban of the referee, both by dismissal from the field and players having their name taken. Any player that has his name taken on the field of play is reported to Rugby League Headquarters and if he is later dismissed from the field all the warnings are taken into consideration for whatever suspension he may receive.

LANCASHIRE CUP

The one redeeming feature of our cup-tie against Wigan is that we won the match and now have a home semi-final game against Widnes on Tuesday evening next. It is a little compensation for our home defeat from Wigan at Watersheddings in the Challenge Cup last February. Our victory by 19 points to 7 points is a coincidence that in the League match of April 5th last we defeated them by the same score. The 20,500 spec-

THE BABES ARE MAKING STRIDES

By Cyril Briggs

Blackpool Borough, the Babes of the Rugby League, are striving hard indeed to put the game on a sound basis on the Fylde coast. Many years ago games were played at the Blackpool Soccer ground and elsewhere in the seaside town but these R.L. matches were organised to help certain charitable objects.

I remember one occasion when the Corsi Brothers of Rochdale and Tot Wallace of Barrow (later with St. Helens Rec.) figured in a game at the Bloomfield Road ground which was pretty well filled with people who were seeing the Rugby code for the very first time. The only reference to the game in the official programme was that a try equalled three points and a goal two points! The spectators were often puzzled on what was taking place, and it was the job of the Rugby League chaps (then the Northern Union) who were there to try to explain to the Soccer folk a few of the chief rules.

BETTER PROPAGANDA

Now happily things have changed. We get better propaganda methods although a great deal remains to be done in this direction. When Swinton were in the top flight (as they are at the moment) they played a game at Fleetwood. Among those taking part was Mr. Chris Brockbank, the former Warrington secretary-manager who is now a director at Blackpool, and has done so much for the R.L. game in the seaside town.

Blackpool Borough won headlines when they played the New Zealand Touring side. They actually drew with the Tourists and it was a great day for the R.L. game on the West coast. Wally McArthur, now with Salford, was one of Blackpool's stars (he may be with the Warrington Club by the time these notes appear in type). That result really put the club on its feet.

Then came the dramatic win against Wakefield Trinity in the R.L. Challenge Cup tourney. This set the R.L. alight again and when the next round was played against Leigh at Bloomfield Road, 20,000 people saw that tremendous struggle. Unfortunately for the Borough, they finished on the wrong side, but their tremendous spirit won for them additional public support. It is indeed a hard tussle for a new club to make ground in what has been a hot bed of Soccer for many years, especially when you remember that the Blackpool Soccer club has had so many great players including Stan Matthews (still going strong) and Stan Mortenson.

MANY SURPRISES

So the Borough have to struggle on. They have created many surprises, and only last Saturday they defeated Leigh. Other clubs have had to bow the knee to the Borough, and while no honours have yet arrived at Blackpool, it is hoped that the time will not be far distant when a Rugby cup of some kind will be on show on the Golden mile!

Actually there is a Rugby League competition at Blackpool. Some of the best amateur teams in Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cumberland take part in an annual tournament at the St. Annes Greyhound Stadium.

Efforts are also being made to start amateur clubs in the area and one club plays in the West Lancashire League. This club comes from Thornton Cleveleys, and others may be on the way. One of the main snags is travel, but if a Fylde League could be formed then clubs from Preston, Lancaster and Morecambe could join up.

TRIBUTE TO JIMMY

A lot of hard cash and great endeavour has gone into the Blackpool Borough club, and it is hoped that they will weather the storm which is bound to hit new clubs.

One of their stars, he is almost Blackpool born, is Jimmy Walsh a great forward, who has been selected as reserve for Lancashire County on two or three occasions. This week Brennan was chosen as scrum half for Lancashire against Yorkshire at Hull Kingston Rovers ground. He is the first Borough man to get into the county team.

While the Borough have not really played so well this season, they have won but three games there is a feeling that the side should settle down and again cause some shocks to the teams who are in the fashionable group.

Everyone wishes the Borough success in their efforts to make a mark in the R.L. world. It will be a tremendous struggle, but when we recall the efforts that have been put in at Workington, Whitehaven, Liverpool and Doncaster then we think that Blackpool will eventually make the grade.

They are a sporting lot of chaps those Borough players and one of their stalwarts for a long while was Peter Fearis who was on Oldham's books for some time. Peter is now one of the league's leading goal-kickers and looks like keeping a regular place in the crack St. Helens team.

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- 3—DAVIES A.
- 4—NOON J. 2T. 7G.
- 5—~~ETTY J. SIMS~~ 9 2T.
- 6—STIRRUP F. 1T.
- 7—HATHERALL B.
- 8—ROWBOTTOM R.
- 9—KEITH J. 1T.
- 10—~~JACKSON K. DUFFY~~
- 11—~~DUFFY R. MCKEOWN~~
- 12—~~MCKEOWN D. LITTLE~~ 2T.
- 13—~~LITTLE S. TURNER~~

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- 4—RYDER R.
- 5—MORGAN F.
- 6—BRENNAN J.
- 7—DUNN J.
- 8—FISHER R.
- 9—LANNAN S.
- 10—GRUNDY T.
- 11—PARKER R.
- 12—STANDISH H.
- 13—KNOWLES W.

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Mr. H. Holland, St. Helens (Crimson)

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OUR VISITORS

To-day we entertain the Blackpool club in the return league match and offer them a welcome to Watersheddings. We visited Blackpool on August 19th and returned successful by 34 points to 12 points. One star we shall miss from the Blackpool team is one of our old players, Peter Fearis (transferred to St. Helens), although the team contains some very capable players, notably Brennan, an out half who can also equally play scrum half, and whom the Blackpool club put in the £6,000 class.

Our visitors are always creating surprises and last Saturday beat a strong Leigh team at Blackpool by 8 points to 7 points. Another of our old players, Lionel Emmitt is now on the transfer list for £2,000. It is amazing how the value of players has increased when Emmitt was transferred from this club to Blackpool in 1954 the sum was £450.

We hope that to-days game will be interesting and victorious for us and without any injuries as we are looking forward to a clean bill of health for the semi-final of the Lancashire Cup against Widnes on Tuesday evening next.

WIN AT HORNETS

Our visit to Rochdale on Saturday last produced an exciting game and we had thrills galore and one of the most exciting finishes to a game we have taken part in for some time. When all seemed lost in the last two minutes when we were losing by 13 points to 12 points victory was snatched by a master goal by John Noon. What a goal this was. Picture the scene when Noon placed the ball 40 yards out midway between touch and half way, the player knowing what depended on his effort, the tension and hitting the ball correctly. The kick and the ball sailed high between the posts much to the delight of our players. The game was not over and the Hornets had a great chance of snatching victory in a last minute effort when a pass given at the correct time would have given them victory, but it was not to be. Any team must have luck and the run of the ball must favour them, but we must admit that in this match we were lucky to come away with two points. The great blot on the game was the dismissal from the field of Ganley and Smith from the respective sides after twenty minutes of play.

REFEREE APPOINTMENTS

Oct. 4—~~Warrington v. Oldham~~—Mr. M. Coats
 11—~~Oldham v. Rochdale~~—Mr. J. Flanagan
 18—~~Liverpool v. Oldham~~—Mr. T. W. Watkinson
 25—~~Oldham v. Huddersfield~~—Mr. A. Howgate

LIST OF BEST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(Up to and including Saturday last)

Player	A.	G.	T.	Player	A.	G.	T.
Ganley	10	48	1	Winslade	10		3
Cracknell	10		5	Little	6		2
Nestor	3		1	Daley	1		
Ayres	5		1	Noon	5	4	1
Etty	4		2	Edwards	2		
Kellett	10		5	Vines	5		
Jones	2		2	Turner	9		1
Rowbottom	6		1	Stirrup	4		
Keith	10		5	McKeown	7		2
Lomas	2			Sims	5		3
Davies	6		8	Hatherall	1		
Pitchford	3		1				
Dufty	4		1				

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Leeds	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	St. Helens	Swinton	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow	.....			8-7											25-5
Blackpool		.....				12-34						23-20	9-21		
Leeds		32-20	.....		59-20										
Leigh				.....			21-5			9-22					20-15
Liverpool				20-16	.....										
OLDHAM						.....									30-4
Rochdale						13-14	.....	16-26	5-15						
Salford								.....							
St. Helens									.....		15-7				
Swinton	13-6									.....		25-10	6-0		
Warrington			32-15		23-26				15-29		.....				
Whitehaven												.....			24-12
Widnes							34-11		25-16		13-17		.....		
Wigan	49-16													.....	
Workington								19-12				17-9	14-34		.....

Home Team on left Away Team on top Home Team's score given first

Lancashire Cup continued:

tators must have expected something better than they got, but this match had the tension of a cup-tie and the winners to receive a home semi-final or possible detriment of the match by the cup-tie bonus that is offered in cup-ties. It is a known fact that large bonuses are offered for a win and both teams cannot win there must be a loser, and the gap between winning pay and losing pay is too great to make the game attractive, players realise this and the game is set accordingly. Smaller bonuses and increased losing pay would, we think, make the game worth while.

THE LEADING LEAGUE SCORERS TO DATE

GOALS			
Fearis, (St. Helens)	50	Stephenson, (Workington)	26
Bateson, (Hull)	48	Hunt, (Leigh)	26
Ganley, (Oldham)	46	TRIES	
Jones, (Leeds)	46	Vollenhoven, (St. Helens)	14
Yorke, (York)	42	Myler, (Widnes)	12
Dawson, (Widnes)	40	Smith, (Wakefield)	11
Wilson, (Bramley)	39	Williams, (Halifax)	11
Fox, (Wakefield)	38	Hemmingway, (Leeds)	11
Langton, (Hunslet)	36	McIntyre, (Barrow)	10
Thompson, (Batley)	36	Jones, (Leeds)	9
Fraser, (Warrington)	31	Hannery, (York)	9
Bosworth, (Dewsbury)	31	Greenough, (Warrington)	9
Gowers, Swinton	30	Bevan, (Warrington)	9
Dawes, (Barrow)	30	Davies, (Oldham)	8
Owen, (Halifax)	28	Hodgkinson, (Leeds)	8
Lunn, (Castleford)	28	Boston, (Wigan)	8
Twiss, (Liverpool)	28	Burnett, (Halifax)	8

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