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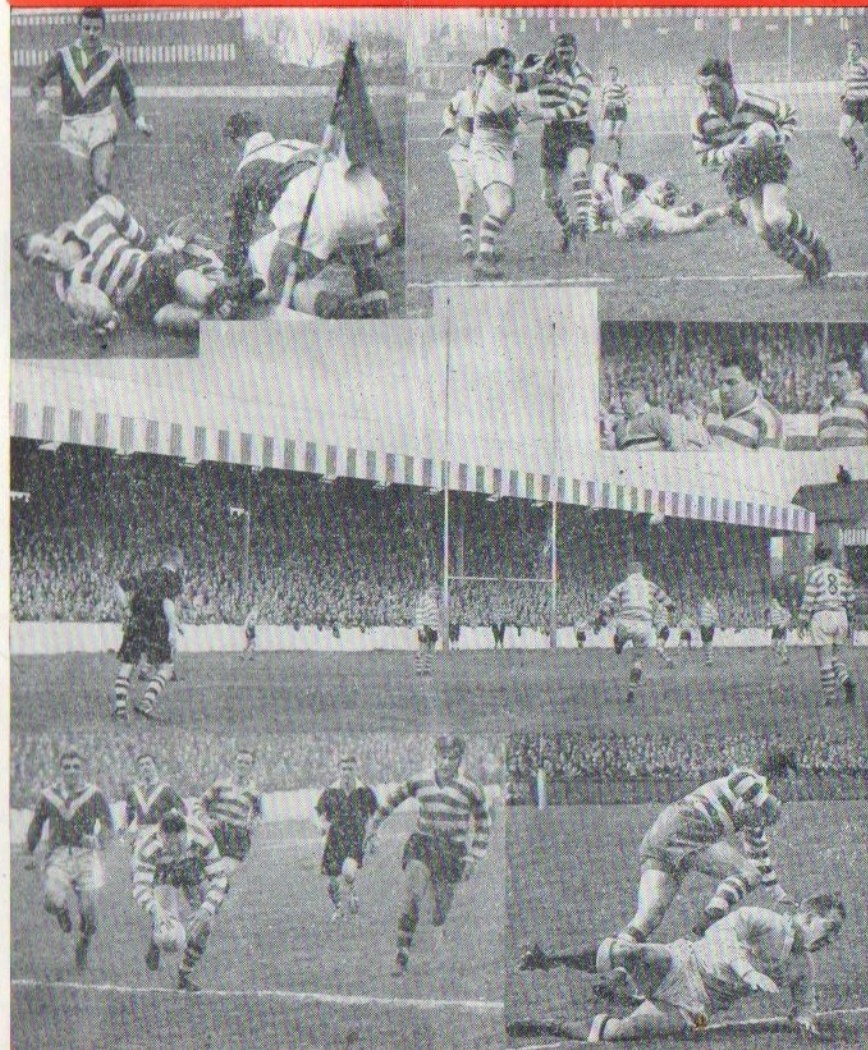
Fixtures for the Season

Date	CLUB	Grd.	F. A.
1960			
Aug. 6	ROCHDALE (Charity)	away	
13	ST. HELENS	home	
17	WARRINGTON	away	.....
20	LEEDS	away	.....
27	WIGAN, Lancs. Cup 1st Rd.	away	.....
30	LEIGH	home	.....
Sept. 3	FEATHERSTONE R.	away	.....
10	HALIFAX	home	.....
17	ST. HELENS	away	.....
20	FEATHERSTONE R.	home	.....
24	WORLD CUP		.....
27	BLACKPOOL B.	away	.....
Oct. 1	WORLD CUP		.....
8	WORLD CUP		.....
15	HULL K. R.	away	.....
22	WIDNES	home	.....
29	ROCHDALE H.	away	.....
Nov. 5	LIVERPOOL C.	home	.....
12	KEIGHLEY	away	.....
19	SALFORD	home	.....
26	WHITEHAVEN	away	.....
Dec. 3	LEEDS	home	.....
10	WIGAN	away	.....

Date	CLUB	Grd.	F. A.
1961			
17	BLACKPOOL B.	home	.....
24	LEIGH	away	.....
26	SWINTON	home	.....
31	BARROW	away	.....
Jan. 2	WORKINGTON	away	.....
7	HALIFAX	away	.....
14	WARRINGTON	home	.....
21	LIVERPOOL CITY	away	.....
28	WIGAN	home	.....
Feb. 4	BARROW	home	.....
11	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP 1st RD.		.....
18	HULL K. R.	home	.....
25	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP 2nd RD.		.....
Mar. 4	SALFORD	away	.....
11	WIDNES	away	.....
18	WORKINGTON TOWN	home	.....
25			.....
31	SWINTON	away	.....
Apr. 1	WHITEHAVEN	home	.....
3	ROCHDALE H.	home	.....
8			
15	R. L. CHALLENGE CUP SEMI-FINAL		
22			
29	KEIGHLEY	home	

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

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SEASON - 1960-61

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME - - 3d.

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H. Goodwin, T. E. Rees, R. L. Thomas, E. Watkins

Club Doctors: Dr. A. CAMPBELL, Dr. A. R. NETTLETON

Manager-Coach: A. J. RISMAN

Secretary: H. SUMMERSCALES

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No. 12, Saturday, January, 28th, 1961

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. WIGAN

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

What an unfortunate ground the Liverpool City arena has been to us both from a playing point of view and an accident point. First let us say that we have been beaten at Liverpool in the past and deservedly beaten by better players that has represented this club at present, so all honour goes to the Liverpool boys for their enthusiasm. As to accidents on the field these have all been accidental and it always goes that way that some teams get the worst of the bad knocks.

Our visit on Saturday last to the City ground was taken with optimism, our players knew quite well that a victory must be secured to keep in the top half of the League table, but in the first half we received the usual shock from our opponents by their dour tactics and we only managed to keep in front by 12 points to 10 points.

However, the second half told a different tale and our team stayed the better of the two and with a plentiful supply of the ball by our hooker, Peter Goddard, we saw glimpses of the football our backs are capable of in spite of the very heavy conditions of the ground and ran out comfortable winners by 28 points to 10 points.

The match was marred by an unfortunate accident to our ace scrum half, Frank Pitchford, a dislocated shoulder being his lot as a result of a tackle. This will keep Frank out of football for at least six weeks at a very important part of the season including the first round of the Challenge Cup at Hull on February 11th.

The Committee lost no time in securing a capable deputy in signing Jack Pyecroft from the Leeds Club, and we have hopes that this new player will fill the bill. Jack has had plenty of experience with the Leeds Club, and we hope that his debut today will be as successful as the committee have confidence in their enterprise.

OUR VISITORS

Today we have welcome visitors from Wigan and what club in the League does not look forward to receiving such worthy opponents as Wigan. Their name is a household word throughout the world, and what more consistent team has there been during the last decade has this famous Wigan Club.

So welcome to Wigan not only from a playing point but from a financial point of view. Their team today is minus two of their stars in Boston and McTighe, who are playing for Gt. Britain v. France at St. Helens, but nevertheless have some capable deputies on view.

The amazing fact that out of the 13 players as listed by this programme only three are not Wigan born. Griffiths is a South African, Ashton comes from St. Helens also Carlton from St. Helens, all the other players are Wigan products, in fact the Wigan pack consists of products of the local league.

Wigan so far this season have played 22 matches won 14 and lost 8.

This season they have parted with two star backs in Sullivan, transferred to St. Helens and Holden who is now playing for Oldham, but they are still capable of producing the best that stands for Rugby League and we hope that today will be no exception and that the usual fine game will be witnessed by all.

THE GAME

What is wrong with our game, the attendances still on the decline although last Saturday the weather was not conducive to bring people out of doors, the least we can say is that the attendances were staggering and it makes one wonder where it will end. Is the game attractive enough? Or are the grounds of the various clubs suitably protected against the weather for spectators. There could be other matters and there is no doubt that the taste of the public is also changing. You have got to give the best and make people come along and patronize you.

The amenities of all grounds should be brought up to a standard for comfort. We find that there is a greater demand for a person to have a seat and well protected from the weather, more conveniences by way of toilets of a first class nature for both sexes, the provision of bars for the sale of intoxicants and tea and coffee are the amenities that should be offered to the present day intending spectator.

What of two divisions in the Rugby League, some people say that this would bring some clubs in the second division near the border line of extinction, but look at the "gates" some clubs are getting today, extinction faces them now, and it is only by subsidiary donations from Pools etc. that is keeping some clubs alive today.

Today it is only the battle of the giants of our game that attracts the big crowds. People are tired of witnessing the same old faces and the same old struggling teams. Something will have to be created, and we see no harm in trying two divisions which would create a new and vital competition, then we should see whether people would come back to our game through the turnstiles. Drastic decreases require drastic remedies and it is up to all clubs to see the light of day by improving our game and make it once more the attractiveness it once held. Action must be taken before it is too late before some clubs call it a day.

Saturday next at Watersheddings,

OLDHAM v. BARROW

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

List of Players, Birthplace, Weight and Height

	st.	lbs.	ft.	ins.		st.	lbs.	ft.	ins.
Byrne, B., Leigh	12		5	7	Mumberson, A., Ap'ia	15	4	6	
Buckley, J., Oldham ...	12	8	5	10	Needham, R., Oldham	12	6	5	11
Cawthra, D., Halifax ...	13		5	10	Nestor V., Leigh	12	4	5	10
Cracknell R., Hud'field	13	4	5	11	Noon, J., Oldham ...	12	6	5	11
Davies, A., Leigh	13	10	5	10	O'Brien, J., Oldham ...	11	10	5	10
Dufty, R., Oxford ...	14	6	6	1	Ogden, T., Oldham ...	14	2	6	
Edwards, J., St. Helens	13		5	10	Parker, D., Raw'stall	14		6	2
Fox, A., War'ton	12		5	10	Parker, P., Cas'ford ...	13		5	8
Ganley, W. B., Leigh	13	3	5	10	Parker, T., Cas'ford ...	13	10	5	11
Goddard, P., Sheffield	14	3	5	10	Patterson W., Oldham	10	1	5	9
Goddard, D., Sheffield	11	2	5	10	Payne, W., L'pool	15	8	6	
Govan, J. C., G'borne	12	6	5	9	Pendlebury B., Leigh	13		5	9
Gray, T. W., M/cr. ...	14	4	6		Petley, J., War'ton ...	12	2	5	9
Hatherall, B., Leigh ...	11	8	5	7	Pitchford, F., Leigh ...	11	7	5	8
Haynes G., War'ton ...	13	6	6		Pugsley, R., Bridgend	13	10	5	11
Jackson, K., Oldham...	15		6	1	Quinlan, S., Cork	12	11	5	11
Jones, A., Oldham ...	10	10	5	7	Robinson, G., Flimby	15	6	6	
Kellett, A. B., H'fax ...	12	4	5	10	Rae, J., Work'ton	13	6	6	
Lloyd, K., Leigh	13		5	11	Sims, G., Leigh	11	9	5	10
Lomas, H., Oldham ...	15		5	11	Stirrup, F., Leigh	10	7	5	5
Lord, B., Oldham ...	12	6	5	10	Warburton G. War'ton	13	8	5	10
McIntyre, L., Wigan...	13	7	5	10	Winslade, C., Maesteg	15	6	6	

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- 6—KELLETT A. B.
- 7—PYECROFT J.
- 8—PAYNE W.
- 9—GODDARD P.
- 10—DUFTY R.
- 11—WINSLADE C.
- 12—ROBINSON G.
- 13—PARKER G.D.

Referee:

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- 1—GRIFFITHS W. F.
- 2—FENTON S. J.
- 3—ASHTON E.
- 4—BOOTLE J.
- 5—CARLTON F.
- 6—BOLTON D. R.
- 7—ENTWISTLE T. W.
- 8—BARTON J. T.
- 9—SAYER W.
- 10—WOOSEY T.
- 11—COLLIER F.
- 12—LYON G.
- 13—EVANS R.

Touch Judges:

Mr. S. Webb, War'ton (Yellow)
Mr. W. E. Rigby, Leigh (Crim.)

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MORE ADVANTAGES FOR PENALTY AWARDS?

writes Cyril Briggs

Judged on Soccer football standards, the R.L. penalty law is not, in the main, so severe on the offending team. Of course, if you throw away too many penalties in your own half at R.L. football the consequences may be serious, especially if your opponents have a goal kicker above normal average.

The other day I witnessed two so-called smart teams in action, but the referee was constantly tootling on his whistle and pulling up players who infringed the off-side law, especially when the ball was being brought back into play after a tackle.

A team which has been hard pressed and is awarded a penalty kick can do no other than bang the ball into touch sometimes only a small piece of territory.

A penalty kick under the circumstances I have just mentioned, can often be marked down as a handicap, particularly if there is anything like a strong wind blowing into the faces of the team receiving the kick. It means that only a few yards are gained and from the resultant scrum-mage the ball may be lost as far as possession goes.

Not so at soccer, because the offending side keeps its fingers crossed in the hope that their own goal-keeper will be equal to the occasion or that the penalty taker will be off target.

CLOSE MARKING

Rugby League football is being spoilt at the moment through certain team's deciding on the policy of close marking. This tactic is, of course, in the category of "spotting" and is really negative play.

To stop negative play in the professional rugby game the authorities will have to bring about sterner measures. A directive went out a short while ago from the R.L. Headquarters in Leeds, instructing referees that they must come down heavier than ever on the shoulders of the persistent offenders.

Persistent offenders can now be sent off the field for rule breaking. Actually this law has been in operation for a considerable time, but referees have been reluctant to operate it except around and in the scrummage.

I think it would be better if the team receiving a penalty award were given at least 10 yards advantage, that is to say extra ground, before the actual kick was taken.

SHARP PRACTICES

For years the R.L. game has been spoilt by those players who are keen to cheat the laws. It has meant that some well-intentioned rules have had to be altered because of these unsporty types who are keen at all cost to adopt sharp practices.

Many times it is somewhat difficult to single out these men who want to win at all costs. But spectators are becoming so annoyed with close marking and negative play that they are refusing to pay at the turnstiles, so much so that club officials have become alarmed at dwindling attendances.

The R.L. game on its formation was meant to be a spectacle and not just a pastime for those taking part in the match, as is the case with another rugby code.

Open play, and more open play, is called for in R.L. We saw this type of play for several seasons after the war and attendances of up to 45,000 were in vogue at some of the venues like Wigan and Leeds and for ordinary league games at that.

Unfortunately, in the Rugby League game at the moment there are officials who instruct players to win at all costs. This means trying to beat the referee and also the laws of the game. If we are to get back to the golden era with people clamouring for admittance at the turnstiles, then there must be concentration on open play and less attention paid to the negative stuff. Finally, let us have more advantage in penalty awards.

LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

(League and Cup Matches only—including Law Cup)

Player	A.	T.	G.	Player	A.	T.	G.
Southward	18	14		Kellett	21	10	1
Noon	22	11	10	Mumberson	5	1	
Davies	20	3		Winslade	21		
Quinlan	6	3		Goddard D.	4		
Nestor	8	1		Parker T.	5	1	
Pitchford	20	5		Sims	2		1
Payne	24	1		Goddard P.	7	1	
McIntyre	19	5		Patterson	14	10	
Duffy	23	4		Hatherall	3		
Warburton	5	1		Lerd	4	2	
Robinson	20	6		Parker D.	11	3	
Ganley	20		70	Holden K.	7	3	
Gray	1			Jones	1		

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Halifax	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	St. Helens	Swinton	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow	...	3-3				11-2	15-3	15-0	15-29			2-13	17-9		5-26
Blackpool	11-2	...	8-8	10-7		10-11			13-24		8-20		10-13	12-24	5-20
Halifax			...		18-0		11-5				8-4	17-7	15-5		22-12
Leigh		16-5	15-9	...		13-4			13-28					7-25	18-3
Liverpool	9-14		9-31	2-10	...	10-28	4-11	22-26			3-30		7-16		
OLDHAM			17-15	9-12	49-12	...		37-0	16-4	4-6			25-5		
Rochdale			13-20			14-29	...		5-38	4-45	0-27		9-2		4-17
Salford	9-0		11-17	4-17			20-9	...	5-17	5-24			18-9		20-8
St. Helens				10-4	17-9	26-12	51-4					18-8		11-6	47-2
Swinton	33-9		15-5		47-3							36-13	21-5	10-12	30-0
Warrington		28-2		3-4	38-5	25-9	25-0	48-4	5-8	9-25		45-7			42-9
Whitehaven	20-5	12-13			15-0	2-16		13-0			2-31			14-2	16-3
Widnes	26-13		10-5				28-14			7-12	10-14	17-6	...	5-3	
Wigan	44-0	16-11		15-17			14-5	47-6		4-16	5-10				
Workington	11-8	8-17		11-2	36-5	2-17			18-3				11-8	10-11	...

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