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RUGBY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL

WIGAN v. HUDDERSFIELD

SATURDAY, APRIL 30th, 1949

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

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3—E. H. WARD
4—J. LAWRENSON
5—W. G. RATCLIFFE
J. HILTON
G. ROUGHLEY

Half Backs:

6—C. R. MOUNTFORD
7—J. J. ALTY
T. BRADSHAW

Forwards:

8—K. GEE
9—J. EGAN
10—F. BARTON
11—L. WHITE
12—E. SLEVIN
13—W. HUDSON
J. LARGE

Referee:

L. THORPE (Wakefield).

HUDDERSFIELD

(Claret and Gold)

Full Back:

1—HUNTER

Threequarters:

2—ANDERSON
3—BAWDEN
4—DEVERY
5—COOPER

Half Backs:

6—PEPPERELL, G. R.
7—BANKS

Forwards:

8—MAIDEN or DAVIES
9—MEEK
10—DALY
11—OWENS
12—NICHOLSON or HUGHES
14—VALENTINE

Touch Judges:

A. Burge (Manchester), Red stripe flag.
J. G. Evans (Salford), Blue stripe flag.



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NOTES



To-day's match against Huddersfield sees the end of the season at Central Park as far as the League is concerned. As is well known the system in the Rugby League for deciding which team shall earn the title of League Champions, is that the first four leading clubs play off in a supplementary competition. The first club plays the fourth, the second plays the third. The first and second club have ground advantage in the semi-finals, and the Final is played on a neutral ground in the county of the club still remaining in the competition and occupying the higher position of the two.

* * *

Thus Warrington (first) play Barrow (fourth) and Wigan (second) play Huddersfield (third). If either Warrington or Wigan win to-day, the final will be played in Lancashire, probably at Maine Road, but if both should be beaten the final will be played in Yorkshire, and Odsal would probably house the match in that event.

* * *

It has been a very interesting struggle for the "first four" places. Warrington were well placed in the first position, and last week we knew we were assured of the second place. Huddersfield made their third position secure on Monday of this week, but it was not known until Wednesday whether Barrow or Widnes would take fourth place. Leigh beat Widnes in a League match on Wednesday, and this result enabled Barrow to have the right to be concerned in the Championship play-offs.

* * *

The League Final will be played on Saturday, May 14th, 1949, and as stated

above the venue is likely to be Maine Road, Manchester, or the Odsal Stadium, Bradford.

* * *

We welcome Huddersfield as our visitors to-day. They are now, as they have been in the past, grand exponents of the best in our game, and it will be an exception if to-day's match does not produce a really fine game.

* * *

In the League, we lost easily at Fartown, but in the return match at Wigan our boys ran out winners. Whereas the present Wigan team is composed mainly of local born players, the Fartowners have drawn their players from many sources, and in their ranks they have Australians, English, Irish, Welsh and Scottish born players. That fact will matter little to our patrons, it is the standard of football that counts.

* * *

There is a possibility that the French team Roanne will pay a visit to this country and play a match at Central Park during the month of May. The date of this proposed visit is uncertain as Roanne are concerned in the struggle for French Cup and League honours, and much depends on the results of their various matches over there. They will be remembered for their last visit to Wigan when they helped to provide a very enjoyable match.

* * *

Work on the ground is due to start on Monday next when everything will be done to get the playing pitch into good condition for the commencement of next season.

* * *

[Continued on back page.]

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NOTES—continued.

Rugby League teams are also to
make a short tour in Wales, in an
effort to help to get the game going
down there. St. Helens and Hudders-
field are the teams to take part in this
propaganda tour and they will play
three matches.

* * *

A team will also visit France at the
end of May. This side will be termed
an Empire Team composed mainly of
Colonial players with Rugby League
clubs. An excellent side has been got

together as will be seen from the fol-
lowing selections:—

J. Hunter (Huddersfield), H. Cook
(Leeds), B. Bevan (Warrington), T.
Devery (Huddersfield), T. Paskins
(Workington), L. Cooper (Hudders-
field), B. Nordgren (Wigan), G. R.
Pepperell and W. Banks (Hudders-
field), M. McMaster (Leeds), V.
McKeating (Workington), P. Daly
(Huddersfield), H. Bath (Warrington),
P. Mudge (Workington), D. D. Valen-
tine (Huddersfield), and W. Ivison
(Workington).

KNOTTY PROBLEM

(Supplied by Mr. F. Fairhurst)

Question: "A" player runs over the line in possession of the ball. "B" player, defending full back, secures a hold of "A" player round the waist previous to him grounding the ball and pushes him into the field underneath the goal posts. As both players pass the upright "A" player still in possession of the ball grasps the upright and using this as a lever forces his way over the line and grounds for a try. Is this correct?

Answer: Yes.

Question: An attacking wingman runs down the touch line. In crossing the goal line he touches the corner flag with his foot which is seen by the referee and not seen by the touch judge and grounds for a try. What decision?

Answer: A try.

Question: A half back putting the ball into the scrum pitches it knee high with an upward motion. The ball goes into the scrum and hits one of the players in the face or body and falls down into the centre of the scrum. What action should the referee take?

Answer: A penalty.

RUGBY LEAGUE CUP FINAL

BRADFORD NORTH'N v HALIFAX

AT WEMBLEY, SATURDAY, 7th MAY, 1949.

Special Day Excursion to London (Euston) and Wembley ... 39/6

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