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Saturday, April 5, 1947.

BARBARIANS v. CARDIFF

Welsh Rugby followers have had their fill of excitement during the last two Saturdays, what with Wales' successful victories over France and Ireland respectively, a fitting climax to a remarkable season. With the advent of Easter, however, Cardiff stage a miniature International of their own and so the excitement and interest continues. The opposition is, of course, the famous Barbarians who, in their annual tour to South Wales, bring down a galaxy of talent, the cream of the four countries and, in the main, Internationals. To "collect" and bring on tour such a combination of "stars" must be a pleasant if onerous job for the Ba-baas' secretary, Mr. H. A. Haigh Smith, known to most of us as a member of the Rugby Union Committee and who almost invariably is seen acting on the touch-

line whenever England visit the Principality. South Walians are indeed indebted to Mr. Smith for the opportunity of seeing a touring team which, for care-free, brilliant Rugby, provides thrills equal to that of any official International.

It is noted that of the 30 odd players making the Easter trip to South Wales, at least 24 have been capped. Three of our own "boys" are in the list, i.e. Jack Matthews, Bleddyn Williams and Haydn Tanner. Last Easter, Tanner actually captained the Ba-baas against Cardiff. Of last Saturday's Irish team at Swansea, J. C. Daly, J. W. Kyle, B. Mullan, C. Mullen and E. Strathdee, in addition to Con Murphy, Ireland's former custodian, are making the trip. England's International representatives include J. George, A. P. Henderson, C. B. Holmes, J. Mycock, J. O. Newton-Thompson,

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a TRY until you've tried**

BOVRIL

S. V. Perry, M. R. Steele-Bodger, D. W. Swarbrick, B. H. Travers and H. Walker, while the Scottish "capped" contingent is F. H. Coutts, C. R. Bruce, W. H. Munroe, T. P. McGlashan and D. D. Valentine. Such a list of "stars" whets one's appetite in eager anticipation of to-day's exhibition. Twelve months ago the Ba-baas fielded an all-International side against Cardiff, including the two New Zealand three-quarters—Meates and Boggs. The exact team to do duty this afternoon will not be known until the last moment, but whatever the selection it should stir the pulses with no end of thrills and towards that end the Cardiff side will assuredly make its fair contribution.

And after the Ba-baas come that famous club side the Harlequins who will provide the opposition on Monday as they have done for years past and that game should also provide another thriller, a grand climax to another Easter programme.

* * * *

Next week-end, Cardiff go on tour down Devon way, playing Plymouth Albion, Devonport Services and Exeter.

GWYN EVANS

(see photo on page 3).

One of the most talked of forwards of the day is Cardiff's "wing" forward. Gwyn Evans who in the shortest imaginable space of time has jumped from obscurity to fame after earning his place in the Cardiff senior side only last November following a brief period of probation in the Athletic side. Gwyn came from Swansea Valley with a Rugby tuition gained with the Clydach Boys' Club, which at a later date got him into the Swansea side temporarily but his then Rugby dreams petered out as he came to Cardiff. He joined the City Police where there was no outlet for his Rugby activities such as was ordinarily provided by such organizations as the Glamorgan or Monmouthshire County Police. After his demobilization we find Gwyn, now at the age of 28, drawn once more to the game he loved so much, and went at it with such seriousness and determination that he jumped at once into the limelight and staked his claim to permanency not only in the Cardiff side but also in the Welsh XV. His

(continued on page 6)



Blodwyn Williams



L. Manfield



Gwyn Evans



Dr. Jack Matthews

Cardiff's Internationals

Pre-War and Post-War



W. B. Cleaver



Hayden Tanner



W. E. Tamplin



Cliff Davies

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BARBARIANS

16 C. J. MURPHY, Ireland Full Back
15 D. W. SWARBRICK, England Rt. Wing
14 W. H. MUNROE, Scotland Rt. Centre
12 C. R. BRUCE, Scotland Left Centre
11 B. MULLAN, Ireland Left Wing
10 G. A. PHILLIPS, Lond. Hosp. Out. Half
9 J. O. NEWTON-THOMPSON, England Scrum Half

Kick Off 3.30

At time of going to press only provisional list of Barbarians available—subject to one or two alterations at last moment.

Forwards—

1 D. D. VALENTINE, Scotland
2 J. MYCOCK or B. H. TRAVERS, England
3 M. R. STEELE-BODGER, England
4 F. H. COUTTS, Scotland, or J. MYCOCK
5 J. GEORGE, England
6 J. C. DALY, Ireland or G. A. GIBBS, Bristol
7 A. P. HENDERSON, England
8 H. WALKER, England

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CARDIFF

1 FRANK TROTT Full Back
2 GWYN MARTIN Left Wing
3 BLEDDYNN WILLIAMS Left Centre
4 Dr. J. MATTHEWS, Capt. Rt. Centre
5 G. L. PORTER Right Wing
6 W. B. CLEAVER Outside Half
7 HAYDN TANNER Scrum Half

Referee:

Mr. IVOR DAVID (Neath)

Next Home Match
Enter Monday, April 7th
HARLEQUINS

Forwards—

8 ROY ROBERTS
9 LES MANFIELD
10 GWYN EVANS
11 STAN. BOWES
12 W. E. TAMPLIN
13 FRIBB DAVIES
14 MALDWIN JAMES
15 RAY BAILE



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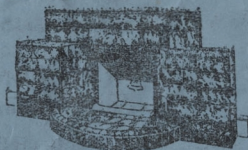
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appearance in the Welsh jersey after such a brief re-appearance in Senior Rugby caused a surprise, but any possible misgivings on that score were quickly dispelled by his dashing display against England in January, when his "raiding" activities, his fine burst of speed and intelligent anticipation and backing-up won for him golden praise, the afternoon's work being crowned by his try which was more typical of a threequarter than a forward and which was described even by an English critic as a "classic." Gwyn has maintained that high standard of play right throughout club and country matches since, and none will challenge the assertion that he is one of the outstanding discoveries of the season in the four countries.

BREVITIES.

Of Cardiff's four lost matches to date, the two sustained at Bath and Coventry were on dates when Cardiff's International contingent were doing duty for their Country against England and France respectively. The win at Pontypool last Monday was a good one and more or less unexpected.

* * * * *

Those who follow the fortunes of School Rugby—and they are a goodly number—have a chance to witness what promises to be a keen battle on the Park on Easter Tuesday when the Gloucester Schoolboys are due to meet the Cardiff Schools XV. Kick-off, 3 p.m. Doubtless there will be a big crowd to support the boys, the "stars" of the future.



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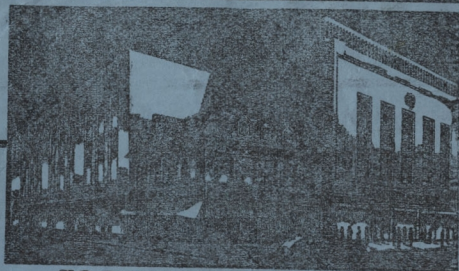
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