

# Cardiff face big hurdle

PRETORIA, Friday.

CARDIFF could not face a tougher last hurdle on their short tour than they do tomorrow when they meet Northern Transvaal, who in 1964 trounced Wales 22-9.

But this is the kind of task Cardiff relish, and they went to their training tasks this morning with a will.

Cardiff start the underdogs, but I give them a slight chance provided they do not try to "slog it out" up front. Their tactics must be to keep the ball moving as much as possible to bring their class centres and wings into the game.

Billy Thomas has outhooked all opponents and Cardiff's front row is old enough to ensure at least an even share of possession from the set scrums.

## Accurate Cheney

Their main problem, as it has been throughout this short tour, will be to win enough ball from the lineout to give their inside backs sufficient room in which to move.

Ray Cheney showed his place kicking form in practice today, putting the ball over from over halfway with ease.

Northern Transvaal's main strength lies in a powerful pack and the experience of Springbok Piet Uys at scrum half.

There is talk tonight that the South Africans will play to their threequarters, but I doubt it, especially as de Maas, their regular fly half, is injured.

Cardiff hope for a cool, dry day. Having come up from the coast, the altitude and heat here could hit Cardiff as it undoubtedly did in Windhoek and Upington.

The biggest crowd of the tour, more than 30,000 is expected.

Cardiff have so enjoyed their tour that the management has intimated to Mr. Gus Louw, a member of the African rugby executive, an invitation to make a return tour some time in 1968 be welcomed.

# Cardiff pay for errors

From A. C. PARKER

PRETORIA, Sunday.

**NORTHERN TRANSVAAL \*5-2-25, CARDIFF 1-0-5**

\*Two penalties, one dropped.

Cardiff crashed to defeat in their last match on tour in South Africa, beaten by Northern Transvaal here yesterday, watched by 22,000 spectators. It was rather a disappointing ending, but the Welsh club have themselves to blame after taking the lead with a brilliant try by Maurice Rickards, which Ray Cheney converted.

Elementary handling and passing errors, particularly by the inside backs, faulted Cardiff, and halves Billy Hullin and Phil Morgan failed to appreciate there is a time to run and a time to kick.

They tried to move the ball all the time—even from poor possession. Soundness was sacrificed for fancy trimmings in the form of reverse flipped passes.

Maurice Richards scored tries in each of his four games and was the tour top scorer with 28 points. Cheney totalled 22.

Richards was the best back against Northern Transvaal. Gerald Davies could manage only one run because he received most of his passes under pressure.

Even then Cardiff could have had two or three more tries but for ragged finishing and bad luck. One felt sorry for

the Cardiff forwards who, in several respects, gave their best display of the tour

By using the deep throw-in and peel-off from the back of the lineout by Howard Norris, Cardiff won a surprising share of lineout ball. Unfortunately the referee's many lineout penalties against the tourists had them puzzled.

## Favourable image

Billy Thomas had a great duel with Transvaal hooker Gys Pitzer, which ended with one tight head each. Thomas was chaired off by his Cardiff team-mates after playing the last match of his career.

North Transvaal tries came from centre Bester (3) and flanker Lourens. Full back Pretorius contributed 13 points in goal kicks with two penalties, a dropped goal and two conversions.

Cardiff tour manager Mr. Lyn Williams said, "We are a little disappointed with the results but I have no hesitation in saying this tour was well worth while and Cardiff—considering we are purely a club side—left a favourable image, particularly of imaginative back play."

Mr. Williams admitted there had been shortcomings in the Cardiff side, particularly among the forwards, where lack of weight in rucks and height in lineout had been drawbacks.

Excessive travelling had been a strain and many functions a little exhausting, but they had not wanted to disappoint hosts so eager to entertain them.



● Back home after their five match tour of South Africa are players and officials of Cardiff Rugby Club. They are seen on arrival at Cardiff General Station this afternoon.

# Tour may have cost Cardiff Ray Cheney

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
PRETORIA, Sunday.

CARDIFF'S TOUR of South Africa may have cost them the services of full back Ray Cheney. An American firm has made Cheney an attractive offer to work in Johannesburg.

The offer is to do computer work for a period of two years. If Cheney accepts he will have to start in September.

Cardiff's five-match tour came to a disappointing end on Saturday when a crowd of 22,000 saw them crash 25-5 to Northern Transvaal.

The Welsh club started well and took the lead when Maurice Richards crossed for a brilliant try which Cheney converted.

But any hopes of a victory over the powerful Transvaal team faded as Cardiff persisted in trying to pass and run at all times.

They attempted to move the ball from poor possession, and, with the backs often under pressure, elementary errors began to creep into their play.

## Battled hard

Even in these circumstances Cardiff showed flashes of speed and skill and could have scored two more tries with smoother finishing and better luck.

The Welsh forwards battled hard and won a lot of ball by shrewd use of the deep throw-in and the peel-off from the back of the line-out.

But they were obviously baffled by many of the referee's decisions at the line-out and once again the hoary question of law interpretation raises its head.

Billy Thomas, playing the last match of his career, had a great duel with Transvaal hooker Gys Pitzer. Each took one tight head and at the final whistle Thomas was chaired off by his team-mates.

Northern Transvaal's tries came from centre Bester (3) and flanker Lourens. Full back Pretorius provided the rest of their points with two penalties, two conversions and a dropped goal.

So Cardiff's tour ended with a record of two wins, two defeats and a draw—84 points being scored and 71 conceded.

## 'Little disappointed'

Tour manager Lyn Williams said: "We are a little disappointed with the results, but I have no hesitation in saying this tour was well worth while.

"Cardiff, considering we are purely a club side, left a favourable image, particularly of imaginative back play."

Llanelli opened their 10-day tour of Italy with a 21-12 win over Catania (Sicily).

The game was played in the cool of the evening in a stadium lush with green grass, which had been well watered.

Half backs Denis and David Thomas linked smoothly to give their threequarters a splendid service and the Italians were often forced to defend grimly.

Llanelli scored five tries through Robert Morgan (2), Marlston Morgan, Glan Morgan and Ken Davies. Peter Jenkins kicked three conversions.



RAY CHENEY

# Gamesmanship accusation at Cardiff

By JOHN BILLOT

Cardiff officials and players are disturbed to think that their image in South Africa may be tarnished by one newspaper report that accused them of rough play and gamesmanship during their five-match rugby tour.

"The Cardiff touring team left a bad taste in the mouths of many rugby supporters in the Western Province with their obvious attempts to intimidate the Combined Southern Universities with rough play," writes Chris Greyvenstein in the South African Sunday Times.

"For the first 15 minutes the students were subjected to a blitzkrieg of punches thrown in the scrums, the lineout and the loose. This was often done in full view of the crowd, who frequently showed their displeasure. The students were practically unanimous that they had never played in a rougher match.

"The huge crowd which attended, in anticipation of a hard but clean match, often booed the visitors, especially when H. O. de Villiers, playing at full back, was twice hit in the face in full view of the stands. The crowd also did not take kindly to some obvious examples of gamesmanship by the Cardiff players while de Villiers was taking penalties.

"I understand that one Cardiff player had the habit of hitting his thigh with the palm of his hand every time at the crucial moment de Villiers ran up for the kick. Another player suffered from sudden coughing bouts every time the full back kicked for the posts.

## Left good image

"Several Cardiff players claimed that no injury time was allowed. This was a completely unjustified complaint. At a reception after the match, Hannes Marais, the students' captain, said in a speech, 'I am sorry Cardiff did not play the ball rather than the man. If they had played the ball they would have won.'

Mr. Lyn Williams, the Cardiff tour manager, said, "We like to think we left a good image of Cardiff rugby in South Africa. I think we must have done this because of the points we scored and the way we scored them.

"In the Southern Universities match we could not get really good possession in the first half. This was mainly because the referee did not demand a line between the players down the middle of the lineout. No injury time was allowed and we were doing all the attacking in the closing stages."

Billy Hullin, the Cardiff captain, said, "There were a couple of punches thrown. But they were not all by us. The Universities started it in tight play because their captain was having a hard time against Howard Norris. But if they call that rough play they should see some club rugby in Wales.

"One Afrikaans newspaper said that if we played the same way against Northern Transvaal the game would be a blood bath. The South African players themselves are not dirty, but their referees do not help matters.

## French will object

"Their lineout interpretations are amazing. The end man in the lineout is allowed to run back infield as soon as the ball is thrown in, there is no line down the middle, while players not in the lineout retire only a few yards instead of the stated 10, and the last man in the line of the team throwing in does not signify the furthest extent of the lineout.

"Their wing forwards also do not observe the hindmost foot law at scrums. It was all a bit of a shock to us. But we are not complaining. That is the way their referees interpret the laws. It was just unfortunate for us.

"Obviously it will unsettle them when they tour here this summer."