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SPARKLING RUGBY

Cardiff had to fight hard

try which gave his team the lead. The conversion failed and the half-time score was North Western Cape 12, Cardiff 9. The match suggested that Cardiff will be a good side from now on and that North Westerns have a team that measures up well enough to the general run of our provincial teams.

UPINGTON.—The Cardiff rugby team won the second match of their South African tour when they beat North Western Cape by 23 points (one goal four penalty goals, one dropped goal and a try) to 12 (two penalty goals, one dropped goal and a try) here yesterday.

Cardiff fought back from a 9—12 deficit at half-time and in the pulsating final 10 minutes they scored 11 points.

The Cape side, however, was not disgraced and had the tourists fullback Ray Cheney not booted 15 points they might even have won the match.

At the interval it certainly looked as though Cardiff would lose. But a few strong words by their captain, Billy Thomas, transformed them.

FEROCIOUS

As against South West Africa in their first match when they drew 11—all last Saturday, the Cardiff side found themselves against a side whose lusty tackling halted most of their promising movements.

In the second half, the tourists won the major share of the ball from the set pieces but wasted many of their chances. Their other points came from tries by Keri Jones and Gareth Edwards and a dropped goal by fly-half Gary Samuel.

North Western's points came from Brink (penalty goal), Du Toit (penalty goal), Basson (dropped goal) and B. Gouwer (try).

FANTASTIC KICK

The match moved into action very soon, and after five minutes Cheney goaled a fantastic kick from the half-way line to put his team into a 3—0 lead.

But North Westerns replied when their captain goaled a penalty to equalize in the 16th min. (3—3).

In the 21st minute, wing Keri Jones scored his try (6—3).

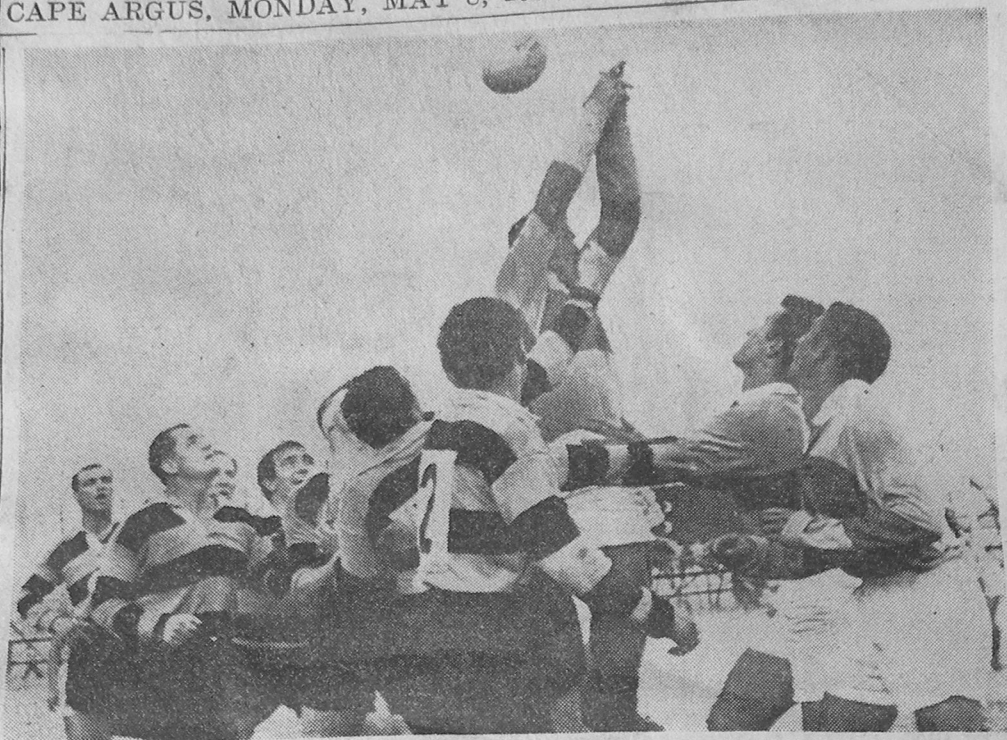
Play swung from one side of the field to the other until the tourists managed to force a scrum under the Cape team's poles. Cardiff won the ball and fly-half Samuel snapped over a drop in the 25th minute (9—3).

Five minutes later Du Toit narrowed Cardiff's lead when he goaled a penalty for North Western Cape (9—6).

GRAND REVIVAL

This success sparked off a grand revival by the home side. With backs and forwards combining in fluent movements across the field they equalized in the 33rd minute when full-back Basson banged over a drop-goal from the halfway line (9—9).

At this stage there was no holding the Cape team. Centre Fourie broke brilliantly and flanker Brouwer was on hand to climax the move with an exciting



ALTHOUGH Cardiff were able to get the ball away in the lineouts more often, the South West African locks played extremely well. Here, Hannes Vermeulen of S.W.A. jumps high for the ball in a lineout.

WELSH PACK WEAK IN LINEOUTS

From A. C. Parker

UPINGTON, Monday.

THEY'LL lose three of their remaining four games,' was an opinion expressed in some quarters after Cardiff had been held to an 11-all draw by South West Africa in Windhoek on Saturday.

The Welsh forwards will certainly have to provide their highly rated backline with cleaner and more frequent possession from all phases than they managed against a hustling South West Africa pack.

Only Howard Norris, Lyn Baxter and on occasions Tony Pender looked to be forwards of top calibre on this showing, and it is clear that the absence of Keith Rowlands has left Cardiff with inadequate lineout resources.

Still, it would be premature and wrong to dismiss Cardiff's chances of doing well in their remaining games.

The four internationals—Gerald Davies (centre), Gareth Edwards (scrum-half) John O'Shea (tight-head prop) and Billy Thomas (hooker) — who will play against North-West Cape here on Wednesday could make a difference.

So could their crack right-wing, Keri Jones, who is confidently expected to win a cap next season.

Indeed, the Cardiff tour committee erred in not fielding their strongest side on Saturday.

REFEREEING

Though Mr. Lynn Williams, the Cardiff manager, has commendably indicated that there will be no comment for publication on the refereeing in any of the matches, it is known that the tourists were not entirely happy about a few points.

Adri Basson, the South West African No. 8, on several occasions fell back to lengthen the lineout on his own team's throw-in and Cardiff believe he should have been penalised for off-side.

The referee (Mr. H. Kruger) contended that he did not do this until the ball was actually thrown in by the wing. This tactic, however, amounts to 'gamesmanship' and should be discouraged.

In Britain referees whistle up very promptly for a fair catch.

On Saturday Ray Cheney, the Cardiff full-back, claimed what seemed a perfectly good 'mark' but it was not allowed and from the ensuing ruck Vaatjie van Druten put over an easy penalty.

ROUGH PLAY

Mr. Kruger's tendency to allow the rucks to continue led to some rough play.

Saturday's opening game served to dispel any illusions the Welshmen may have harboured on the opposition they will encounter. And, being realists, they will work hard at their shortcomings.

The Cardiff party has been warmly received here and enthusiasm is at a high pitch for the first-ever visit of an international touring team to this area.