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CARDIFF ATHLETIC CLUB
RUGBY SECTION
OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Saturday, April 30th. 1927

Neath Wanderers | Weston-super-Mare
v. Cardiff Supporters' XV | v. Cardiff.



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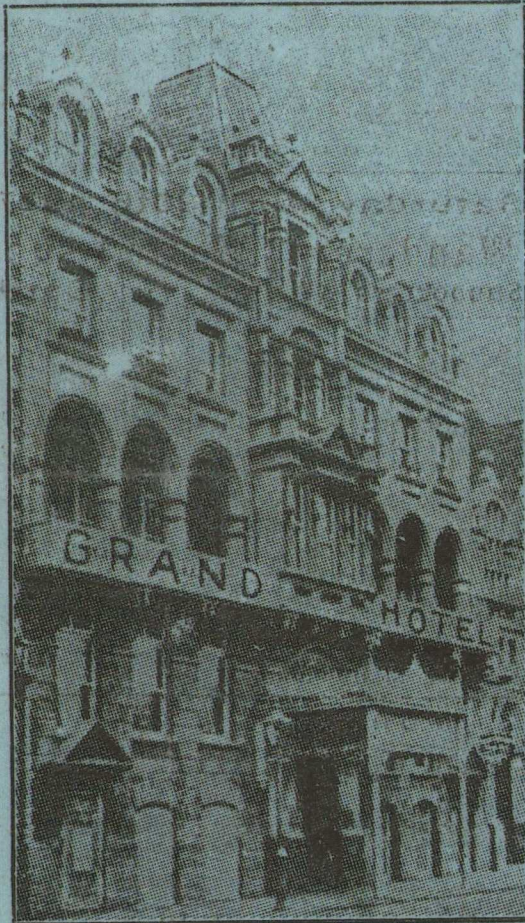
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OFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

Published by the Cardiff Rugby Supporters' Committee.

Vol. VII.—No. 42.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30th, 1927.

Price 2d.

The Programme.

The Editor, at the conclusion of the seventh year of the Official Programme's publication, desires to thank all who have assisted him throughout the season in the effort to maintain both the interest of the readers, and the high traditions of the Club generally. He also desires to thank very heartily the kind advertisers for their patronage, which has made it possible to issue a publication which, it is claimed, can hold its own with any programme issued in connection with any Rugby club elsewhere.

The Season's Record.

To-day's fixture with Weston-super-Mare concludes the home matches of the season, and there remain two away fixtures, *i.e.*, Llanelly to-day, and Aberavon on Saturday next, in place of the match previously postponed. The combined record of the two teams up to and including last Monday's match with Penarth, reads as follows:

Points.					
P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.
78	45	25	8	957	659

The outstanding success of the season has been against Newport, who were beaten on three occasions, as was the case in season 1925-6, but against this has to be recorded the three losses sustained against the "All Whites." Llanelly have so far secured two wins to one, whilst against Neath we have secured a win and a draw. With regard to the English teams, Blackheath ran us very closely in scores in both matches and secured one win. Perhaps our best performances were against Bristol and Gloucester, both of which were

defeated home and away—a rare and a capital achievement—while it would be easily remembered that two excellent wins were secured over the "All-International" Barbarian team and the Harlequins. The season was historical in view of the two games played against the Maoris on the Park, both of which were lost—the second by two points only, after a magnificent game, probably the best of the whole season.

Delahay has proved himself a worthy captain, and has given his side an excellent lead in the matter of enthusiasm and all-round play. Some of his displays were fit to rank with his best performances, but he was not so fortunate in the matter of assistance, mainly due to certain inevitable changes, but he has to thank the old hands in the main for some excellent work and co-operation among the backs, while in the front rank, the inimitable Idris Richards has again rendered his captain incalculable assistance, and has proved that his leadership of the pack is one of the biggest assets that the Club possesses, while his colleagues on the whole reached a high standard.

The quality of play generally has been very high—in fact at times it reached a position of pre-eminence, while on the other hand the performances when most unexpected were disappointing.

We are all inclined to criticise play and players at all times—this perhaps seems natural in view of the conditions under which amateur Rugby is being played to-day, but we should be more kindly disposed towards the players, who after all are but a happy band of amateurs who primarily play the game for the love of it, and the sport and enjoyment they can get out of it.

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T. W. ROSSER.

If we took our football less seriously we should undoubtedly enjoy it far more substantially. Rivalry between clubs, and that irresistible desire of a section to have a "winning team" has been apt to reduce the play often to lower level than it should be. We think the Cardiff team, however, have always been out to play the game as it should be played, and we think that sportsmen will agree with us that certain matches this season have been lost through Cardiff's grim determination to play the open spectacular game, whatever the consequences. In that they are to be greatly admired, and by so doing they have upheld the famous traditions of the Club whose colours they have the honour to carry.

The Committee's ambition in running two first-class sides has been given a very severe test, and to be candid, we do not think that the desired success has been totally gained. We have had a far better fixture list, with perhaps too many fixtures in the list, but the class of player necessary to fulfil the improved fixtures and to carry on the high traditions of the Club, has not been satisfactorily found, excepting on rare occasions at the beginning of the season. The venture, however, is one which cannot be condemned, and it only behoves the new Committee to go "all out" during the close season to secure players of the required status, so as to meet the criticisms and disappointments which have come to our knowledge during the present season.

As has been previously stated, the Club has had its fair share of higher honours, and International caps were secured during the season by B. O. Male, B. R. Turnbull, John Roberts, W. J. Delahay, Gwyn Richards, Tom Lewis and Jim Burns, all of whom are deserving of the best, while another one or two might have been added to the list.

THE SPHINX.

To-day's Games.

THE NEATH WANDERERS v. SUPPORTERS.

Two matches are being staged this afternoon, and a grand finale to the season's work is promised. The first game is that between the famous Neath Wanderers, and the Cardiff Rugby Supporters Club XV. Our friends from Neath, known formerly as Mr. Freethy's team, are probably the wonder team of Wales, if not of the United Kingdom, and they enter the field to-day with a five years' unbroken record to maintain. Mr. Freethy has undoubtedly rendered a great deal of service to Welsh Rugby by coaching and turning out ex-schoolboy players such as the Neath Wanderers are composed of. For to-day's game the Neath boys may be short of Denver Rees and Cameron, on account of illness and inability to travel.

We well remember last season's game on the Park between the two

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NEATH WANDERERS

Full Back: A. JEFFS.

Right Wing: D. REES	Right Centre: G. BEVAN	Left Centre: S. BATES	Left Wing: C. CAMERON
Inside Half: W. THOMAS (Capt.)		Outside Half: TREVOR WALTERS	
Forwards: T. DAY	HOWIE JONES	TOM MORGAN	P. GREEN
	C. HARRIS	I. BEVAN	T. H. MORGAN

Referee: Capt. A. F. BURGE, Penarth. Kick-off 3.30 p.m.

Forwards: J. CUNNINGHAM (Capt.)	T. BURNS	A. GUNDY	J. STICKLER
D. WILLIAMS	NORMAN FENDER	H. SMART	C. DURAND

Inside Half: W. GOODMAN. Outside Half: T. STONE.

Left Wing: J. KANE	Left Centre: H. WILLIAMS	Right Centre: J. COUGHLIN	Right Wing: G. KNIGHT
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Full Back: W. COLES.

CARDIFF SUPPORTERS

sides, when a most exciting tussle resulted in a draw.

"Romilly," a correspondent who has been writing the Supporters' notes for the Programme, refers to to-day's great game as follows:

"For some weeks past the one topic of conversation in Rugger circles has been our match with the famous Neath Wanderers. There are several reasons for this exceptional interest. Our visitors have undoubtedly one of the finest records ever possessed by any team. Formed five years ago as an ex-schoolboy team, they have had a remarkable run of success, as during the whole of that period they have not lost a single game—in fact, with the single instance of matches with our own team, their victories have been decisive. They play magnificent foot-

ball, but, of course, they have had the decided advantage of having kept practically the same side together since the team's inception, with the result that the combination is as near perfection as possible. There are very few tricks known to the game that they have not practised to advantage. Our readers will not easily forget the match on the Park last season, when the Supporters XV ran them to a draw, after one of the most exciting games ever witnessed locally.

Whilst our achievements, from the standpoint of wins, are not so good, we have a record to be proud of. Our visitors have the advantage over us in the fact that none of their players hardly ever assist other teams, whilst we are only too anxious to carry out

(Continued on page 6).

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

HALF-DAY EXCURSIONS—MAY, 1927.

Date.	To	Cardiff General Dep.	Returning at	Fares Third Class
Sunday, May 1	LONDON	11.40 a.m.	10.25 p.m.	8 0
Do.	BRISTOL (Stapleton Road)	1.25 p.m.	8.35 p.m.	3 6
Do.	WESTON-SUPER-MARE (Locking Rd.)	1.25 p.m.	7.55 p.m.	4 6
Wednesday, May 4	LONDON	11.40 a.m.	1.10 midnt.	8 0
Saturday, May 7	BOURNEMOUTH	11.0 a.m.	7.55 p.m.	7 0
Sunday, May 8	EXETER	11.30 a.m.	10.15 p.m.	6 6
Do.	PAIGNTON	11.30 a.m.	9.15 p.m.	7 6
Do.	CHEFSTOW	12.50 p.m.	9.45 p.m.	2 6
Do.	GLOUCESTER	12.50 p.m.	9.5 p.m.	4 0
Do.	CHELTENHAM	12.50 p.m.	8.50 p.m.	4 6
Do.	SWANSEA	12.30 p.m.	7.40 p.m.	3 6
Do.	LLANELLY	12.30 p.m.	7.10 p.m.	4 0

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Right Wing : C. Collier (B)	Right Centre : Eric Lower (C)	Left Centre : Rex Clayton (D), Capt.	Left Wing : J. Connelly (E)
Inside Half : W. J. Wring (F)	Outside Half : E. K. Laws (G)		
Forwards : L. W. Bisgrove (R) H. G. Clayton (D)	H. J. Hill (W) R. Strange (M)	W. Board (H) F. Sloman (N)	A. Culverhouse (L) R. Foxwell (V)

Referee
 Mr. J. B. JAMES,
 Treorchy



Kick-off 5.0 p.m.

Forwards : F. Porter (H) F. Lee (J) T. Burns (K) A. Cundy (L) J. Ryan (N)
 E. SPILLANE J. Horrocks (O) W. Casey (P) W. Palmer (R) D. MACARTHUR

Inside Half : Howard Poole (F) Outside Half : J. Coughlin (M)

Left Wing : Llew Williams (B) A. V. HARDING.	Left Centre : D. M. Williams (C)	Right Centre : Hugh Johnson (D) D. E. DAVIES.	Right Wing : Dai Davies (E) or A. V. Harding (S)
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Full Back : Vic Cravos (A)

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(Continued from page 3).

our one idea of coaching lads to be of some service to the Premier Cardiff team. This season several of our boys have been called on to fill vacancies in the Cardiff sides, whilst some of them have apparently found permanent positions. Of this we are very proud and much as we would feel honoured by defeating the Wanderers, we much prefer acting and being appreciated as one of the connecting links of the Athletic Club—in fact, to-day, some of our lads who would have been playing for us, are assisting the Blue and Blacks, so we hope that whatever the result of to-day's match is, the verdict will be one that will leave no doubt as to which, on the day's form, is the better team.

THE SUPPORTERS' CLUB'S SEASON'S RECORDS.

1,304 Points to 138.

The season which practically ends to-day is from a playing point the most successful in the history of the club—in fact it is doubtful whether any club running *two* teams can boast of a record equal to ours. Our Senior team have played 32 matches, won 27, lost 5; Points for, 651; against, 69. Our Junior team have played 27, won 26, lost 1. Points for, 653; against, 69. All will agree that these are remarkable statistics. For these successes great credit is due to the leadership of the captains, J. Cunningham and Norman Fender, and the interesting sequel, *i.e.*, the splendid feeling existing amongst all the players.

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In addition to this, we have had an efficient committee, but special praise must be given to the chairman, Mr. C. Marks, and the hon. secretary, Mr. A. Lewis, who has devoted endless time and energy to the work, and deserves the highest possible praise for his services. The future is full of promise, as there are several lads of exceptional talent who are sure to be heard of in due course."

In addition to what "Romilly" says above, we might also make reference to another individual, who has been the mainstay of the Cardiff Rugby Supporters' Club for the last few years. That individual is Mr. George H. Lewis, who has sometimes acted as secretary and chairman, and has generally been the "live wire" behind the Supporters' movements and its wonderful team. No more ardent supporter of the good old game can be found anywhere than our friend, Mr. Lewis, and we feel sure that the one ambition of his life would be to see his boys win this afternoon.

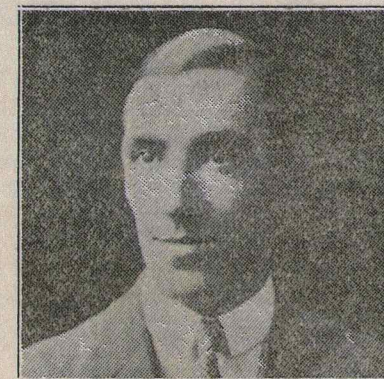
The Weston Match.

We extend a very hearty welcome to our friends from Weston-super-Mare, who will provide the opposition against Cardiff's other team at the conclusion of the ex-schoolboys' match. It is interesting to recall that matches between Weston and Cardiff were first of all played in season 1881, and continued until season 1884, and the re-appearance of Weston on our fixture card is to be much appreciated. The seaiders play a very open, spirited

game, and are making progress by leaps and bounds, their most notable achievement of the present season being the defeat inflicted by them on Blackheath during the Easter holidays, while they have also beaten Penarth, Maesteg, Skewen, St. Mary's Hospital, Bridgwater, Taunton, etc.

In their team to-day, there are chosen to play Rex Clayton (their energetic captain), L. W. Bisgrove, and A. Culverhouse, all of whom have played for Somerset County, and R. D. Evans, who has played for Glo'ster County. They have been very unfortunate in the matter of injuries and removals, which has reduced their playing strength by eight players, including Wyndham Ewens, who up to February 12th last scored 26 tries, and has not played since on account of injury. Culverhouse, we think, is the old Treherbert forward, and is one of the most promising front-rankers of the day. Watch him.

While Cardiff won the first match at Weston in September by 13 points to 3, the Somerset men are to-day determined to try to reverse the result, and carrying with them a little stimulating ozone after their channel crossing, they may succeed in their venture. In any case, they are sure of a good reception, and we trust that the game will be an enjoyable one, bringing down as it does the curtain on the home fixtures for the season.



A Bombshell.

DANNY DAVIES RETIRING.

We feel sure that quite a bombshell will be thrown into the Cardiff Rugby camp by the news which has reached the Editor that Danny Davies has decided to retire from the game, and the announcement will, we feel certain, be received with much regret in Welsh football circles generally, as Danny, apart from being an all-round brilliant player, was popular wherever he travelled with the team. If his decision is irrevocable, it will mean a calamitous loss to the "Blue and Blacks," for whom he has rendered signal service during the six seasons he has sported the colours. The news

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