

CARDIFF R.F.C. - CANADA AND U.S.A.

19th MAY - 13th JUNE

1977

MANAGER'S REPORT.

JOHN DAVIES.

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Manager
Assistant Manager
Coach
Chairman
Medical Officer
Baggage Master and Trainer

J.E. Davies
A.J. Priday
J. Evans
L.M. Spence
Dr. J.H. Naysmith
T. Holley.

Players.

David Barry
Peter Bolland
Chris. Camilleri
John Davies
Gerald Davies
Gareth Edwards
Paul Evans
Alex Finlayson
Terry Holmes
Robert Dudley-Jones
Mike Knill
Roger Lane
Stuart Lane
Mike Murphy
Mark McJennett
Barry Nelves
Alan Phillips
Ian. Robinson
Carl Smith
David Thomas
Gerry Wallace
Mike Watkins
Trevor Worgan.

PLAYERS' APPEARANCES	CRIMSON TIDE (VANCOUVER Is)	FRAZER VALLEY REPRESENTATIVES (VANCOUVER)	VANCOUVER REPRESENTATIVES	W. WASHINGTON SEATTLE U.S.A.	ALBERTA REPS. (EDMONTON)	VANCOUVER PRES. XV (VANCOUVER)
DAVID BARRY	-	P	P	P	P	P
PETER BOLLAND	-	P	P	P	-	P
CHRIS CAMILLERI	P	-	P	P	P	P
JOHN DAVIES	P	P	P	-	P	P
GERALD DAVIES	P	P	P	-	-	-
GARETH EDWARDS	P	P	P	-	-	P
PAUL EVANS	P	P	P	P	-	
ALEX FINLAYSON	P					
TERRY HOLMES	-	-	-	P	P	P
ROBERT DUDLEY-JONES	P	P	P	P	P	P
MIKE KNILL	P	P	-	P	P	-
ROGER LANE	P	R	P	P	-	P
STUART LANE	-	P	P	P	-	P
MIKE MURPHY	P	-	-	P	P	-
MARK MCJENNETT	-	P	-	-	-	P
BARRY NELMES	P	-	P	P	P	P
ALAN PHILLIPS	P	-	P	R	P	-
IAN ROBINSON	P	P	-	P	P	-
CARL SMITH	P	P	P	R	P	P
DAVID THOMAS	-	P	-	P	P	-
GERRY WALLACE	-	P	P	-	P	P
MIKE WATKINS	-	P	-	P	R	P
TREVOR WORGAN	P	-	P	P	P	R

PLAYERS' INJURIES.

Paul Evans	Bruised Thigh
R. Dudley-Jones	Bruised Calf
R. Lane	Strained Groin
S. Lane	Bruised Shoulder point
M. McJennett	Slight Hamstring Strain.

B. Nelmes	Facial irritation infection
Mike Knill	" " "
G. Wallace	" " "

NOTE

1. Only M. McJennett suffered a bad injury and he quickly recovered.
2. Precautions were taken to protect ankles, knees, elbows and shoulders since grounds were inevitably hard e.g. Anklets, Insoles, Knee Pads and Arm Pads.
3. Very good and prompt medical attention from our Club Doctor (J.H. Naysmith) and Dr. K. Russell (Edmonton Hospital) overcame injuries. Important to have own Masseur (T. Holley).
4. In Vancouver, U.B.C., offered free medical - Masseur facilities.

MATCH RESULTS.

DATE	OPPONENTS	VENUE	RESULT	SCORE
Mon. 23rd May	Crimson Tide	Victoria	L.	17 - 29
Mon. 30th May	Frazer Valley	Vancouver	W	29 - 9
Wed. 1st June	Vancouver Repts.	Vancouver	W	21 - 6
Sat. 4th June	W. Washington State	Seattle	W	54 - 6
Tue. 7th June	Alberta Repts.	Edmonton	W	48 - 6
Sat. 11th June	Vancouver Pres. XV	Vancouver	W	22 - 3

ANALYSIS OF SCORING.

VERSUS	TRIES	CONVERSIONS	PENALTY GOALS	DROP GOALS
Crimson Tide	2	-	3	-
Frazer Valley	4	2	3	-
Vancouver Repts	4	1	1	-
W. Washington State	9	6	2	-
Alberta Repts	9	6	-	-
Vancouver Pres. XV	5	1	-	-
	34	16	9	-

OPPONENTS' SCORING.

Crimson Tide	5	-	3	-
Frazer Valley	1	1	1	-
Vancouver Repts	-	-	2	-
W. Washington State	-	-	2	-
Alberta Repts	-	-	2	-
Vancouver Pres. XV	-	-	1	-
	6	1	11	-

PLAYERS INDIVIDUAL SCORES	CRIMSON TIDE	FRAZER VALLEY	VANCOUVER REPS	W. WASHINGTON STATE.	ALBERTA REPS	VANCOUVER PRES. XV
DAVE BARRY	-	1 Con	1 Con, 1 PG	6 Cons, 2PG	1 Con	1 T
PETER BOLLAND	-	-	-	1 T	-	-
CHRIS CAMILLERI	-	-	-	1 T	2 T	1 T
JOHN DAVIES	3 PG	1 PG	-	-	3 T 5 Cons	1 Con
GERALD DAVIES	-	2 PG 1 Con	-	-	1 T	1 T
GARETH EDWARDS	-	1 T	1 T	-	-	-
PAUL EVANS	-	-	-	-	-	-
ALEX FINLAYSON	-	-	-	-	-	-
TERRY HOLMES	-	-	-	2 T	-	1 T
ROBERT DUDLEY?JONES	-	1 T	1 T	1 T	-	1 T
MIKE KNILL	1 T	-	-	-	-	-
ROGER LANE	1 T	-	-	-	-	-
STUNET LANE	-	1 T	-	-	-	-
MIKE MURPHY	-	-	-	2 T	-	-
MARK MCJENNETT	-	-	-	-	-	-
BARRY NELMES	-	-	-	-	-	-
ALAN PHILLIPS	-	-	1 T	-	1 T	-
IAN ROBINSON	-	-	-	-	-	-
CARL SMITH	-	-	1 T	-	1 T	-
DAVID THOMAS	-	1 T	-	1 T	-	-
GERRY WALLACE	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIKE WATKINS	-	-	-	-	-	-
TREVOR WORGAN.	-	-	-	1 T	1 T	-
	17	29	21	54	48	22

THE MATCHES.

CRIMSON TIDE

Venue Royal Athletic Park at Victoria
Result Lost 17 - 29
Ground Large and full size. Excellent condition, Modern Stand
Crowd About 2,300. Largest next to last Welsh Tour.
Refereeing S. McCarthy. Difficulties over Maul & Ruck interpretations
No refereeing of Offside in Centre of field.

The Game Cardiff entered into a game in the best spirit of Centenary Year. Nearly all attacking impetus came from Cardiff. Poor finishing and mistakes under pressure allowed Crimson Tide full advantage of scoring from counter attack and interception. They fully deserved their win.

FRAZER VALLEY

Venue Swanguard Stadium in Vancouver.
Result Won - 29 - 9
Ground Barely full size - inside a running track - at Swanguard Stadium. very good Stand and Changing facilities. Wet and Windy to begin with.
Crowd about 1,500
Refereeing B. Marr (Ontario) Line-out positioning bad. Again no looking for Offside in centre of field. More lenient to us on Maul Situations.

The Game A hard first half - war of attrition - Pack took brunt of attack
Second half Frazer Valley lost steam and some brilliant scores were made after swinging switching passing.

VANCOUVER REPS

Venue Swanguard Stadium in Vancouver
Result Won 21 - 6
Ground Good conditions
Crowd 1500 - 2000.
Refereeing K. Morrison - Quite fair.

The game Again, tactic was to play up middle through the Pack, tie in opposition in order to allow $\frac{3}{4}$ s to attack. Vancouver No. 6 injured - suspected broken jaw in collision tackle - had been warned repeatedly by Referee. Good tries materialised in 2nd half. Superb 45 yd solo by G. Edwards

WEST WASHINGTON STATE

Venue West Seattle Stadium
Result Won 54 - 6
Ground Very small - 62 yards wide. Posts on back of in-goal area
Markings from a Soccer game still on field. No 15 yd line
Crowd 1500
Refereeing A Barnwell - Excellently fair. Best Ref. so far.
The game Americans not really in the game. Not powerful enough at
Forward though very mobile. Good technical ability of their
backs - but prone to mistakes under pressure. Allowed C.R.F.C.
to play v. good running rugby for which Crowd very appreciative.

ALBERTA REPRESENTATIVES

Venue Ellerslie Park in Edmonton
Result Won 48 - 6
Ground Excellently large - best so far. Ground V. hard. Sun
about 94 d. F.
Refereeing G. Jones. Quite fair. Good interpretation and Control
Crowd 1500.
The Game Magnificent Pack effort. Alberta at full strength except
for 1 centre (Canada). Superb tries resulted from 2nd phase.
Alberta Union dismayed at Cardiff's power and speed. John Davies
(22 points including 3 tries) had a brilliant game as did
Chris. Camilleri.

VANCOUVER PRESIDENT'S XV.

Venue Brockton Park in Vancouver
Result Won. 22 - 3
Ground Good. Bare size. 75 d.F. Changing Facilities poor
Stand being rebuilt.
Crowd 1,500
Refereeing D. Brockington. Good Control.
The Game Presidents XV, a shadow British Columbia team, with some young
3/4s played admirably. Only in second half did Cardiff's
experience and expertise bear fruit. A very good effort by
Cardiff Team after a 1000 mile 3 day Coach journey from
Edmonton

TEAM ORGANISATION (Coaching, Training, Selection, Party and Team Meetings).

1. Coaching: Organised by John Evans. Aided by J. Davies (Manager) and A.J. Priday (Assistant Manager).

Some adjustments to schedules were necessitated owing to very hard ground conditions heat and humidity (in Vancouver) and height above sea level and mosquitoes (in Edmonton.)

2. Training: Arranged each morning except when Travelling. Same format viz: 9.30 start, change in Hotel - return to hotel for Refreshments, Showers and Baths.

Turned down opportunity to train at University Grounds owing to distance/travelling time. Used local Parks which abounded, especially Brockton Park in Vancouver.

3. Selection

Deliberately chose strongest team for 1st game with rest of players playing in 2nd. Aim was that everyone should play at least 4 out of 6 games. This maintained and concentrated interest and enthusiasm. Committee consisted of Manager, Captain and Coach with Assistant Manager being consulted.

4. Party Meetings and Team Meetings.

Briefings day before leaving one hotel and arrival at a new hotel. Basic Itinerary outlined. Hotels excellent in providing Manager with accommodation large enough for Team Meetings.

Team Meetings $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs prior to each game

Duty Players appointed on Daily Rota for 24 hrs. to carry out Manager's orders and disseminate information.

THE GAME IN CANADA

1. Cardiff Rugby Club went on Tour to play open, positive rugby and our playing record emphasises this. Owing to narrow pitches, Canadian defensive play and a desire to avoid Maul situations (arguable refereeing) the team developed a good forward momentum (support and turn and ruck) and Centre threequarters ran harder down the middle of the field. Switch play became an imperative part of our running very mobile Canadian Forward defences. Blind side Winger in certain instances played more inside as an extra supporting Full Back.
2. Canadian Teams were very athletic and physical. Largely coached by New Zealanders. Great emphasis laid on defensive rather than offensive play from scrum/Line out situations. Counter attack, interception play, blind side winger running open seemed common gambits to all teams which played us brought just reward in Victoria against us, but never occurred thereafter - witness playing record. Very little unorthodox, sidestepping/dummying threequarter play seen even in Canadian National Side. Good line-out support of Forwards also seen in Rucks where there was good drive. Overall Canadian play rather like Australian play but without the flair of a Hawthorne, Catchpole or Wright or the inspiration of a Fay or Smith.
3. Witness W.R.U. Tour 1973 Report of K. Gwilym
At least 4 - 5 days must be allowed for a Touring Team to acclimatise and overcome "jet lag". We would endorse this but not use it as an excuse for our defeat at Victoria.
4. All impressed by the dedication and willingness of Canadians to meet/play Touring sides in Canada

REFEREES

		<u>Rank Order.</u>
S. Mcarthy	Crimson Tide	4
B. Marr	Frazer Valley	4
K. Morrison	Vancouver Rep.	4
A. Barnwell	W. Washington State	1
G. Jones	Alberta Rep.	2
D. Brockington	Vancouver Pres. XV	3

1. Referees were appointed without prior consultation with us. Referees were encouraged to be Touch Judges by C.R.F.C.
2. With the exception of A. Barnwell and G. Jones, refereeing was most different from our home standards in terms of interpretation of Maul-Ruck. In most matches there was poor enforcement of Line out Laws and very little control over Mid-field, where standing offside appeared to be commonly accepted by referees and Players alike. Differences of opinion emerged on definitions of Tackle in terms of passing off chest on ground/releasing the ball immediately after contact.
3. Referees agreed that Discussion Groups on Laws were necessary though in many instances despite recourse to my W.R.U. Handbook there appeared to be much legal hairsplitting of terms rather than on playing within the spirit of the Laws.

OFFICIALS AND ADMINISTRATION

Victoria Is. R.U.

Alan Rees	President
Mel. Jones	Secretary
Ray. Greenhouse	Treasurer
Paddy Steward	Past President
Mike Antolin.	

Very efficient and slick organisation on and off the field.
Renewal of old rugby friendships truly brought us together.

Frazer Valley R.U.

Gordon Eddy	President
Brian Smith	Coach
Bill Granleese	Tour Co-ordinator
Lew Bloomingdale	Vice-President
Russ Radcliffe	Treasurer.

Day Tours and aftermatch functions well organised. However, it was very difficult to contact G. Eddy and several arrangements were broken and/or postponed because of this.

Vancouver R.U.

Alan Sharp	President
Warwick Harivel	Liaison Officer
Lloyd Williams	Past President
Barry Burnham	Manager.

Excellent Liaison Officer for whole time we spent in Vancouver. Alan Sharp worked largely on his own and therefor apart from Barry Burnham, whom several of us knew before the tour, there was no real contact between us and the V.R.U. This was explained by the fact that the V.R.U. were entertaining the English Under 23, plus other touring teams (Irish and French) and therefore were over committed. Warwick Harivel worked very hard to offset these difficulties. The final Banquet and Dance on Saturday 11th June was truly excellent. Ashley Ford of the local press gave us very good coverage.

Washington R.U. (Seattle)

Paul Silva

President.

Organisation very haphazard. Solely in hands of Paul Silva even though it appeared that other Committee and Players had wanted to be involved. Arrangements for Game were chaotic - delays into the Ground and into Dressing Rooms and after-match function, in terms of refreshment and food, was absolutely minimal. Owing to the efforts of players like David Bruck and Rob Simpson cordial and friendly relations were cemented between our players and the American Players, most of whom appeared genuinely embarrassed by the general situation. U.S.A. Coach, D. Twooley, present at game and function was obviously very critical of the match arrangements and intimated that he would report to the U.S. Union as such.

Alberta and Edmonton R.U.s

Don Whidden
Roger Cowper
Lyn. Davies
Gareth Jones

President of Alberta
President of Edmonton
Sec. of Edmonton
Committee and Referee.

Excellent organisation throughout our Edmonton visit both on and off the field. Excellent hospitality, ground, game and facilities. Very best of the Tour so far. Very genuine friendships established as in Victoria.

DRESS AND EQUIPMENT.

1) Dress

We adopted the following dress procedures.

No. 1 Dress: - Blazer Suit, Tie, Shirt

No. 2. Club Sweater, Grey Pants

No. 3. For Free time - individual choice.

Players readily responded to the Manager's request that No 1. Dress be worn to Official Functions and for entering/departing a new Tour stop. No. 2 Dress was used for B.B. Qs and less formal functions like Dances. Complimentary remarks were made about our Dress on T.V. and in the Press and to me personally. The question of dress is one of some importance both as regards morale and discipline and representing one's Club, and the C.R.F.C. team is to be congratulated for its support in this respect. Even Canadian Players who were sublimely casual initially "formalised" their dress towards the end of the Tour.

2) Equipment

No. 1 Playing Kit.

We took 5 sets of Playing Kit for this 6 Match Tour. Each Player was issued with, carried and was responsible for his own Training Kit, Track Suit, Boots and Training Shoes. This system worked admirably. N.B. However, Laundry was very expensive.

No. 2. Presentation Gifts

Plaques, Pennants and Badges (rather than Ties) were most popular and in high demand.

No. 3. Medical Kit

It was most advantageous to pack separate Kits for each game and to take extra medical supplies. These would have been very expensive items in Canada. None of these items were provided by Canadian Unions. Our Club Doctor in respect of stomach ailments, blisters etc. and in terms of arranging physiotherapy treatment was an extra special benefit.

AIRCRAFT AND TRAVEL

20th May 1977	Depart Heathrow	BA 629	Direct to Vancouver
12th June 1977	Depart Vancouver	BA 628	Direct to London.
5th June 1977	Depart Seattle	Hughes Air West 21 to Spokane Hughes Air West 729 to Edmonton.	

Bus Arrangements.

In Vancouver and to Seattle	Grays Bus Company	Excellent
Fram Edmonton to Vancouver	Yellow Bus Company	Excellent
In Vancouver, several Training Sessions/visits covered by Vancouver Over 40.		

Twilighiter's Bus at a lower fee. Bus fees per day varied between 25 - 50 ~~X~~

Ferry

Dept. Tsawwassen (Vancouver) for Swartz Bay (Victoria - 22nd May arranged by Gray Bus Company.

Dept. Nanaimo (70 miles N. of Victoria) for N. Vancouver.

HAGEN's TRAVEL, VANCOUVER.

Mr. Peter Horne, Manager, stayed with us throughout the Tour. He had previously been in charge of the Welsh Rugby Union - Canadian Tour and Barbarians, British Columbia - Alberta arrangements. An excellent organiser. Very diplomatic and surreptitious. A man to be much commended by his manner and for the care and attention he lavished on C.R.F.C. Tour Party.

HOTELS.

N.B. In all cases, Meals were negotiated at reasonable prices by Manager with Restaurant Staff.

VANCOUVER

Ritz Hotel, W. Georgia Street, Vancouver.

John Anderson - Manager.

Excellent double rooms and room service and Restaurant. Courteous and friendly staff. Several Bars plus Dance Bar. 3 Functions put on free for Team by Management of Hotel.

VICTORIA

Strathcona Hotel - 919 Douglas Street, Victoria

John Olsen - Manager.

A smaller hotel. Restaurant good. Several Bars plus Dance Bar. Courteous Office Staff.

SEATTLE

Mayflower Hotel, 405 Olive Way, Seattle.

Downtown Seattle. Accommodation cramped - 4 to a Room. Service initially poor but after discussions rapidly improved. Bar Manager excellent.

EDMONTON

Macdonald's Hotel, 10065, 100th Street, Edmonton.

Ostentatious. Security weak (A.J. Friday and 2 players had luggage stolen) - general service rather off-hand though Restaurant Manageress excellent. 1 Top Class Restaurant. Own Hotel Swimming Pool and Sauna.

BANFF

Voyagers' Hotel, 555 Banff Avenue, Banff

Small, German owned. Slow Restaurant Service, but excellent rooms, Swimming Pool and Saunas.

KAMLOOPS

Stockmen's Hotel, 540 Victoria Street, Kamloops.

Small but excellent Hotel.

FINANCE.

1. C.R.F.C. covered own costs - Transport (Air, Land, Sea) and Hotels.
2. Small Retainers were offered by each Union supervising games against Cardiff except Vancouver Is. R.U. which offered an alternative arrangement to provide certain meals/Transport.
3. It would benefit any Touring Team to have special Banking Arrangements in Vancouver etc. as witnessed following robbery of our Travellers Chequest in Edmonton.

EXPENSES - some items

Taxis - 3 dollars for local trips Rate £1 = 1.70 Canadian Dollar
Bottle Beer, Larger - 1 Dollar - 1 Dollar 20 Cents.
Lager Draught - 45 cents to 65 cents
Breakfast - 3 dollars 25 cents bought a substantial cooked Breakfast and extras
Lunches/Dinners - A La Carte was expensive.

Average 6-9 Dollars would get average good 3 course meal
in good class Hotel.

Milk was an extra up to 90 cents (1g glass)

4 - 6 Dollars in Vancouver/Seattle bought a good Canadian
Chinese Meal.

- * Where possible Meals were negotiated through Hotel Restaurant. Managers and Players did not choose A la Carte.
- * Where Beer/Soft Drinks (Coca Cole) was being provided by C.R.F.C. it was cheaper to buy bulk/Wholesale from Local Liquor Stores (4.25 Dollars per pack of 6). Carling O Keefe were excellent in this respect.
- * Shopping was definitely cheaper in Seattle rather than in Vancouver which we found very expensive.

INSURANCE.

Make certain that in this respect that the Club errs on the side
of safety rather than thriftiness. Our Personal Insurance should have
been higher - witness Alun. J. Priday.

FUNCTIONS

VISITS AND HOSPITALITY - Far more casual than formal.

OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS AND HOSPITALITY.

- In Vancouver - V.R.U. - Visit (pm) to Grouse Mountains and cancelled Harbour Cruise.
- Vancouver Reps. Game - Beefburgers and Beer Thrash at Ritz Hotel
 - Vancouver President's XV - Help yourself Dinner, Beer and Dance - very good.

FRAZER VALLEY

Visit (pm) to Fort Langley and Balmon BBQ at Paton's Farm - Excellent.

Frazer Valley Game - Beer Thrash and Kentucky Chicken at Rio Bar.

CANADIAN R.U.

Management invitation to Canada - U.S.A. Dinner

In Seattle - Wahsington R.U.

Visit (pm) to Mariner's Baseball Game - Seats free.

After match arrangements - fair meal but no refreshments and no dance (as promised).

In Victoria - V.I.R.U.

Sunday Dinner 22nd May - in lieu of retainer to C.R.F.C.

Banquet by British Columbia Gout at the Empress Hotel

After match Beer Thrash - Excellent.

In Edmonton - E.R.U.

Visit to Fort Edmonton

BBQ at Opalinski Hotel - Excellent

After match - Steak BBQ, Beer and Dance - Excellent.

2. PRIVATE FUNCTIONS AND HOSPITALITY was Excellent

Owing to efforts of Carling O'Keefe (Don Rose in Vancouver
Ritz Management
Individuals

G. Budge. P. Stewart

THE PRESS AND T.V.

1. No specific individual Member of the Press had been assigned to cover our matches.
2. In Vancouver we had good coverage through Ashley Ford, a New Zealander, who spent many hours off the field with us and watched three games. Elsewhere, a low key coverage was the order of the day.
3. We had good T.V. Coverage in Vancouver (last game) and pre-match in Seattle. Interviews with Management and Gerald Davies went down well.
4. It was patently clear that most Canadians and Americans are still geared to professional sports like Baseball, Ice Hockey etc. It was clear too that our performances did win new supporters to the game. Obviously the game will not grow on the West Coast until more top class Club and Representative Teams visit and play ther.
5. Note, too, that although the England Under 23 were on tour at the same time in British Columbia they did not receive any more coverage than we did.

SUPPORTERS.

37 Supporters - a mixed Group - under control of John Lemos of John Corty Travel.

They stayed in separate Hotels. They enjoyed the same after-match functions apart from meals/Dinners. They attended the same BBQs.

Initial difficulties over joint use of transport were resolved amicably.

Proved a fine and enthusiastic crowd of people.

During the long week in Vancouver, between 1st and 2nd games, proved a good morale-boosting force.

CONCLUSIONS.

- 1 The team deserves all credit for its patience, stamina, discipline and whole-hearted co-operation and enthusiasm both on and off the field. The team emerged as a better unit in terms of morale and maturity. No incidents occurred on or off the field for the full period of the tour.
- 2 My special thanks must go to Gerald Davies, a quiet disciplined and dedicated Captain, to Alun. Priday, for his full support, to John Evans, L.M. Spence, Tom. Holley and Dr. Jim. Naysmith for their dedicated help and co-operation.
- 3 We were conscious that on our Centenary Tour we were proud Representatives of the Old World and Welsh Rugby playing in the New World. We believe we carried the Welsh Flag proudly, honourably and stylishly.

John. Davies.