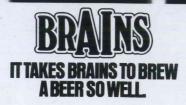


DARK.BRIGHT.BRILLIANT. BRAIN





Cardiff v. Moseley

SATURDAY, 3rd JANUARY, 1987 KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

Yule Be Sorry!

Yes, I am. Very sorry; for myself in particular. I am sure that when Jesus was born He didn't intend that two thousand years later I would be suffering from a hangover that threatens to last at least another thousand years. All in the cause of celebrating the anniversary of His arrival on earth. However folks, I sincerely hope that you enjoyed your festivities and that 1987 will be a prosperous year for you all, and for the Captain and Players of Cardiff R.F.C. I know that I feel 120 years old today and I suspect that I might look 120 years old today, but it will certainly surprise some of my friends and nearly all of our players to learn that I am not 120 years old today. Had I been, I would have witnessed the most dramatic event to occur in 1886. On April 17th 1886 to be exact.

This was the day when Cardiff R.F.C. playing their 27th and last game of the season lost their ground record and their unbeaten record to Moseley by 3 points to 10.

It must have been a dreadful disappointment to players and supporters alike to have failed to achieve invincibility at the very last hurdle — and at the Cardiff Arms Park to boot.

F.E. Hancock, who had created the four threequarter system three years earlier, was the Captain. Such was his dedication to the running game that no penalty goals or dropped goals were scored in his season as Captain. They scored 131 tries, seventy of which were converted. Only four tries were scored against Cardiff and not one by a Welsh club. What a record — and what a joy they must have been to watch. No wonder they have been drinking Hancocks Ales in Cardiff ever since. Frank Hancock was a tartar for team discipline, and was known to publicly admonish one of his players for attempting a dropped goal instead of passing. There is a portrait of him hanging in the Members Bar, and he looks the sort of man who wouldn't suffer fools gladly, staring through ice-blue eyes of laser-like intensity. As a matter of fact, if I want a pint of Brains I go around the corner of the Bar to order, out of range of that searing stare, which would surely turn my sweet S.A. into sweet F.A. No wonder Ken Jones always stands with his back to that particular corner.

At the half way point of the season there appears to be no consistency in any of the clubs in Wales. Neath and possibly Bridgend appear to get their act together most frequently, with Newport looking ominous with a long string of impressive victories. However, all these teams have had inexplicable defeats and it would be a brave man who would predict the winners of the Championship or the Cup at this stage of the season. Despite the fact that we are re-building from an unimpressive early start, there are far too many players of high quality in the Cardiff team to write us off just yet. Nevertheless we will be looking for a winning start to the New Year against Moseley today, if only to make up a little ground for that result in 1886. Moseley had Ebbw Vale as visitors to the Reddings on Saturday last and beat them more convincingly than the 20 points to 18 scoreline would suggest. That was Ebbw Vale's ninth defeat in ten visits to Moseley, however, and we have had much better returns in recent years with a string of eight consecutive wins since they won

at home in 1980. Our visitors last win at Cardiff would take us all back to Frank Hancocks blue eyes and all that. I think that today we should hang his portrait on the cross-bar.

The overall record against Moselev reads:-

Played 80 Won 65 Lost 13 Drawn 2 Points for 1283 Against 434 A sincere and warm welcome to Moseley today, a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda Pob-Un.

It is always a mistake to reveal a womans age in public - whatever her age and whatever her looks. That much I know and am sure of. I don't usually concern myself with the age of men - it doesn't seem to be important. However, I must take the risk of vexing the vanities of two men today, by announcing that Stan Bowes and Haydn Wilkins have both recently reached and passed three score years and ten. Both belie their years and are exceedingly robust and vital. Haydn will be "Doing it his way" and in impeccable voice for many years to come, and Stanley shows no signs of being other than 'unsinkable Bowes' for ever. Many Happy Returns to two wonderful men of Cardiff R.F.C.

On a more sombre note, the news concerning Kevin Edwards is not very encouraging. It appears there are further doubts about his capability to return to first class Rugby after an operation to correct a detached retina. Should Kevin have to retire it would be a sad loss to Cardiff R.F.C. He has been a veritable tower of strength in the Cardiff pack in their triumphs of recent seasons. He is one of the biggest men ever to have played for the Club, and he has a smile and heart to match - he would be sorely missed.

D.J.H.

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MATCHES RECALLED

J.B.G. THOMAS continues his stroll down Memory Lane to research a match between today's clubs which no-one can remember but which, nevertheless, was an historic encounter: the day Cardiff lost their unbeaten record in the very last home game

Hancock's Bitter

April 17, 1886: CARDIFF 3pts MOSELEY 10pts

THERE CAN be no one alive today who saw this match, played 100 years ago and yet it remains one of the saddest defeats suffered by Cardiff — even more so than the 1905 defeat by New Zealand. Moseley were the winners and deservedly so.

The 1885-86 season is remembered as Hancock's Year, since the side was led by the brilliant and inventive F. E. Hancock, a member of the famous Wiveliscombe family who came to Cardiff and established a proud firm of brewers.

It was he who promoted the four three-quarter system, actually through an emergency and selectors' problem. They had four good players for the then three positions and decided to play all four and only eight forwards instead of nine.

At the time it worked well for Cardiff but not for Wales. A. J. Gould dismissed it as unworkable but later employed it with success. It became recognised as one of the most important tactical changes in the game universally adopted.

In this special season Cardiff won all their matches until the last. They accounted for all their Welsh rivals and achieved the 'double' over Swansea, Llanelli and Newport. Actually, they beat Swansea four times and were confident they would overcome the challenge of Moseley, strong at the time and one of the leading clubs in England.

Again, Cardiff were playing on their own ground, The Arms Park, where a new grandstand had been erected on the South side of the present national ground at a cost of £362, compared with the millions required today.

Hancock, a strong personality, was much respected by his team. One of his quirks was that no player should attempt a drop at goal. He wanted running, passing play. We could do with more Hancocks today in the game, and fewer penalty goals.

The Cardiff team differed considerably from the present side, especially in the matter of physique for five of the eight forwards were under 12 stones in weight and one of them was only nine stones. Yet five of the team played for Wales against England, including such famous names as W. M. Douglas, A. F. Hill and W. Stadden.

At the end of the season at the annual dinner, gold medals were presented to the leading 20 players and also blue caps for the first time. Indeed, a memorable year.

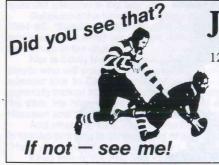
There were 4,000 spectators present at the start of this vital Moseley match and the report in the 'Western Mail' of 100 years ago makes very interesting reading. It includes such comments as "players propelled the leather" and "Emery of Cardiff kicked loosely out of defence in the first half and Mylors secured the leather for Moseley and dashed through the forwards to ground near the posts. Mansell kicked the goal."

Moseley led at the interval by one goal to nil, but on the restart Cardiff made a special effort. They rushed down to the Moseley goal line where the powerful threequarter W. M. Douglas scored a touch down. The all-important goal was not kicked.

Near the close Mylors raced through to score again for Moseley, after a long run in which he defeated several Cardiff defenders. Again Mansell kicked the goal and Moseley were home and dry with two goals against a try.

As they left the field, Moseley were loudly cheered by the disappointed Cardiff crowd, and it was this gesture that gave rise to the accolade that The Arms Park crowd is a sporting one.

The season's summary was: Played 27, won 26 and lost one. The side scored 131 tries with only four against, and Douglas scored 23, Charlie Arthur 22, and Hancock 18, to indicate that the running game with four three-quarters was the thing of the future.



. Warren Hailes

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QUIDNUNC'S COLUMN

THERE WAS a time in the fifties when visiting sides would come to Cardiff to tackle and generally haul down Knickers and Nylons. But let me hasten to add, lest you might think Quidnunc is still overcome with an excess of the New Year spirit, that Knickers and Nylons were the

nickernames of a pair of Cardiff centres: Nicholls and Nyhan.

It would be tempting for me to claim that Nylon was in fact a printer's error because my good friends at Provincial Printing tell me that Nylon's handwriting is sometimes indecipherable whereas my tripewriter is merely dyslectic. But seriously, Nylon is Peter Nyhan, alias P.N., the scribe who writes those erudite and factual notes further forward in the programme. And his handwriting is bad: how else would the famous Billy Cleaver have been elevated considerably in the world in one edition by being described as an airship engineer instead of mining engineer? It is not easy to disguise the word mining to look like airship: P.N. managed it and, as a result, I would ask you to treat any jibberish on page 3 with as jaundiced an eye as our cartoonist Derek Steers views the subject of today's thesis.

Peter Nyhan, assistant secretary of the rugby club, is as Cardiff as the Brain's dairk he quaffs so liberally — "just about the most accomplished beer drinker in the establishment," reports one colleague. To say that he was born on East Terrace could conceivably be misunderstood by younger readers more accustomed to the national stadium but Nylon's particular East Terrace was then a part of what is now Churchill Way and to some extent a part of rugby folklore. The late and great Danny Davies — Massa Dan — lived next door: and East Terrace produced a breed of ruthless tacklers. The street in which rugby was played was so narrow (and adults played with boys) that you either tackled the man with the ball or got trampled underfoot. And yet it was not

here that he became an integral part of the Black Hand Gang.

As you listen to Peter Nyhan singing Paddy McGinty's Goat with that loveable little speech impediment — I only barely refrain from calling the cartoon a Spitting Image — it is difficult to imagine that the man who has so often served mass at the Catholic Cathedral and even in Cardiff Prison, where he was surprised to find so many familiar faces, was a particularly villainous member of such an outfit. And if you think I exaggerate, then just ask a few innocent questions about how a small souvenir lifted from the Harlequins clubroom found its way to Cardiff and turned out, in fact, to be the Middlesex Sevens trophy. Whose face was the most red when it had to be returned to London? Nylon's or the late Ken Richards, I'll bet. And who would have midnight cycle rides down Cornish hotel staircases? Not P.N., surely? The same P.N. and Ken Richards who, during a Scottish tour over New Year, tumbled straight from First Footing to Mass and had to endure a five-minute sermon on the evils of drink. And Ken not a Catholic, either.

Because the name of Nyhan crops up so often in the club, it is with very considerable surprise that one discovers that Peter played only 34 times for the first team, scoring eight tries. A certain Newport centre used to claim that if the hard-tackling P.N. had gone to Rodney Parade he would have been in line for a Welsh cap though there has to be a certain amount of Peter's favourite Irish blarney in this: his problem was that his time in Cardiff coincided with such illustrious centres as Bleddyn Williams, the afore-mentioned Howard Nicholls, Alun Thomas, Gareth Griffiths, Gordon Wells and other worthies. Mind you, one of those 34 appearances was against the Barbarians — though perhaps it is unfair to mention it as the opposition ran in 10 tries and annihilated Cardiff 40-0. A happier memory, possibly, is of beating the Harlequins in London when nine of the Cardiff first team were missing on Welsh 'trial' duty. And the Rags had two quite splendid seasons in the late 50s under his captaincy.

But much of his time has also been spent in committee on which he has served since season 1964-65. "Peter is," says another colleague, "a true gentleman and a very hard-working administrator behind the scenes. Mind you," he added pensively, "he is the youngest retired

gentleman in the club."

Nor is it only the committee who appreciate the Nyhan work. You're hard pushed to find a player who will poke fun at him — and not only since he was assistant manager on the recent summer tour to Canada where he acted — quite naturally, I suppose — as father confessor, generally looked after Kevin Edwards and admits to having one of his most memorable times with the club. He has always received full and essential support in his rugby work from his wife Maureen and the family — Geraldine, Bernadette, Matthew and Elizabeth.

And wherever he is, at The Arms Park, up at Llanishen Golf Club, down in deepest Glengariff in Ireland or trying to Sing a Song of Sixpence, he's usually first in the field with the latest joke.

"Have you heard the one about the?"

Keep telling 'em P.N., and keep educating us in this programme.

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Rugby Quiz - No. 15

Right, let's see what you can remember about 1986

- 1. During 1986, did we fail to score in any games?
- 2. During 1986, not including the Canadian tour, only two games were drawn. What was unusual about the situation?
- 3. How many teams did we lose to twice during 1986?
- 4. What was our highest score during 1986?
- 5. April 1986 saw our fourth Schweppes Cup victory 28-21 over Newport. What were two unique features of the score?

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J. WHITEFOOT

A. PHILLIPS (Capt.)

S. BLACKMORE

M. PARRY

T. CHARLES

G. ROBERTS

J. SCOTT R. LAKIN

> To be announced

Full Back Right Wing Right Centre Left Centre Left Wing **Outside Half** Inside Half **Forwards**



Replacements

Moseley

I. METCALFE (Capt.) 15. A. JAMES 14.

C. ALLEN 13. J. GOODWIN 12.

A. N. OTHER 11.

M. JONES 10.

S. ROBSON

M. LINNETT

C. BARBOR 2.

G. SMITH 3.

R. TUCKWOOD 4.

R. DENHARDT

R. BARR 6.

P. SHILLINGFORD 8.

> S. MASTERS 7.

> > G. SMITH 17.

J. SWAN 18.

1.

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Our last home game against Moseley was in October 1983 just over three years ago. The sides that played that day are shown below. How many of the 30 players have stayed the course for todays game I wonder. Now is your chance to check.

Ca	rdiff	. 1	Mosel	ey
15.	B. McALOON	Full Back	I. METCALFE	15.
14.	A. YEANDLE	Right Wing	A. PARSONS	14
13.	M. RING	Right Centre	C. SMITH	13
12.	A. DONOVAN	Left Centre	S. HUNTER	12.
11.	G. JENKINS	Left Wing	J. GODWIN	11.
10.	W.G. DAVIES	Outside Half	C. MEANWELL	10
9.	S. CANNON	Inside Half	G. VINEY	9
1.	J. WHITEFOOT	Forwards	M. HEAD	1
2.	A. J. PHILLIPS		G. COX (Captain)	2
3.	I. EIDMAN		P. GISBOURNE	3
4.	K. EDWARDS		R. TUCKWOOD	4
5.	A. MOGRIDGE		A. RECARDO	5
6.	O. GOLDING		N. JEAVONS	6
8.	J.P. SCOTT (Captain)		C. BLACK	8
7.	R. LAKIN		P. JAMES	7
	J. SOUTO	Replacements	C. RICHARDSON	
	J. HOWELLS		B. FERGIY	

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Rugby Quiz No. 15 - Answers

- 1. No. We managed some points in all 48 games played.
- 2. They were both against Llanelli 16-16 and our score in each game was made up of 2 tries, 2 penalties and 1 conversion.
- 3. Four, Aberavon, Bridgend, Swansea and Neath.
- 4. Bedford home, 5th April, 68-28.
- 5. 49 points was the highest ever aggregate and Adrian Hadley's hat-trick was also a first ever



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STATISTICAL CARDIFF

		Se	ason			Career		
The second	App.	Tr.	Goals	Pts.	Арр.	Tr.	Goals	Pts
G. JOHN	13	2	28	77	32	4	56	156
M. RING	15	10	3	47	122	59	72	409
A. HADLEY	17	9	L - 0/.	36	149	94	- II	376
G. CORDLE	11	9	_	36	84(1)	65		260
M. RAYER	16	1	11	34	47(1)	9	11	66
D. EVANS	5	1	12	32	30(1)	6	48	139
G. DAVIES	9	7	-	28	9	7	_	28
G. ROBERTS	15	6		24	65	20	<u> </u>	80
T. CROTHERS	15	5		20	87(1)	23		92
A. DONOVAN	17	3	_	12	112	16	10 p - 1 1 p	64
N. O'BRIEN	6	3	_	12	32(9)	12	J 5	48
C. NORMAN	2	3	<u>-</u>	12	2	3		12
C. WEBBER	3	1-5	4	9	87(7)	17	103	330
P. RING	3	2	3,4	8	3	2		8
A. PHILLIPS	8	2	-	8	368	139	an ano.e	556
R. CARDUS	6	2		8	6	2	344	8
R. NORSTER	9	1		4	220	13		52
J. SOUTO	8(1)	1		4	38(9)	4		16
M. PARRY	9	u1an	e le - ente	4	9	0/1		4
I. EIDMAN	9	1	_	4	199	3	_	12
K. EDWARDS	11	1		4	150	13		52
J. SCOTT	9	1	_	4	226(2)	34		132
G. PRITCHARD	5(3)	1	en 1	4	5(3)	1		4
D. WRIGHT	4	1	MATERIA	4	5(1)	1		4
R. LAKIN	11(1)	1	AND	4	233(3)	56		224
J. HOWELLS	4	MAN N	2	4	4(2)	3	2	16
J. WHITEFOOT	14	-	00-170) -m	222	7	_	28
C. COLLINS	12		F_75		59(2)	1	_	4
P. CRANE	6	-		_	11		-	
H. STONE	5	_		_	83(1)	10		40
S. BLACKMORE	4	10	3_11	_	41	1		4
O. GOLDING	1		FEG EL BIS	TOTAL !	139(2)	47	1	188

Also played: 4 - I. Greenslade; 3 - C. Jones, M. Rowley, D. Gibbon(+2); 2 - S. Cannon. 1-T. Charles, D. Conway, N. Humphreys, M. Hadley(+1), A. Mogridge, R. Rees.

P 20 W 13 D 1 L 6 F 443 A 342 Tries 74 Cons 33 Pens 25 Drops 2 [Not including Wednesday evening's game at Newbridge and only including matches played in the United Kingdoml

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By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

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A ruck takes place when the ball is on the ground, and a player from either team is in physical contact over the ball.

Welsh referees have been advised that if a ruck is forming over a tackled player that the referee must ensure that the player on the ground is making an effort to move away from the ball, and that the ball is clearly visible to the referee at all times, otherwise he must stop play.

Referees must be aware of the important difference between a mobile, moving ruck and a static ruck.

Rucking the ball and the player on the ground is permissible as long as the players on their feet do not stamp, trample or kick the player on the ground. New Zealand have learnt the art to perfection ensuring that the **ruck is moving forward** and that the players have the **correct body angle** in the ruck. It is difficult to stamp or kick the player on the ground.

However if the ruck is **STATIC** over the player on the ground, then there can be real trouble, for those players on their feet can stamp and trample on the defenceless player on the ground — but maintaining that they are trying to ruck the ball.

This is **definitely NOT ALLOWED**. Referees should read the game carefully and should stop play immediately if a ruck is static to prevent serious injuries and minimise Foul Play.

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SEPT	EMBER	3		Fri.	26	Pontypridd	H 21-28
Mon.	1	St. Peters	A 27-12	Sat.	27	Bridgend	H 9-9
Wed.	3	Glamorgan Wanderers	H 22-13				
Sat.	6	East District	H 30-9	1987			
Wed.	10	Bristol	A 14-27	JANU	ARY		
Sat.	13	Neath	A 7-24	Thur.	1	Bath	H
Sat.	20	Coventry	H 22-4	Sat.	3	Moseley	H
Wed.	24	Pontypridd	A 39-12	Sat.	10	Aberavon	H
Sat.	27	Aberavon	A 22-26	Fri.	16	City of Derry	H
			CO WAS ENVIOLED	Sat.	24	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round	
	BER	THE PERSON NAMED IN STREET		Sat.	31	Llanelli	Α
Sat.	4	Newport	H 28-21				
Wed.	8	Bridgend	A 18-29	FEBR	UARY		
Sat.	11 -	Northampton	H 35-4	Fri.	6	Maesteg	Α
Sat.	18	Wasps	A 16-25	Sat.	14	Bristol	H
Ned.	22	Pontypool	H 17-11	Sat.	21	Ebbw Vale	H
Sat.	25	Harlequins	H 26-19	Sat.	28	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round	
Ned.	29	Bath	A 9-28				
NOVE	MBER		DESTRUCTION OF THE PARTY OF THE	MARC			
Sat.	1	Leicester	H 16-10	Fri.	6	London Welsh	H
Ned.	5	Oxford University	H 35-24	Sat.	14	Pontypool	Α
Sat.	8	Ebbw Vale	A 30-24	Wed.	18	Penarth	H
Sat.	15	Treorchy (Cup)	A 14-7	Sat.	28	Newport (S.F. W.R.U. Cup)	Α
Sat.	22	Llanelli	H 16-16				
Ned.	26	Newbridge	A 18-15	APRIL	-		
Sat.	29	Bangor (N.I.)	H 21-14	Wed.	1	S. Glam. Institute	H
				Sat.	4	Bedford	Α
	MBER			Sat.	11	Swansea	H
Sat.	10	Swansea	A 14-19	Sat.	18	Barbarians	H
Sat.	13	London Welsh	A 12-25	Sat.	25	Neath	H

ATHLETIC XV FIXTURES

1986 SEPTEMBER Wed. 3 Glamorgan Wanderers II Sat. 6 Kidwelly Wed. 10 Bristol United Sat. 13 Maesteg Celtic	A 35-20 H 36-16 H 23-27 H 20-16	DECEMBER Sat. 6 Wed. 10 Sat. 13 Sat. 20 Sat. 27	Swansea Athletic Cardiff & District Risca Neath Athletic Bridgend Sports	H 20-11 H 22-7 H 7-11 H 10-25 A 12-17
Wed. 17 Garndiffaith Sat. 20 Coventry Extras Wed. 24 Old Illtydians Sat. 27 Abercynon OCTOBER	A 25-9 A 16-12 H 18-9 H 35-20	1987 JANUARY Sat. 3 Sat. 10 Sat. 24	Moseley United Llanharan Bath United	A A H
Newport United	A 43-30 H 28-29 A 25-31 H 70-0 H Post. A 9-37	Sat. 31 FEBRUARY Sat. 7 Wed. 11 Sat. 14 Sat. 21	Pontypool United Bridgend Ravens Pencoed Bristol United Ebbw Vale Athletic	H H A
Sat. 25 Tondu Wed. 29 Pyle NOVEMBER Sat. 1 Leicester Extras	A 10-23 A 12-23 A 4-27	MARCH Wed. 11 Sat. 14 Tue. 17 Wed. 25	Pontypridd Athletic Pontypool Athletic Abercynon Maesteg Celtic	H H A
Wed. 5 Newport Saracens Sat. 8 Ebbw Vale Athletic Wed. 12 Pontypridd Athletic Sat. 15 Pontypool United Wed. 19 Bedwas Sat. 22 Bridgend Ravens	A 8-15 H 13-7 A 17-25 A 32-15 H Post. A 24-21	Sat. 28 APRIL Sat. 4 Wed. 8 Sat. 11 Wed. 15	Newport United Caerleon Bedwas Swansea Athletic Cardiff H.S.O.B.	H A
Wed. 26 Berry Hill Sat. 29 Abercarn	H Post. A 19-34	Mon. 20	Blackwood	H

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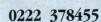
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