



CARDIFF ARMS PARK

CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB

SEASON 1973 - 1974

—
CARDIFF

v

NEATH
—

SATURDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER, 1973

KICK OFF 3.00 P.M.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

PRICE 5 PENCE

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Cardiff v. Neath

We have been playing Neath without interruption except for spasmodic outbreaks of warfare, either World wide or local, since 1874. This has been a remarkable sequence of games, and each game has been remarkable enough in itself to warrant a special volume devoted to games between the Clubs, which could be entitled 'Blue and Black or All Black depending on how you get your kicks'.

To say that Neath is famous for its forwards is a gross understatement. They are certainly not backward in going forward, and I would suggest that if ever we set up a Coaching School for Forwards in Wales that it should be called the College of GNOLLEDGE. To further substantiate this, a quick glance through the W.R.U. Handbook will show, that of Neaths sixteen capped players since the war, twelve have been forwards, and extremely good ones too. Dwell on names like Les Anthony, Rees Stephens, Roy John, Courtney Meredith, Brian Sparks, Don Deveraux, D. J. Davies, our own C. D. Williams, Brian Thomas, Bill Morris, Ron Waldren, Wilson Lauder and you will realise what a reliance Welsh packs have placed upon Neath and have not been disappointed. (Apologies to anyone I have missed out, but pages 116-117 and 120-121 in my WRU Handbook are blank.)

I am a bit young to remember much about things pre-war, but even my young and tender ears have been regaled with legends concerning Dai Hiddlestone, Tom Hollingdale, Glyn Stephens and Arthur Lemon, which proves they filled the gap from S. S. Clarke in 1882 up to 1939 with some pretty formidable forwards.

I feel it would be appropriate at this point, to mention the great work that Rees Stephens has done in connection with Neath Athletic over the years. Long before the majority of clubs stopped looking for ready-made material and started weaving their own, Rees was creating Neaths own nursery. It has paid enormous dividends over the years, and the game against the Rags has always been one of the highlights of the Season. However, the last game at Sophia Gardens must have been quite the most spectacular. I left, well after half-time with the score at 30 pts to nil in the Rags favour. They had played some superb stuff. But Neath Athletic spurred on by some pithy comments from Ron Waldron (it was good to see you Ron) came back with such effect, that they swamped Cardiff, scoring 20 pts. in the process and every impartial observer commented that only the final whistle saved the Rags from losing. Whilst on this subject, the Rags under skipper Tony Williams celebrated their return to the Arms Park by thashing Coventry Extra's by 44 pts to 3 pts. This is some recompense for losing to them 35pts. to nil at Coventry last year.

Returning to the Cardiff v. Neath saga, last year we lost at the Arms Park 14 pts. to 6 pts., but won at the Gnoll by 21 pts. to 7 pts. We look forward today to Cardiff establishing some sort of form after a very fluctuating start. If this team can play the Rugby it is capable of, then not only will they be very good to watch, but they will be well nigh impossible to beat. We all wish Roy Bish and Gary Davies, the best of luck in their search for the elusive catalyst that activates a team into playing the sort of Rugby that this team can play.

CROESO CASTELL NEDD.

D.J.H.

Know the Laws

by FRED CROSTER

Most of the aspects concerning the new line-out innovations have been fairly well covered in previous notes. They do work up to now, do they not? It will be a major tragedy for the game if players and/or coaches try to find some way around them.

Watching the Japanese team in their training sessions and talking to their coach and manager it was a revelation to find how determined their efforts have been to keep strictly within the letter of the law, not merely with these changes but with the laws generally.

One other change which has not been dealt with concerns the scrumhalf around the base of the scrum. Hitherto the scrumhalf has been permitted to kick the ball out of the scrum providing that he remained behind the ball and did not place himself offside.

That has now been stopped: Law 20, section 16 says:
"The player putting in the ball and his immediate opponent must not kick the ball while it is in the scrummage."

Just that — the laws are getting simpler are they not?

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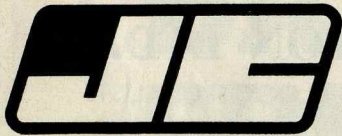
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- 2. Gary DAVIES (Captain)
- 3. G. WALLACE
- 4. L. BAXTER
- 5. J. LUFF
- 6. J. JAMES
- 8. C. SMITH
- 7. S. LANE

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

Neath

- W. DAVIES 15.
- A. ROSE 14.
- D. JENKINS 13.
- J. POOLE 12.
- K. COLLIER 11.
- D. PARKER (Capt.) 10.
- M. DAVIES 9.
- W. WILLIAMS 1.
- M. RICHARDS 2.
- R. LEWIS 3.
- S. HODGSON 4.
- D. DAVIES 5.
- W. LAUDER 6.
- D. MORRIS 8.
- R. BARLOW 7.

Referee: K. ROWLANDS, (Pontypridd)



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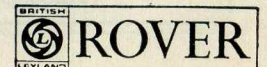
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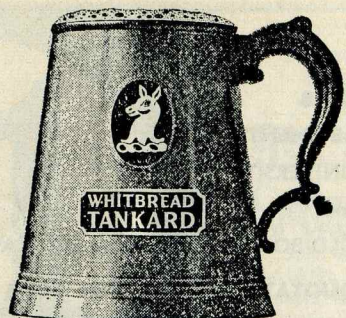
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FIRST XV FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
1973			
Sept. 1	Cognac	H
5	Ebbw Vale	H
8	Blackheath	H	.....
10	Paignton	A	.....
12	Bristol	H	.....
15	Coventry	A	.....
19	Pontypool	H	.....
22	Neath	H	.....
29	Aberavon	H	.....
Oct 3	Penarth	A	.....
5	Newport	A	.....
10	Northern Suburbs (N.S.W.) All Pay	H	.....
13	Northampton	H	.....
17	Ebbw Vale	A	.....
20	Cambridge Univ.	H	.....
24	Pontypool	A	.....
27	Harlequins	A	.....
31	Bridgend	H	.....
Nov. 3	Oxford University	A	.....
9	Newport	H	.....
11	Clermont Ferrand	A	.....
17	Wasps	A	.....
24	Llanelli	A	.....

Dec. 1	Swansea	H	.....
8	Maesteg	A	.....
15	London Welsh	H	.....
22	Moseley	A	.....
26	Pontypridd	H	.....
27	Watsonians	H	.....
29	Abertillery	A	.....

'974

Jan. 12	Coventry	H	.....
18	Heriots F. P.	H	.....
26	Aberavon	A	.....
Feb. 2	Bective Rangers	A	.....
9	Bristol	A	.....
23	Llanelli	H	.....
Mar. 2	Newbridge	H	.....
9	Newport	A	.....
16	London Welsh	A	.....
20	Bridgend	A	.....
23	Newport	H	.....
30	Swansea	A	.....
Apr. 6	Gloucester	H
13	Barbarians	H
15	Harlequins	H
20	Neath	A
27	Cornish Tour	A

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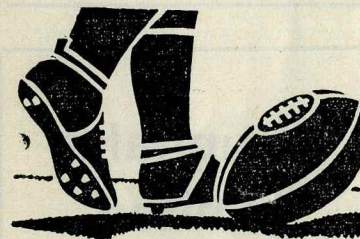
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