

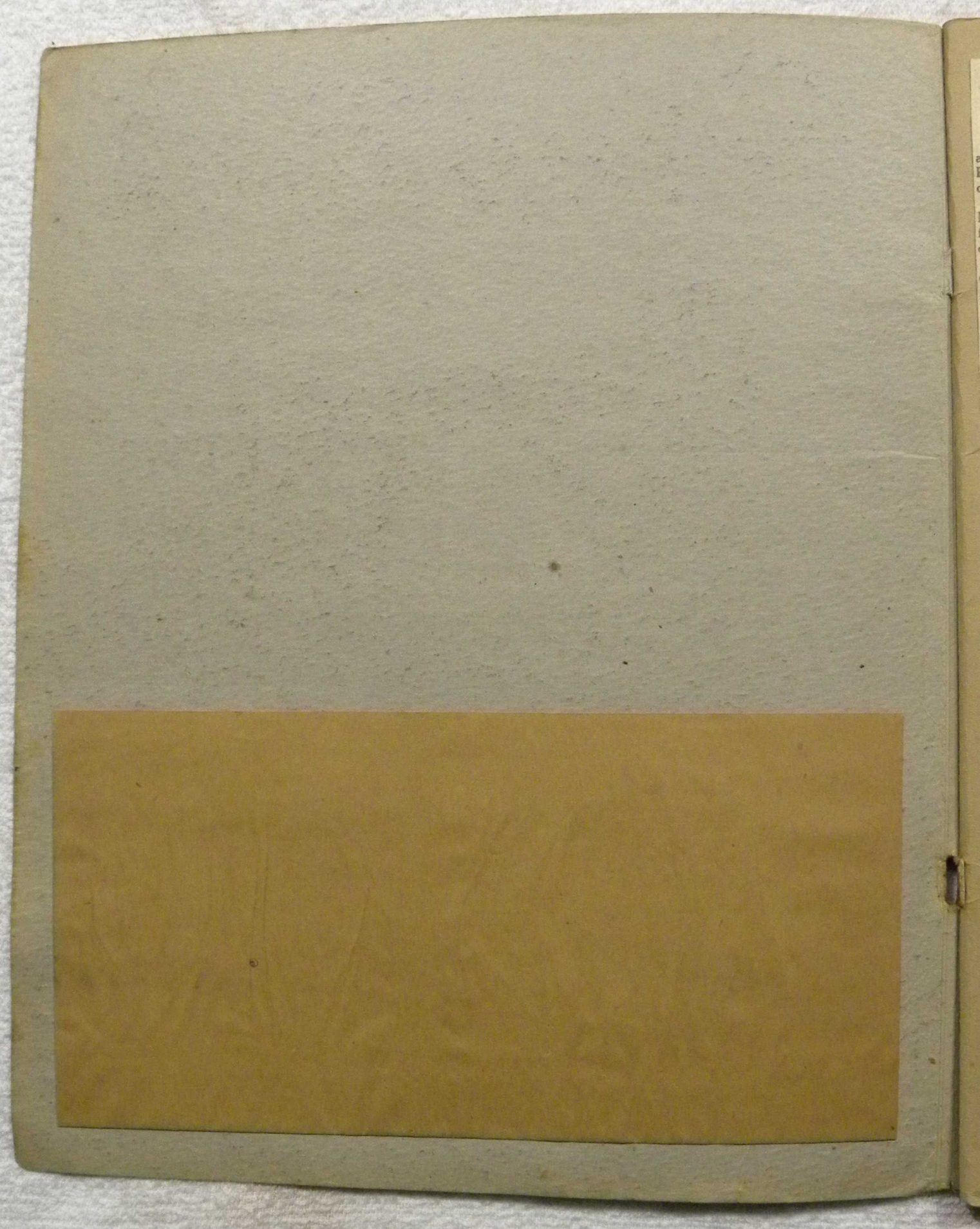
Scrap Book



Book 3.

bardiff R.F.C. *ell*

CRFC. CUTTINGS
APRIL 1951 - DEC. 1951



Murphy & Collins shine at Arms Park

Derek Murphy, who came into the Cardiff team as substitute for Alun Thomas against Llanelli at Arms Park to-day, gave a great display scoring three tries—one a magnificent solo effort.

Cardiff won handsomely by 27 points to 6 and Malcolm Collins, who has been in great goal-kicking form of late again touched fine form landing two splendid penalty goals and converting two tries.

This was Cardiff's last home game of the season—and the Glamorgan cricketers practising in the bright sunshine on the other side of the new stand, indicated that the time has indeed arrived for rugby to abdicate.

Cardiff made a late change, Alun Thomas cried off through injury and his place on the right wing was taken by Derek Murphy.

Teams:
Cardiff: F. Trott; Haydn Morris, Beddyn Williams, J. Matthews, D. Murphy, C. Morgan, R. Willis, C. Davies, J. R. Phillips, G. Jenkins, W. E. Tamplin (capt.), M. Collins, P. Goodfellow, D. J. O'Brien, C. D. Williams.

Llanelli: Gerwyn Williams, M. Griffiths, G. R. Tucker, R. Jones, M. John, D. G. Rees, D. Jones, Evans, Ken Jones (capt.), C. Higgins, D. Christopher, R. Williams, W. Francis, P. Stone, O. Williams, P. Evans.

Referee, Mr. D. C. Joynson, Rogerstone.

A crowd of 12,000 enjoyed the nicest spell of weather for months saw Cardiff go to the attack right away.

In the first minute two kicks at goal—a penalty shot by Tamplin and a drop by Matthews—were well off the beam.

But when Llanelli were penalised again in the fourth minute Tamplin entrusted the kick to young Malcolm Collins, who has been in exceptionally fine goal-kicking form lately.

COLLINS, from near the touch-line 30 yards out, placed an excellent penalty to put Cardiff in the lead.

This quick set-back did not ruffle the Scarlets, who swung to the attack in most promising style.

However, Malcolm John missed his pass close to the line, and a little later missed also with a fairly comfortable penalty shot.

TRADITIONAL FIRE

The Llanelli forwards showed plenty of traditional fire in the loose and had Cardiff worried for quite a time after this.

A fine tackle of Griffiths by Haydn Morris held them up, and then Willis stole away from a scrumage on his own line, inter-passed with Cliff Davies and Goodfellow and enabled Cardiff to take play well out of the danger zone.

And when Llanelli were penalised once more 40 yards out and near the centre of the field **MALCOLM COLLINS** duly obliged by placing another fine penalty.

Five minutes later came the highlight of the game—a brilliant try by **DEREK MURPHY**, one of the best he has ever scored, or is likely to score, for Cardiff.

Cliff Morgan gave him the ball fully 70 yards from the Llanelli line.

Murphy shot past John, veered away from Tucker, who was chasing him, and at the same time swerved around Gerwyn Williams, leaving the international full back floundering.

Then Murphy went on to win a thrilling race for the line, and the cheering for this splendid effort was redoubled when Collins kicked his third goal.

Two more magnificent kicks by Collins followed though both failed narrowly and just before the interval Reg. Jones went very close with a drop at goal for Llanelli.

Half—Cardiff *3 0 11
Llanelli 0 0 0
* Two penalty goals.

by Reg Pelling

Showing great determination after a nice cut through by Beddyn Williams, **MURPHY** against beat Gerwyn Williams rather easily to score his second try just after the second half had started. Collins again added the goal points to bring his personal tally so far to 10 points.

Llanelli scored under somewhat unusual circumstances. Reg. Jones put in a long kick ahead which was chased enthusiastically by the Llanelli forwards.

The ball danced about tantalisingly near the Cardiff line and then cannoned off one of the up-rights into the hands of **OSSIE WILLIAMS**, who promptly touched down under the posts. John's conversion kick was charged down.

Almost immediately Cardiff put in an attack and another excellent effort by Beddyn Williams enabled him to put **MORRIS** in for a corner try. This time Collins's kick was a theft mark.

HIS DAY OUT

But this was certainly a day for young Murphy.

After a full round of passing, by Beddyn Williams and Matthews, **MURPHY** again went hard for the corner and just beat Gerwyn Williams to score his third try.

Tamplin took this kick and added the goal points in grand style.

Then came a brilliant corkscrew run by Cliff Morgan who twisted and turned this way and that, covering 30 yards before handing on to **CLIFF DAVIES** to score an unconverted try.

Some reward for Llanelli's hard work came when **M. GRIFFITHS**, their right wing, chased a long kick to the open which bounced away from Trott, gathered cleanly and went over for a try which John could not convert.

Final—Cardiff *5 2 27
Llanelli 0 2 6
* Two Penalties

COMMENTS

Cardiff were in carefree mood to-day. The dry ground and light ball—coupled, it must be said, with some ineffective Llanelli tackling—just suited Cardiff's attacking style, and although the Scarlets stubbornly contested every inch of ground there was little doubt from early on as to the outcome.

It was a gala day for two of the youngest Cardiff players, Collins and Murphy. Murphys three tries, and particularly the first, were all excellent efforts, while Collins's goal-kicking was most impressive. In his last three games, two for Cardiff and one for Glamorgan, Collins has scored 30 points.

'ARMS PARK' MARCH

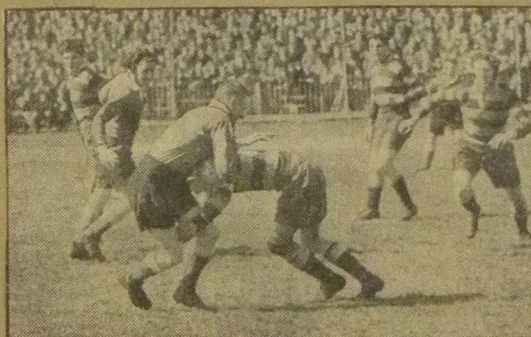
During the interval of the Cardiff—Llanelli match at Cardiff Arms Park to-day the St. Albans military band played a new march entitled "The Arms Park" and dedicated to the Cardiff Rugby Club.

Its composer is Mr. W. G. Bush, deputy conductor of the band, who conducted the piece which was played for the first time to-day in public.



Although collared by his opposite R. Jones, Cardiff centre Beddyn Williams, gets in his kick to touch in the game against Llanelli at the Arms Park to-day.

W. MAIL 23/4/51



A LLANELLY player is well held by Cardiff forward J. R. Phillips in the game at Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday.

CARDIFF TIMES 7/10/50



Members of the rugby "Brains Trust" team who took part in the recent Cardiff R.F.C.

youth section film and lecture night at the Technical College. Left to right: Messrs. J. W. Evans, D. Brown, A. T. Thomas, Hubert Johnson (chairman), Wilfred Wooller, Haydn Tanner and J. B. G. Thomas.

CARDIFF REPEAT WIN, TAKE RECORD

F. ECHO. 5/5/51

START OF A SCORING MOVE

Pontypool's home invincibility ended

In a game full of suspense Cardiff ended Pontypool's 12 months home invincibility with a score of 11 points to 3.

Pontypool, who defended their ground record against Cardiff to-day, had not lost at home since Cardiff beat them by eight points to three a year ago.

Pontypool were without Tony Wyatt (wing), who had flu. His place was taken by Dennis East (Pontypool United).

Cardiff made one change, E.M. Cook replacing C. D. Williams in the back.

PONTYPOOL: L. Arnold; D. East, G. Dobbs, J. Davies, R. Dobbs; Max Horton (capt.), A. G. Smith; C. Howe, J. Bodenham, T. Matthews, J. Holden, C. Lewis, A. Forward, D. Dando, W. Parfitt.

CARDIFF: R. F. Trott; D. C. Murphy, Dr. J. Matthews, B. L. Williams, Haydn Morris; Rex Willis, Cliff Morgan; W. E. Davies, J. Phillips, Cliff Davies, W. E. Taminlin (capt.), M. Collins, E. M. Cook, D. J. O'Brien, J. D. Nelson.

Referee Mr. T. C. Johnson (Rogerstone).

A record crowd for Pontypool Park this season saw the kick off in ideal conditions.

In the first minute Pontypool heeled from a set scrum and Max Horton narrowly missed a drop goal, the ball falling just below the cross-bar.

Pontypool did the pressing in the early stages and Cardiff were several times relieved by the kicking of Willis and Morgan.

Pontypool were awarded a penalty 30 yards out when Cardiff were off-side on a line-out. Len Arnold failed in his kick at goal.

Pontypool had bad luck a minute later when Russell Dobbs fielded a high kick by Bledwyn Williams and handed to Dando, who in turn transferred to Jack Davies. A pass by Davies was charged into touch near the Cardiff line.

Cardiff seemed at sixes and sevens in the face of Pontypool's great enthusiasm. Their nearest shave came when Dando just failed to gather on the line and the ball was kicked dead.

Pontypool's reward came at last with a drop goal by WILF PARFITT.

It took Cardiff another five minutes before they could get into true stride. Then came the best kind of try it is possible to see.

Cliff Morgan, revelling from a scrum, broke through in magnificent style and ran 40 yards before transferring to Bledwyn Williams who gave a perfectly timed pass for his wing, HAYDN MORRIS, to sprint around behind the post. Taminlin converted.

Pontypool supplied the next thrill when Jack Davies intercepted only to throw out a wild pass to one of the forwards when the line was at their mercy.

Then Cardiff, after a strong forward rally, went further ahead through a drop goal by TAMPILIN.

Half-Cardiff *2 0 3
Pontypool *1 0 3

Drop goal
Pontypool again took the initiative on the resumption and Arnold missed another attempted penalty goal.

A couple of good three-quarter movements put Cardiff in a good position for a while but Pontypool gradually fought back.

Max Horton was injured when attempting to tackle Cliff Morgan. He resumed after a few minutes retirement.

Play by this stage had slackened down considerably.

A try by RUSSELL DOBBS, for Pontypool, was the next thrill. Horton punted after a set scrum and the wing gathered to side-step the defence and sprint over in the corner. Arnold's kick just failed.

Towards the end Cardiff scored again through a breath-taking burst by Cliff Morgan.

CLIFF DAVIES was well up with him to take his pass and stormed over for a try.

Pontypool ended in a great rally on the Cardiff line.

Final-Cardiff *2 1 11
Pontypool *1 1 6

*1 Dropped goal.
*1 Dropped goal.

COMMENTS
Except for a lull in the second half it was a game full of suspense. Cardiff had the faster backs and Cliff Morgan was always a source of danger.

Pontypool, however, showed tremendous enthusiasm.

Their pack fully held their own in the tight and were faster on the ball in the loose.

F. ECHO 28/4/51



Welsh international outside half Cliff Morgan, grassed by a Llandaff player, manages to get the ball away to Frank Trott in the Cardiff and District R.U. Sevens Tourney at Blackweir this afternoon. The pass was the start of a scoring movement, for Trott quickly transferred to Murphy, who sped the length of the field for a spectacular try.

NEATH NEARLY SURPRISE CARDIFF

Neath, *2-0-6; Cardiff, 0-2-6

*Two penalty goals

By "THE CLUBMAN"

NEATH and Cardiff fought out a hard keen game at the Gnoll, Neath, last night and a draw was a fair result.

Territorially the sides shared the honours with Neath slightly superior forward and Cardiff more thrustful in attack.

The Neath backs lacked well and their quick recovery prevented the Cardiff scoring machine from finalising its movements.

Two injuries marred the game towards the close. Peter Goodfellow, the Cardiff second row forward, had to be carried off the field with a five-inch cut in his forehead which necessitated stitches being inserted by Dr. Jack Matthews who, although not playing, travelled with the team.

Two minutes previously Vic Evans, the Neath full-back, had been taken off with thigh injuries.

Outstanding in both sets of forwards was Ross Stephens, the Neath lock. He led his pack in fine style in the loose rushes and was well backed up by Gwyn Lewis, Ritchie Morgan, Eddie Thomas and Courtney Meredith. Roy John was again the line-out specialist.

CARDIFF MAINSPRING

The Neath halves could not compare with Cliff Morgan and Rex Willis, who were the mainspring of the Cardiff attack, but H. G. Wells made three excellent bursts through the centre which marked him down as a promising prospect.

In the Cardiff team Alun Thomas, the right centre, was outstanding in attack and defence. Among the forwards Malcolm Collins enhanced his reputation with some near perfect line-out work. D. J. O'Brien, C. D. Williams, and Peter Goodfellow were fast-moving forwards.

Neath opened the scoring after 27 minutes when Viv Evans kicked a fine penalty goal from 35 yards out. A minute from half-time Willis, dodging from a five-yard scrum, crossed for an unconverted try for Cardiff. Ten minutes from the end Malcolm John, from 45 yards, kicked a great penalty goal, and it looked as if Neath would bring off a surprise victory. However, they had not reckoned with Cliff Morgan, who went through the defence and sent out to Alun Thomas, who passed the ball to Bledwyn Williams for him to dive over in the corner for another unconverted try.

W. MAIL

24/4/51



REX WILLIS, the Cardiff scrum-half, goes down on the ball in the face of a Blackheath forward rush at the Rectory Field, Blackheath.

W. MAIL 16/4/51

F. ECHO 5/5/51

THAT 139 TOUCH!

Skipper Tamplin heads Cardiff scorers again

A NICELY-ROUNDED phrase of the "annual report" type, to describe the record of Cardiff R.F.C. during the 1950-51 season, would be "Eminently satisfactory" (writes Reg Pelling).

In plainer language, the team did a lot better than had been expected.

Their run of 15 matches without defeat at the end of the season (they won a dozen and drew three) gave them a much more impressive record than seemed likely.

In fact it was quite a bit better than the previous season when Cardiff won 28, drew eight and lost ten of the 46 fixtures.

This season their complete record is: Played 46, won 34, drawn 5, lost 6. Points for 477, against 186.

Scoring power was down on the 1949-50 season. Then they amassed 509 points against the 477 this season. But their defence appears to have been a bit tighter for they gave away only 186 points, against 232 the previous term.

Thus, taking everything into consideration — the early season absence of their tourists, the bad weather, the calls of trials and international games, etc. — Cardiff supporters have every reason to feel well pleased with their rugby players.

Cheery readiness

Figures, of course, are inseparable from a summary such as this. But I was very interested to find, in comparing the records of the past two seasons, that Ewart Tamplin had scored exactly as many points in both — 139 to be precise.

Ewart, who proved a most able and energetic captain of Cardiff, easily heads the scoring list again. All his 139 points came from goal-kicking — 35 conversions, 21 penalties, and a couple of dropped goals for good measure. This means that his goal-kicking was even better than in 1949-50, for he had four tries amongst his 139 points that season, placing 52 goals against the 58 this season.

What a debt the Cardiff club owes to players like Tamplin and Frank Trott, both now approaching the retiring stage.

Trott played in 40 of the club's 45 official fixtures and Tamplin in 39. Last season Trott appeared in 42 of the 46 games and Tamplin in 37.

Nor will Cardiff forget their indebtedness to players like Gwyn Llewellyn, Howell Greenisade and Russell Dobbs, who gave them such excellent service while their star players were out of the country. Alun Thomas, ex-Swansea, is another player to whom the club has good reason to be grateful for his cheery readiness to play anywhere in the team, at any time.

Such is the spirit of comradeship and sportsmanship which is part and parcel of the successful rugby club.

Cardiff's "find" of the season, of course, was wing-threequarter Haydn Morris, who won a Welsh international cap during his first season in top-grade football. Haydn, a schoolmaster at Birmingham, spurned a tempting Rugby League offer to take his chance with Cardiff.

His confidence in his own abilities were fully justified. He is second highest scorer with 17 tries (scored in 25 appearances — an average of two points per match).

Next to him, with 46 points apiece come Malcolm Collins (six tries, five conversions and six penalties), and Derek Murphy (12 tries, two conversions, two penalties), and then comes young Gareth Griffiths, a most promising wing-threequarter who in a dozen appearances with the club scored an equal number of tries.

Much is expected of Gareth when his National Service is completed and he is able to play regularly in first-class rugby.

It is interesting to find that of the six new caps awarded by the Welsh selectors this season two of them came to Cardiff — to Cliff Morgan, brightest outside-half prospect we have had for some considerable time, and Haydn Morris.

In addition Jack Matthews (captain against France), Bleddyn Williams, Rex Willis and Cliff Davies all played for Wales and Des O'Brien for Ireland. John Phillips, as usual, was the reserve Welsh hooker.

Lead the field

My records show that a total of 43 men turned out for the Cardiff first XV during the season (two fewer than in 1949-50).

Trott and Tamplin, as I have said, lead the field in the matter of most appearances, then come Cliff Morgan (36 matches), Murphy (35), Phillips and Collins (33), John-fellow (32), Nelson (27), Morris (25), C. D. Williams (24), Greenisade, W. E. Davies, and Bleddyn Williams (23), G. Llewellyn, Beckingham and Cliff Davies (22), Willis (21), J. Matthews (18).

Three of the others played only one game, and four more figured only twice in the side.

With such a large body of players at their disposal and the prospect of still more seeking places in the team, there is not the slightest reason to doubt that Cardiff, once again, are destined to be a power in Welsh rugby next season.

F. ECHO 1/9/51

Aah! and here's rugby back



Opening game of the rugby season scene at Cardiff Arms Park: Bristol forwards bull-dozed their way through with a bouncing ball.

F. ECHO 1/9/51

CARDIFF APPEAL TO PUBLIC

Wait for Arms Park big game tickets

ALTHOUGH the official rugby football season has only just started, Mr. Brice Jenkins, the secretary of the Cardiff Club, must be already the busiest and most harassed man in South Wales (writes Observer).

In addition to a long and arduous club fixture list, Mr. Jenkins has to arrange the special celebrations for the club's "jubilee season."

To make matters worse he has been inundated with applications from all parts of the British Isles for tickets, not only for the Cardiff v. British Isles Touring XV game on September 22, but also for the Cardiff v. South African match on October 20 and even for the Wales and Springboks game on December 22.

It is no wonder then that he appealed to me to stress to readers of the "Football Echo" that no tickets have yet been even printed for the South African matches, and until announcements appear in the Press it is useless to write to him appealing for tickets.

Naturally, pride of place in the matter of interest must go to the "Jubilee Game" with the "Lions" Touring XV, and, from the many acceptances so far received from players who took part in the recent tour of Australia and New Zealand it should be possible to choose a veritable "team of all the talents" calculated to test the strongest team that Cardiff can field, and a really first-class open game, with plenty of movement and action, should be the result.

The recent series of trial matches played at Blackweir and at the Arms Park has brought to light a wealth of unexpected forward talent and the club are in the happy position of having in reserve players of the experience and ability of E. L. Horstall (the Harlequins, R.A.F. and England forward); J. D. Nelson, B. A. Sparkes

(the former Pontypool wing forward); and J. D. Evans, a Welsh trialist with no fewer than 15 Glamorgan County caps to his credit.

Amongst the youngsters who battled so creditably against the established Cardiff pack during Saturday's final trial were the former Tylorstown and Ferndale players, G. Morgan, who although only 19 years of age stands 6ft. 11in. and weighs 15st. 2lb., and E. Jenkins, a local product, who is 6ft. 2in. and weighs 13½st.

A player who caught the eye during the trials was G. K. Whitson, the "Cheltenham Flyer," whose amazing speed is explained when one knows that he is the holder of the Gwent 100 yards and 220 yards sprint champion ships.

He is only 20 years old, stands 6ft. 11in. and weighs 13½st. and is likely to prove an acquisition to the Cardiff back division when he has gained a little more experience and polish.

D. James, too, the former Welsh Secondary Schools international, appears to be another "star" in the making and is already a favourite with the Cardiff crowd.

'Hat-trick' of tries by Haydn Morris

After being five points down at half-time Cardiff made a splendid recovery against Bristol at Arms Park to-day, and won convincingly by 16 points to 8.

A 'hat-trick' of tries by Haydn Morris was the highlight of a great display by the Cardiff backs after the interval.

Overcast skies and a slight drizzle of rain heralded this curtain-raiser. Of the 101 matches so far played between the two clubs since 1883 Cardiff have had the better of the exchanges, winning 76 games to Bristol's 20.

There was a change in each side. Phillips, the Cardiff hooker, being absent because of an injured shoulder. His place was taken by G. Beckingham. H. Adams came in

by
Observer

on the right wing for Bristol in place of J. A. Gregory.

Cardiff—F. Trott; H. Morris, Bledwyn Williams, J. Matthews (Capt.), D. Murphy, A. Thomas, R. Willis, Cliff Davies, G. Beckingham, G. Jenkins, W. E. Tamplin, M. Collins, C. D. Williams, S. Judd, P. Goodfellow.

Bristol—J. Holt; H. Adams, D. H. Holman, M. D. Corbett, K. C. Smith, R. Griffin, G. Lovell, P. G. Storker, E. G. Hopton, D. G. Pratt, (Capt.), D. Woodward, A. MacDonald, E. McCall, R. W. Muller, R. T. Moule.

Referee, Mr. G. Goldsworthy, Penarth. Jack Matthews won the toss and Cardiff kicked off towards the river end.

After some desultory mid-field play a long kick by Holt found touch near the Cardiff line.

Things looked dangerous for a time, but Alan Thomas finally relieved the pressure with a well-judged kick.

Bristol were penalised on the half-way line. Tamplin's kick was short and went to Griffin, who made ground before running into trouble.

Bristol, however, kept up the pressure.

After 12 minutes HOLMAN, the right centre, burst through to score a good try behind the posts.

Griffin added the extra points. Cardiff were having the better of the tight scrums, but Bristol's hefty forwards always looked dangerous when the ball was loose.

GOOD COVERING

Little had been seen so far of the Cardiff back division except in occasional individual runs, most combined movements breaking down before the ball reached the wings, thanks to some good Bristol covering.

Bristol had hard luck with a long distance penalty by Griffin, the ball just dropping short.

A quick heel from Beckingham saw Alan Thomas streaking down the middle and what promised to be a threatening three-quarter movement was ended when Matthews was well collared by Corbett.

Bristol kept up the pressure and only good kicking by Trott saved the day for Cardiff on several occasions.

F. ECHO
1/9/51

Haydn Morris roused the spirit of the crowd when he broke away and appeared to have the line at his mercy, but was recalled by the referee, who ruled he was offside. Bristol forwards, with McDonald and Pratt outstanding, were frequently in the picture and tested the Cardiff defence.

Just before half-time Malcolm Collins was only just off the target with a 40-yard penalty kick.

Half-Bristol	1	0	5
Cardiff	0	0	0

The start of the second half saw the Cardiff three quickly swing into top gear and time and again Murphy and Morris were given runs on the wing.

A clever kick ahead by MURPHY caught the Bristol defence out of position and the Cardiff right winger dived over near the posts for a good opportunity try. Malcolm Collins converted.

A minute later a kick ahead by Corbett spelled danger at the other end, but Trott won the race for the touch down.

A GREAT TRY

Cardiff were having more of the game and Bledwyn Williams sent Haydn Morris away on the left for a good run which ended when he was forced into touch a few yards short of the Bristol line.

Then Cardiff's mounting superiority was stressed when Haydn Morris, receiving the ball deep in the Bristol half, speeded through the Bristol defence to score a magnificent try in the corner.

Malcolm Collins' kick only just failed.

Hardly had the excitement died down when HAYDN MORRIS repeated the dose, ran 50 yards to score as he liked behind the posts. Collins made no mistake with an easy kick.

INSPIRED PLAY

Cardiff were now playing inspired football, and strong bursts down the middle from both Matthews and Bledwyn Williams boded ill for Bristol.

Jack Matthews, receiving the ball on the half-way line, made a typical burst down the centre and found MORRIS well placed to take a pass.

The winger romped over to score his hat-trick of tries wide out.

Collins just failed to convert, the ball striking an upright.

Bristol fought back, and when Cardiff were penalised GRIFFIN kicked a fine penalty goal.

Final-Cardiff	2	2	16
Bristol	12	0	8

(One penalty.)

COMMENTS

This was a game of two well-defined phases. In the first half Bristol, thanks to their lively pack, had a decided edge over Cardiff.

But the second half saw the home side at its brilliant best. In an inspired spell of five minutes they scored 16 points, and for Haydn Morris this was indeed a red-letter day.

Although out-played in the loose Cardiff were definitely on top in the tight, and with Beckingham winning the strike Willis was able to set his three-quarter line going with typical long passes.

Trott, at full-back, particularly in the first half, saved Cardiff time and again. His cool kicking under pressure was most valuable.

Of the Bristol side K. R. Griffin, the outside half, in addition to being a splendid kicker, was always a thorn in the Cardiff defence, and the Bristol pack, led by D. G. Pratt, impressed the crowd with its virile play.



Holman, Bristol's right centre, has Cardiff's Cliff Davies, Stan Judd, G. Jenkins, and Haydn Morris guessing. They expected a pass to the right, but, making ground, he kicked to touch.

DAILY MAIL
3/9/51

REX GETS ALL HOOKED UP

S.W. ECHO
3/9/51



Cardiff's scrum half Rex Willis finds himself in suspense—with a half-nelson executed by Bristol hooker Hopton.

S.W. ECHO
6/9/51

District XV Make Defeat Joy to Watch

By OBSERVER

ALTHOUGH Cardiff decisively beat the Cardiff District XV at the Arms Park last night by 33 points to nil, the game was often a joy to watch, with both backs and forwards slinging the ball about with great zest and freedom.

The District side were frequently out-played and out-generated by the brilliant Cardiff back division, but stuck to their job gamely and pleased the crowd of some 6,000 by the manner in which they went into the tackle against the hard-running senior thirds.

Young Billy Bolton, the coloured Internationals' centre was the danger man of the District side, and was often in the picture with some deceptive runs and sound tactical kicking.

First he lost his shorts; then his breath in a hard tackle; and finally, came near, than any one else to breaking through the sound Cardiff defence.

A pretty momentous evening for a 17-year-old!

Wings Switch

Denis Murphy (Pentyrch) and B. Griffiths (Old Penarthians) changed wings so that brother would not tangle with brother, and one of the high-lights of the evening was the keen marking and tackling of the brilliant Cardiff flyers, Haydn Morris and Derek Murphy, by their opposite numbers.

The football was fast, open stuff and the crowd enjoyed an exhilarating exhibition of open play such as we seldom see these days. Even the forwards caught the infection, and Nelson, running like a three-quarter, scored two splendid tries in quick succession.

In the first half Cardiff scored 19 points through tries by Morris, Horsfall and B. Williams. Collins converted two and kicked a penalty. In the second half Morris (2), and Nelson (2) got tries, Trott converting one.



Swansea's new young outside half Goronwy Morgan sends out a long pass after his forwards heeled from a loose maul with the Cardiff pack.

F. ECHO
8/9/51

NEW-LOOK SWANSEA PUT UP GOOD SHOW

Cardiff wings turn scale

Clever tries by the Cardiff wings, Morris and Murphy, and a fine dropped goal by Vivian Gonz, the visiting outside-half, featured the first half of the game between Cardiff and Swansea at Arms Park to-day.

The "new look" Swansea combination put up a fine show against a more experienced Cardiff side at Arms Park to-day, and the home team's superiority on the wings which turned the scale in their favour.

Cardiff made a last minute change in their team. Jack Matthews, the captain, crying off with an injured wrist. His place was taken by D. James, the young ex-Welsh secondary schools' player. Swansea fielded unchanged.

by
Observer

CARDIFF: F. Trott; H. Morris; Bledwyn Williams; D. James; D. Murphy; A. Thomas; R. Willis; Cliff Davies; G. Beckingham; G. Jenkins; W. E. Tamm; M. Collins; P. Goodfellow; S. Judd; C. D. Williams.
SWANSEA: Terry Davies; H. D. Phillips; Bryan Edwards; H. Richards; G. Howells; Vivian Gonz; Geronwy Morgan; Doug Jones; Arthur James; T. Griffiths; W. G. Williams; W. Jones; R. C. C. Thomas; Len Bligh; W. D. Johnson. Referee: Mr. V. Parfitt, Newport. Rex Willis, captaining the side in place of Jack Matthews, won the toss and Swansea kicked-off towards the Westgate-street end against a slight wind.

Play was very even for the first five minutes; the only item of note being a good attempt by W. Jones to kick a long-distance penalty goal, which only just missed its objective.

Haydn Morris was early in the picture with a spectacular dash, which ended on the Swansea 25 when Terry Davies forced him to touch.

Tamm was wide with two penalty kicks and a fumble by Alan Thomas spelled danger when the big Swansea forward started a dribble which ended when Trott cleared his lines under pressure.

A three-quarter movement, starting in the Cardiff half, saw the ball go to HAYDN MORRIS, who literally snaked through the Swansea defence to score a spectacular try in the corner. Malcolm Collins missed the goal.

SPLENDID GOAL

The All Whites fought back strongly and several dangerous forward rushes by the lively West Wales forwards spelt danger for Cardiff, but determined tackling by the Cardiff defence saved the day. Trott, in particular, showed up well with some good defensive kicking.

The game was hard and even with close marking and tackling being the order of the day.

Swansea had a great opportunity to level the scores when they were awarded a penalty inside the Cardiff 25, but W. Jones's kick was just wide.

A minute later, however, they were on level terms when a splendid drop goal from 30 yards by VIVIAN GANZ sailed over to the delight of a large Swansea contingent.

A few minutes before half-time a combined effort on the Cardiff right saw DEREK MURPHY tearing away to round off the movement by hurling himself over with a try wide out. Collins failed to convert.

Closing stages of the first half saw Swansea hammering away at the Cardiff line, and G. Howells, playing his first game for Swansea, appeared to be away, but a ground tackle by Trott averted the danger. After a mid-field melee, Billy Williams, Swansea's best forward, had to retire with a knee injury.

Half-Cardiff 0 2 6
Swansea * 1 0 3
*Dropped

Billy Williams resumed after the interval and with both sides at full strength exchanges remained desperately even.

Swansea were the first to threaten danger, when Howells was nearly over in the corner and some hectic play on the Cardiff line ensued.

Attack after attack was repulsed and finally Wower Jenkins intercepted and kicked clear. He was injured in the process, but resumed after attention.

Bryan Edwards and Phillips, combining well for Swansea, threatened trouble for Cardiff, and a long kick which bounced awkwardly was dealt with by the imperturbable Trott, who managed to scramble the ball clear.

MAGNIFICENT RUN

Both Murphy and Morris were given chances on the wings, but play for a long time remained dull and determined and never reached any particularly high standard.

Covering and tackling on both sides was all-embracing and proved far too effective for the few individual runs that were made.

However, MURPHY suddenly came to life and a magnificent gallop down the wing took him over for a really spectacular try, which Collins converted.

The Cardiff wings were always the danger men, and Haydn Morris thrilled the crowd with a superlative piece of pattern weaving, but his final pass went abegging.

A minute later it was only a stumble that robbed the same player of a certain try.

A Swansea breakaway saw H. RICHARDS, the left centre, running strongly and with no Cardiff backs in position he scored an easy try in the corner. Terry Davies just failed with a difficult kick.

Final-Cardiff 1 2 11
Swansea * 1 1 6
*Dropped

COMMENTS

Swansea's young experimental team gave Cardiff a real tussle and, although the superior skill of the Cardiff three eventually told, they always appeared a dangerous side.

For Cardiff Trott played one of his best games, his kicking under pressure being at all times reliable.

The Cardiff backs, although having few chances, were more dangerous than their opposite numbers, the wings, in particular, threatening danger whenever they received the ball.

With the forwards evenly matched in the tight the game was a dour and very even one.

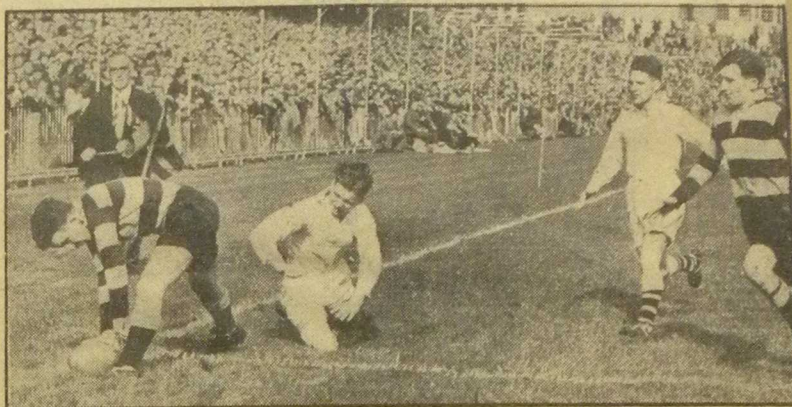
For Swansea Terry Davies, at full-back, always kicked well and G. Howells, making his debut for Swansea, showed up well with some purposeful runs.

The young secondary schools' halves had a good game without being outstanding and the tear-away Swansea eight more than held their own in the loose.

An even game, with victory going to the side with the most dangerous wings.

F.ECHO
8/9/51

IT'S A KNOCK-OUT OF A TRY



Wing Derek Murphy crosses the Swansea line for a knock-out of a Cardiff try at Arms Park to-day—a knock-out for All Whites full-back Terry Davies, who shook himself up in making a desperate but unavailing attempt to stop Murphy.

F.ECHO 15/9/51

NEATH FORWARDS BEAT CARDIFF

After being three points down at half-time against Cardiff at The Gnoll to-day Neath rallied to such good purpose in the second half that they won by 6 points to 3—their first victory over Cardiff since the war.

Gay sunshine and a perfect green playing pitch greeted the Cardiff players and 5,000 spectators.

Tamm was replaced in the second row by S. Judd, while English international Horstall took Judd's place.

A last minute rumour that Bledwyn Williams would be unable to play was falsified by his appearance.

Neath: V. Evans; K. Maddocks, N. Edwards; G. Wells; E. Jones; D. Thomas; G. Thomas; C. Meredith; M. Evans; J. Thorley; R. John; L. Harris; G. Lewis; R. Stephens (capt.). E. Thomas.

Cardiff: R. F. Trott; D. Murphy; M. Harvey; Bledwyn Williams; H. Morris; R. Willis (capt.); A. Thomas; C. Davies; G. Beckingham; G. Jenkins; S. Judd; M. Collins; P. Goodfellow; E. Horsfall; C. D. Williams.

Referee, Mr. Trevor Jones. Maesteg.

Neath won the toss and Trott kicked off for Cardiff towards the town end against the sun.

Cardiff at once moved into the attack and from an orthodox heel Alan Thomas streaked past Denzil Thomas and made a try by HAYDN MORRIS in the corner inevitable.

Collins failed with the kick. Neath fought back, and when Rex Willis tried to break through on his own, Rees Stephens was on him like a flash.

A bad pass by Bledwyn Williams brought the powerful Neath pack to the Cardiff 25, and only a long touch-finder by Williams himself relieved a Neath offensive.

This was followed by another kick by Judd right to the Neath line after Evans had kicked ahead.

Neath brought the ball back to midfield with forward rushes.

Both sides were trying to open up the game and these efforts were only nullified by handling mistakes.

Neath were nearly over when G. Wells broke through, but his final pass to Edwards went astray and Cardiff relieved with long kicks to touch.

Then their forwards took play to the Neath 25.

by
E. R. K. Glover

NARROW MISS

A long kick from a penalty by Viv Evans forced play back to half-way, but Neath were penalised and Collins exchanged kicks with V. Evans to bring play back to the same spot.

A rush by L. Harris and G. Thomas ended in the Cardiff 25 and, after Bledwyn Williams had recovered from a nasty face injury, G. Thomas, the Neath inside half, missed a dropped goal by inches.

Cardiff rushed the ball down the field, but were again thwarted by good defensive play by Viv Evans. The interval came with play once again at the half-way line.

Half-Cardiff 0 1 3
Neath 0 0 0

After half-time the game got lively at once and Roy John crashed his way through a line out on the 25 right to the Cardiff line.

Here he was well tackled by Trott, but the ball went loose. E. JONES grabbed it and dived over. Rees Stephens failed to convert, and the score was an exciting 3 all.

Now the Neath pack, with Stephens, John and Harris always in the van, began to dominate the game and Cardiff's few break-aways from their 25 were hurled back.

Neath continued to press and a score, which had become inevitable, came when G. THOMAS broke from the base of the scrum and dived over. He was, however, injured and the kick was held up while he received attention.

Again Rees Stephens missed the conversion.

A short Cardiff revival gave Collins a chance to equalise with a penalty, but he just failed and Neath were thereafter always on the attack. R. Stephens failed narrowly with a penalty.

Final-Neath 0 2 6
Cardiff 0 1 3

Cardiff wore down Cheltenham

Cheltenham, 0-0-0; Cardiff, 1-1-3

CARDIFF beat Cheltenham at Cheltenham last night by eight points to nil not as a result of brilliant movements but by grasping a few opportunities in the second half of a game notable for its lack of open play.

In the first half Cheltenham's slick scrum work had Cardiff puzzled. Time and again they hooked the ball clear but movements ended on the wings. Cardiff's line was never crossed, however, although with the home side's superiority in the set scrums it was "touch and go" at times.

Storming to the attack after the interval, Cardiff got a try through Cliff Morgan, but Collins failed to convert. The try resulted after Morgan had made a devastating diagonal run across the Cheltenham 25. It was an opportunity well taken.

Dangerfield hurt

It seemed that the vigorous Cheltenham pack had lost some of its fire, for although Dangerfield went close to scoring—he was injured in the attempt and was taken on a stretcher from the field—the pack were becoming ragged.

With victory in their grasp Cardiff had the Cheltenham line in dire peril. Jack Matthews was sent on a flying dash from a five-yard scrum to cross, again fairly wide out, but Llewellyn added the points.

It was a game of missed chances for Cheltenham, with little open play, a great deal of scrumming and first-class touch-finding by Stan Walter. Rex Willis was a lively scrum-half for Cardiff, but he was well watched by his counterpart, Ilttyd Pearce.

COMMENTS

Congratulations to Neath on their first win over Cardiff since the war.

While Cardiff made a game of it in the first half they could not match the All Blacks' forwards in the second, and this superiority was the basis of this fine Neath win.

Roy John was quite outstanding in the line-out, and R. Stephens and E. Thomas in the loose.

A. Thomas was the best Cardiff player, but the game was won and lost in front.

Bleddyn Williams May Miss Springboks Match

BLEDDYN Williams, the Cardiff three-quarter, had his left cheek bone fractured in a match at Aberavon last evening (story of game on page five) and may, in consequence, be absent from the Cardiff side against the Springboks at the Arms Park on October 20.

The extent of the injury was revealed by an X-ray photograph, and Bleddyn will see a specialist later to-day.

While playing for the All-International XV Williams was involved in a collision with an Aberavon player and left the field after only five minutes play.

The popular Cardiff centre has been in the "wars" this season. He sustained a black eye in the Neath-Cardiff game and a similar memento in the memorable Cardiff-British Lions match.

S.W. ECHO
2/10/51

F. ECHO 6/10/51

Ticket plans for Springboks game

WITH interest in the forthcoming Cardiff v. Springboks game as the main topic of discussion in local rugby circles the announcement that season ticket holders will be able to obtain their regular seats on application at the Cardiff Athletic Club offices has given great satisfaction.

A limited number of 5s. (new stand) tickets will be on sale at the club offices next Monday morning (October 8) and it will be definitely a case of first come, first served!

Entrance to the enclosures and ground will be P.A.Y.E. and evening queues are likely to be formed as is the interest in this most famous of fixtures.

Cardiff, hit as they are by injury and illness, have not made a too promising start to the season, but bearing in mind the calibre of football served up in the recent "Lions" game, anyone who discounts their chances against the South Africans is talking "without the book."

The score between the South Africans and Cardiff stands at 2-1 in the Springboks' favour, but the tourists at any rate do not take this game lightly and a first-class struggle with astounding thrills and incidents is in prospect.

Bleddyn Williams, despite his anxiety to play in this game, is likely to be absent from the Cardiff line-up, but, with Des O'Brien back at "lock," the side should give a very good account of themselves against the redoubtable "Giants of the Veldt."

The recent publicity regarding the 75 years of superb football served up by the Cardiff club has brought the age-old question, "Where does Cardiff get these players?" Whatever the answer that might have been made, the present-day reason for the strength and brilliance of the "Blue and Blacks" can be attributed in great part to the encouragement and aid given by the club to the "young side."

The junior club, under the aegis of the Cardiff Rugby Club, continues to flourish and its third season promises to be as successful as the preceding two.

The same committee continues to guide the youngsters—Messrs. A. T. Thomas (chairman), Duncan Brown (secretary), and the chairman of the senior club, Mr. Hubert Johnson, together with Viv Phelps

and Les Jones as co-opted members.

A fine fixture list for the season has been drawn up and already three games have been played.

Like many other youth sides the club suffers from the call-up of players for National Service and it is increasingly difficult to maintain a constant XV.

Frequently expressed

There must, of course, be changes in the team, but the aims of the club remain unaltered. They are to coach on the traditional Cardiff lines and play good, open and attractive football. For the past two seasons it was a frequently-expressed opinion, particularly in the Valleys, that the play of the juniors bears the hall-mark of Cardiff stamped all over it.

The season began with several of last season's players reporting for training, including B. Mapstone (captain), L. Williams, L. James, B. Walsh, T. Donovan and D. Grindell, all of whom are in their third year with the youth side.

These are the stars of the future, and the Cardiff team of the next year or so is likely to include one or more of these promising youngsters.

The crop of new talent is most impressive, and is adapting itself to the Cardiff style of play. Nearly all report regularly every Thursday evening for training and must surely benefit from the advice and encouragement of senior players who also are in process of keeping fit.

The first game of the season was against Cambrian Colliery Youth XV and, although the Cardiff boys were "at sixes and sevens," they managed to win by a narrow margin.

By the time Pontypool were encountered the side had settled down and a comfortable win was registered, repeated in the following game against Tylorstown.

Encouraged by the celebrities of the senior team, the boys are full of enthusiasm for the game, and officials and players alike are of the opinion that youth rugby is well worth-while and has come to stay at Cardiff Arms Park.

Cardiff draw big gate at Pontypool

The visit of Cardiff to Pontypool to-day attracted the biggest crowd of the season at the Park.

The visitors were without Frank Trotter and J. Phillips, whose places were taken by J. Llewellyn and A. Hurl.

Pontypool were unchanged from the side which beat Llanelly last week. Teams:—

Pontypool: L. Arnold; D. Richards, J. Davies, D. Smith; T. Matthews, C. Morgan, A. Hull, G. Beckenham, R. Howe, J. Bodenham, R. Baker, R. Prosser, A. Forward, D. Dando, W. Parfitt.

Cardiff: J. Llewellyn; H. Morris, Bleddyn Williams, J. Matthews, D. Murphy; C. Morgan, R. Willis; C. Davies, A. Hull, G. Beckenham, W. E. Tamplin, M. Collins, J. D. Nelson, S. Judd, C. D. Williams.

Referee: Mr. Vernon Parfitt, Newport.

After two minutes Pontypool were penalised and TAMPLIN landed a splendid goal from the half-way line.

Murphy put in a strong run along the touch line but Pontypool set up a hot attack following a put up by Jack Davies.

Davies made two unsuccessful attempts to drop a goal.

Next thrill was a swerving run by Johnny Jones, who demonstrated a powerful hand-off, but when a try seemed possible he dropped the ball.

Bleddyn Williams, Cardiff's most dangerous man so far, helped to relieve with strong runs, but was well tackled by Jack Davies.

Cardiff remained on the defensive for a spell and Len Arnold was only inches short of the objective with a penalty kick from a wide angle.

Cardiff more than shared the set scrums, and at last they broke away from their own 25.

CLEVER BURST
A clever burst by Jack Matthews led to a try by C. WILLIAMS, after Bleddyn Williams and Murphy had handled.

Pontypool replied with a fine penalty goal by REG BAKER.

Pontypool were twice penalised in practically the same position just inside their own half. Tamplin failed with each attempt to goal.

Both the Cardiff wings were faster than their opponents but could not evade their tackling.

Johnny Jones twice saved otherwise certain tries by bringing down Morris.

Pontypool heeled in front of the Cardiff posts, but an attempt at a dropped goal by Ken Morgan was charged down.

Then Bleddyn Williams interceded to put Cardiff back on the attack. Hull and Morris, however, were well checked by Smith and Arnold.

Half-Cardiff 1 1 6
Pontypool 1 0 3
*Penalties.

First thrill of the second half was a break-through by Ken Morgan after Pontypool had heeled a scrum.

He gave a reverse pass to Wilf Parfitt, but Allan Forward, the next to handle, was tackled.

Parfitt was injured in this move and play was held up for a while. Then followed unconstructive activity on both sides.

Cliff Morgan, who had attempted nothing but unorthodox moves hitherto, figured in a clever burst, which ended with a scrum in the Pontypool half.

Pontypool heeled but Morgan's punt ahead was safely fielded by Llewellyn.

Bex Willis once gave out an excellent blind pass to Cliff Morgan but Morris lost possession when going for the corner.

Cardiff were now more aggressive and several assaults on the Pontypool line almost succeeded.

Immediately play restarted Cardiff went further ahead with a smart corner try by MORRIS.

In the next minute MORRIS scored again after an interception and long run by Bleddyn Williams.

Tamplin converted from in front of the posts.

Final-Cardiff 12 2 14
Pontypool 1 0 3
*One penalty

COMMENTS
Cardiff returned to winning form but not until the closing stages were they the high-powered machine the Pontypool crowd hoped to see.

Considering their supremacy in the set scrums they should have done much better. The Pontypool defence generally tackled well.

F. ECHO 29/9/51

F. ECHO 15/9/51

Sick-list pair's Lions game hopes

GOOD news for Cardiff supporters is that both Jack Matthews and Cliff Morgan are likely to be fit for the gala game with the British Isles Touring Team at the Arms Park next Saturday.

With such a star-studded side in opposition, the Cardiff club will need the strongest team they can field for what is expected to be a feast of fast and interesting football.

Long queues outside the Athletic Club offices this week were a sign of the intense interest taken in the game, and it is the expressed wish of the Cardiff club that an exhibition of the calibre of the glorious and never-to-be-forgotten Wallabies v. Barbarians game at the Arms Park—in the opinion of many people, the best game ever staged at Cardiff headquarters—should be the result.

Special silk flags for the touch judges are being embroidered by Mrs. Brice Jenkins, wife of the Cardiff Club secretary, and one of these will be handed to the British "Lions" team and the other will join the collection of souvenirs and trophies in the Arms Park museum.

The constitution of the touring team will not be announced until just before the game, but portents are that it will be a team of "all the talents," with players such as Kyle, Lewis Jones, Karl Mullen and Ivor Preece almost certain to be included.

Unusual record

With the former Harlequins, R.A.F. and England forward E. L. Horsfall playing for them this season, Cardiff Athletic have the proud distinction of having had international players of all four home countries in their side during the past season or so!

Surely a most unusual record for a reserve team!

Dex O'Brien (Ireland), Budge (Scotland and British "Lions"), together with several Welsh "caps" Davies, have, through one cause and another, turned out for the "Rags."

With interest in the forthcoming 75th anniversary celebrations of the Cardiff club claiming the lion's share of public attention, it should be pointed out that September 22

ALUN THOMAS STARS IN CARDIFF WIN

Cardiff, 14-2-24; Gloucester, 11-0-3
*One penalty. †Penalty.
Attendance 9,000

AFTER the dull first half seen at the Cardiff Arms Park this season, Cardiff established themselves as undisputed masters of a vigorous Gloucester pack and far speedier, though a little disjointed behind the scrum.

Gloucester's depth in defence prevailed until near the interval, when Cardiff began to get more of the ball from the scrums. Then, with shrewd attacking ideas and better conception of carrying them out, they scored a typical Morris corner try for Tamplin to goal, and a Cliff Morgan—Alun Thomas effort gave Thomas an excellent try.

Willis and C. D. Williams broke ground for a Nelson try which Tamplin goal-kicked as Gloucester tired. Their covering was less keen, and they failed to take heart from a penalty by T. Hall, who positioned and kicked soundly, and two try-saving tackles by Ibbotson.

Alun Thomas put M. Evans across for Tamplin to goal, and Morris scored his 14th try in 11 games following a breakaway by Morgan and Thomas. Finally, Tamplin landed penalty points with the last kick of the match.



CLIFF MORGAN

is the 75th birthday of the "Rag-tail and Bobtail" (the "Rags" team as well).

But no information has been forthcoming as to whether they intend staging their own Festival "game of games" in emulation of the senior side!

The headaches of a skipper of a reserve side must be many. No sooner does a player catch the eye than he is promoted to first team status, and I wouldn't be at all surprised if the average reserve team captain secretly looks forward to a mediocre bunch of "stiffs" in his team.

The chances of his side being disrupted and "robbed" would then be greatly minimised.

This year's Cardiff Athletic side are a case in point. So many of their players are of first-team class that they seldom play the same team in any two successive games, with the natural result that the cohesion and team understanding are badly affected.

Despite the somewhat disappointing start to the Athletic season, the team, when it does settle down, should be as good as many first-class sides.

PENALTY KICKS FAIL TO SAVE CARDIFF

Although Ewart Tamplin kicked three penalty goals for Cardiff, the visitors were beaten 11—9 by the Wasps at Sudbury to-day.

Woodward's kicking played a big part in the Wasps success. He landed two splendid penalty goals and also converted the only try of the game.

Cardiff's visit proved a great attraction to London rugby enthusiasts and a steady stream of spectators flowed into the ground in hours before the start. Cardiff made a late change, G. Griffiths replacing H. Morris on the wing, whilst the Wasps played R. Hilton in place of G. J. Bendon in the pack. Teams:

Wasps—C. L. White, D. Chapman, E. W. Anderson, J. W. Lloyd, J. E. Woodward, A. L. Spalder, P. E. Sykes (capt.), G. T. Forbes, M. Hughes, J. F. Herbert, D. W. Malcolm, P. G. Yarranton, R. E. Syrett, R. McGillivray, R. Hilton.
Cardiff—R. F. Trott, G. Griffiths, A. Thomas, D. J. James, M. Evans, C. Morgan, R. Willis, C. Davies, G. Beckingham, A. Hull, M. Collins, W. E. Tamplin, C. D. Williams, D. J. O'Brien, S. Judd.

Spalder kicked off for the Wasps, but the ball failed to reach the 10-yard line and a scrum was formed. Cardiff got possession, but James's pass to Evans was forward. A kick to touch by Morgan gave Cardiff an attacking position.

After three minutes the Wasps were penalised for offside and TAMPLIN got a beautiful goal from about 30 yards.

Wasps' forwards, using their feet well, took play to the visitors' 25. Cardiff were penalised and Woodward's attempt at goal went wide. Wasps were now aggressive and, following a forward rush, Spalder picked up in the loose and was only forced to touch at the corner flag.

STRICT REFEREE

Wasps were certainly in top gear with their backs getting plenty of the ball, thanks to clever play by their halves.

Seventeen minutes had gone when Cardiff were adjudged offside, and WOODWARD landed a perfect goal from 40 yards.

In the next minute Cardiff again took the lead with a penalty goal

by TAMPLIN.
The referee was, to say the least, of it severe, and the whistle was heard with monotonous regularity. Just before half-time Griffiths got away down the wing with a linking run, and reached the home 25 before being grounded.

Half-Cardiff 2 0 6
Wasps 1 0 3

*Penalty goals
O resuming Cardiff were soon on the attack, and Trott found a useful touch inside the home 25.

Wasps got the ball in the line-out, and Sykes relieved the pressure with a kick which found touch at half-way.

In the fifth minute Wasps were pulled up for a scrum infringement, and TAMPLIN kicked his third penalty.

Cardiff staged a series of forward rushes, but Wasps defence and keen tackling kept them out.

Cardiff were again penalised, and WOODWARD kicked a magnificent goal from five yards inside the half-way line.

ANDERSON scored the only try of the match after intercepting. Kicking hard ahead, he won a neck and neck race for the touch down. Woodward converted to give the Wasps the lead, which they held to the end.

Final—Wasps 3 0 11
Cardiff 13 0 9

*Two penalties "All penalties"

COMMENTS
Wasps deserved their win in a game which quarter was neither asked for or given, but which was marred in the first half by the referee's whistle.

The home forwards played inspired football in the closing stages against a heavier pack and showed complete mastery.

Cardiff had their opportunities in the first half but failed to take them.

Star Cardiff centres can win big game

F. ECHO
13/10/51

"WHAT can you make of them?" demanded an excited Cardiff fan last Saturday after the glorious Newport v. Cardiff tussle on the Arms Park (writes Observer).

Now that the cheers and hubbub are abating somewhat, many people are still trying to fathom out the amazing swing in form of the Cardiff club.

It soared from the low ebb of the Aberavon and Neath games to the dizzy heights of Saturday's epic encounter—considered by many to be the best club game for years.

The difference made to the Blue-and-Black pack by the return of Irish international Des O'Brien to the lock position was most marked, and with every man jack of the Cardiff pack playing well, above recent form the giant Newport eight met a veritable Tarlar, and a lot of the credit for a remarkable and well-deserved win must go to these grand forward grafters.

It was nice to see Ewart Tamplin back to goal-kicking form, and the two penalties from the boot of the Major policeman were absolute beauties.

Cliff Morgan was in amazing form, played his best ever game and should have impressed W.R.U. selectors present with his undoubted qualities, both in attack and defence.

Next Saturday's game with the Springboks is the sole topic of discussion these days, and, having seen the South Africans in their

opening game, I am convinced that Cardiff, with Jack Matthews and Bledwyn Williams fit, would stand as good a chance of any team in the country of holding the giant visitors.

If they struck another patch of brilliance comparable with the Lions and Newport exhibitions I would say they would prove too smart and well-together for the Springboks.

Curtain raiser

Unhappily, however, Cardiff are plagued with injuries, and it would be a great shame if a really representative side is not fielded next Saturday.

Both Jack Matthews and Bledwyn have been rendered inoperative, if only temporarily, and good as the youngsters are in reserve, they should not be asked to face up to those huge, tearaway South African giants.

As a curtain-raiser on the evening before the game there will be a "Desert Rats" reunion at the Capitol Café, Queen-street, on Friday, October 19, and both the Springboks and Cardiff teams hope to be present.

Several of the South Africans, of course, saw service in North Africa, the celebrated Okey ("The Boot") Giffin actually learning the secrets of long-range goal-kicking while a prisoner of war in that theatre of war!

SPORTING RECORD 2/10/51

RUGBY NOTES

By S. C. GRIFFITH

Clash at Cardiff

ON SATURDAY there is a club match to which I am looking forward with the keenest possible anticipation. Cardiff play Newport at Cardiff . . .

Last season these two great clubs met four times—the first three matches Newport won and the last was drawn—in what was from every point of view Newport's "annus mirabilis."

Remarkable though it may seem to English eyes, the second match at Cardiff produced a crowd of 48,500—a world record for a club game.

In the season, Newport were beaten only twice—once on the morning of the Calcutta Cup Match by the Harlequins at Twickenham, and the other time when the team were without their regular half-backs, and at the end of April by Exeter.

This season they have again started well—encouraged no doubt by the remarkable fact that their final trial was watched by over 20,000 spectators and their probable team contained several internationals.

Cardiff, on the other hand, have already been beaten by Neath, Aberavon, and the Bristol Lions—a XV composed of some of those players who toured Australia in 1950.

This year is Cardiff's 75th anniversary and one in which all followers of the game would wish to see the famous Welsh club recapture some of their glory of 1923/24.

The club's value to and influence upon the game is immeasurable—and if for no other that is sufficient reason for our hopes and good wishes.

THERE is no doubt, however, that Cardiff have not—as some other Welsh clubs—paid as much attention to building for the future as perhaps they ought. It is always sad to see the great players disappear from the game, but like so many other things, it is inevitable.

But only by giving constant encouragement and experience to the younger ones can these gaps be filled.

Cardiff have always been a fine side to watch and there is an atmosphere about their football which is hard to resist. I for one would go anywhere to see them play—but if they are to "return the scores" again in the next year or two, then immediate efforts to rebuild must be made.

FIELD 'SEASONS' TICKET PLANS

Special provision is to be made for the admission of field season ticket holders to the Cardiff v. Springboks match on October 20.

Two turnstiles at the Angel Hotel entrance will deal only with season ticket holders, who will be admitted on payment of 2s. and production of their tickets.

No special arrangements have been made as yet for the enclosure.

Since this is a Welsh Union game and no accommodation can be guaranteed if they arrive after this ground is full they obviously cannot be admitted. The Cardiff R.F.C. state that if they arrive in good time they will have no queuing.

Spectators entering the enclosure and field areas are asked to have the correct money ready to save delay.

SATURDAY'S match at the Arms Park was the 234th meeting between Cardiff and Newport. Cardiff have now won 106 games to Newport's 90, with 38 drawn. Newport's defeat was their first by a Welsh club since March 4, 1950, when they lost at Rodney Parade to Cardiff.

W. MAIL
8/10/51



CARDIFF'S outstanding player against Newport, Cliff Morgan, just failed to break through in this movement at the Cardiff Arms Park, for the Newport player diving at his legs, Bryn Williams, brought off a fine tackle.

First of Rugby's Big Money Spinners

CARDIFF

Right
M. Evans J. Matthews (capt.) Alun Thomas H. Morris
C. Morgan R. Willis
S. Judd D. J. O'Brien C. Williams
W. E. Tamplin M. Collins A. Hull
C. Davies G. Beckingham

Referee: Mr. Trevor Jones (Maesteg)



Kick-off 3.30

T. Sterry L. Davies J. Blackborrow
L. E. T. Jones B. Edwards
D. A. G. Ackerman P. Davies R. T. Evans
R. Burnett W. Williams
J. Lane G. Davies M. Thomas R. D. Owen or B. Williams
Left R. Hughes

NEWPORT

Left Newport Bring 3 Wings to Cardiff

THIS afternoon at Cardiff Arms Park the first of the season's big "money-spinning" games is staged with Newport, unbeaten after six games, the visitors.

Newport, who won three times and drew once in the series last season, will be all out to go one better this time to achieve four wins, a feat that has hitherto eluded them.

Cardiff, hit by injury and illness, make several changes.

Alun Thomas replaces that battered warrior Bleddyn Williams and Mike Evans comes in for Derek Murphy.

Forward reshuffling gives A.

Hull another chance at prop, in place of John Phillips; whilst the important lock position is taken over by Ireland's Des O'Brien, making his first appearance of the season for the "Blue and Blacks."

Newport are deferring final selection of their three-quarter line until just before the kick-off, and the wings will be chosen from John Lane, R. D. Owen and Bryn Williams, whilst the international centres Glyn Davies and Malcolm Thomas will give the Usksiders plenty of punch in the middle of the field. The decision with regard to the wings depends upon the fitness of Lane, who had a rib injury a fortnight ago.



JOHN LANE

Well, fancy bumping into you!

Cliff Davies, Cardiff forward, peers round Newport's Ben Edwards as W. A. Williams gathers the ball. Cardiff won 11-3

Experiments

Although Newport will start hot favourites again the early-season experiments of both sides make the game a difficult one to forecast, and Cardiff, with the inspiration of Des O'Brien working its usual wonders forward might well give last season's unofficial champions a rare tussle in a game likely to attract one of the biggest gates of the season.

W.M.A. 8/10/51



NEWPORT'S left-wing, Lane (centre), is tackled by two Cardiff players close to the line. One of the many thrilling incidents in the game between the clubs at the Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday.

Half-ton goes chasing Willis

D. EXPRESS

8/10/51

BILL TAMPLIN is grabbed by Big Ben Edwards in a line-out, but not before Bill got his off with half a ton of Newport pack after him.



TAMPLIN'S EIGHT POINTS

Newport beaten 11-3 at Cardiff Arms Park

TERRIFIC TACKLING

In a thrilling game, featured by some terrific tackling, Cardiff, thanks a lot to some fine goal-kicking by Ewart Tamplin (two penalties and a conversion), beat Newport by 11 points to 3 (Ben Edwards's long-range penalty), at Cardiff Arms Park, to-day.

The foundation for Cardiff's victory was laid by the forwards who had the better of the argument with the redoubtable Usksiders' pack.

Huge crowds, many of them sporting black and amber favours, were still pouring into Cardiff Arms Park a few minutes before the kick-off.

The Usksiders, Cardiff's oldest rivals, deferred their final selection till just before the kick-off.

John Lane, recovered from a rib injury, came back to fill the left-wing position and Bryn Williams was selected on the other flank.

Cardiff had two changes in the back division, Mike Evans replacing Derek Murphy on the right wing, and Alun Thomas deputising for the injured Bleddyn Williams in the centre.

A. Hull was picked for the "prop" position and Des O'Brien, the Irish international, made his first appearance of the season as lock.

Conditions were ideal when Tamplin kicked off towards the river end. His long kick was fielded by Bob Hughes and safely cleared to touch.

The opening exchanges were confined mainly to scrummages on the Newport 25, but Burnett, with a long kick, took play into the Cardiff half.

A forward rush, led by O'Brien, forced Bob Hughes to fly-kick into touch and a minute later the first combined move of the game saw Malcolm Thomas kicking ahead, only to find Frank Trott in position.

KEEN TACKLING

There was plenty of the local "Derby" atmosphere about the early play, tackling being devastating in its completeness and time and again both defences were forced to kick desperately to save their line.

Billy Williams was well in the picture with some fine defensive kicking.

The first really threatening move of the game came when Cliff Morgan elected to go through and a well-judged pass saw Haydn Morris going for the line, but a fine tackle on the Newport 25 brought this movement to an end.

Cardiff now exerted pressure and some spirited forward rushes had the crowd on their feet with excitement.

Another Cardiff movement engineered by Jack Matthews resulted in play finishing up well inside the Newport 25.

A penalty against Newport near their 25 gave Cardiff the opportunity they had been looking for.

TAMPLIN'S kick from the touch-line sailed over straight and true to put Cardiff ahead. Newport were stung to retaliate and fought back in fine style.

They attacked the Cardiff line with fury, but good defensive covering and tackling, in which Jack Matthews and Rex Willis were outstanding, kept them out.

Play was far too keen for any classical movements to be employed and was confined to a stern mid-field struggle with isolated forward

by
Observer

rushes and some good tactical kicking by either side.

A neat cut through by Malcolm Thomas spelt danger for Cardiff and his pass gave John Lane a chance on the left, but he was well tackled and a really splendid movement fizzled out on the Cardiff 25.

Cliff Morgan, who throughout had been in splendid form, made a clever dodging run which took play well into the Newport half only a bad pass to Mike Evans spoiled a particularly fine piece of football.

Cardiff were now on the offensive and Alun Thomas's drop kick was almost there.

Newport were again penalised and **TAMPLIN'S** kick from almost the identical position of his first goal put Cardiff further ahead.

From a loose maul Tom Sterry, who had been outstanding in the Newport pack, steered the ball to touch on the Cardiff 25.

From the ensuing line-out Cliff Morgan cleverly put Alun Thomas away, and the left centre made ground before punting into touch well inside the Newport half.

Malcolm Thomas, who was showing up extremely well, again tried one of his neat kicks ahead, and in a desperate scramble Frank Trott earned an ovation from the crowd as he dived to beat the oncoming Bryn Williams for the ball.

Half—Cardiff 2 0 6
Newport 0 0 0

Penalties.
The second half opened with Newport appearing determined to reduce the deficit and play in the first few minutes was confined to mid-field, where Burnett and Cliff Morgan fought out a duel of tactical kicking.

Cliff Morgan was often in the picture and from one of his break throughs Alun Thomas put the ball into touch at the corner flag.

A lone dribble by Newport skipper R. T. Evans had Newport fans yelling delightedly.

Frank Trott was injured in a plucky tackle and Cardiff managed to scramble the ball away.

CLEVER HANDLING

The best Newport movement of the game came when a sliced kick from Cliff Morgan was taken by Roy Burnett, who set his three going and the ball travelled right across field for Lane to run strongly for the line.

It took a combined tackle by Beckingham and Willis to put the winger into touch.

Cardiff were showing their best form of the season and the forwards in particular were more than holding their own with the formidable Newport eight.

Some desultory midfield play suddenly burst into life when Burnett started a passing movement

THE TEAMS

CARDIFF: F. Trott; Haydn Morris; Alun Thomas; Jack Matthews (capt.); Mike Evans; Cliff Morgan; Rex Willis; Cliff Davies; G. Beckingham; A. Hull; W. E. Tamplin; Malcolm Collins; S. Judd; D. J. O'Brien; C. D. Williams.

NEWPORT: R. Hughes; Bryn Williams; Glyn Davies; Malcolm Thomas; John Lane; R. Burnett; W. A. Williams; T. Sterry; Lyn Davies; J. Blackborrow; L. E. T. Jones; B. Edwards; R. T. Evans (capt.); Peter Davies; D. A. G. Ackerman.

Referee: Mr. Trevor Jones, Maesteg.

and John Lane made a strong run on the left.

Alun Thomas nipped across to tackle the Newport winger near the flag.

A minute later there was a thrill at the other end when Mike Evans intercepted a pass and took play well into the Newport 25.

AMAZING RACE

Cardiff would not be denied and, inevitably, Cliff Morgan, who was playing a real "blinder," initiated a movement on the left and Alun Thomas kicked ahead.

There ensued an amazing race for the ball.

With all eyes on Haydn Morris, who was fast overtaking the Newport defence, the crowd were thrilled when A. HULL, the Cardiff forward, who had been backing up, tore across to touch down behind the posts.

Tamplin made no mistake with an easy kick.

The Cardiff forwards now appeared well on top and once Tamplin, to the amazement of the crowd, beat two men with what could only be described as a jinking run.

Newport, however, were not beaten, and from a penalty in the Cardiff half **BEN EDWARDS** kicked one of his glorious long distance penalties to reduce the Cardiff lead.

F. ECHO 6/10/51



BURST FOR THE LINE: Cardiff wing, Haydn Morris, is well marked by Newport as a danger man. As he is trying to spring for the line Newport's Bryn Williams and Hughes quickly pounce upon him.

Newport made a desperate last-minute attempt to pull the game out of the fire, but the Cardiff defence remained firm.

Final—Cardiff 11 0 11
Newport 3 0 3

*Two penalties. *Penalty.

Cardiff pack excelled

Continued from Page One

COMMENTS
Well! Cardiff have confounded the critics again. Their superb victory this afternoon can be attributed to a remarkably fine pack,

which held and finally conquered the famous black and amber giants.

With Cliff Morgan playing his best game of the season, there was a virility and thrust about the reshuffled Cardiff back division which we have not seen before this season.

The game, as was expected, was a desperate affair with some very comprehensive tackling by both sides.

Newport held forward and having rather the worse of the set scrums where G. Beckingham and Lyn Davies fought out a grim battle for supremacy, Burnett and Williams were not given the opportunities that Morgan and Willis, their

opposite numbers enjoyed—although the diminutive Newport halves played grandly they were never the equal of the Cardiff pair.

Malcolm Thomas was Newport's best back, and with Glyn Davies playing a sound game, most danger to Cardiff came from these international centres.

Frank Trott took the honours at full-back with one of his quietly efficient displays and new man Mike Evans, on the right wing, was often in the picture with some determined running.

Alun Thomas had a very good match and his tackling in particular was often first-class.

The Cardiff forwards, to a man, played like heroes and it was grand to see Des O'Brien once again leading the forward rushes.

Tamplin was back to his old kicking form, and his two penalties were beauties.

C. D. Williams and S. Judd often caught the eye, whilst in the Newport pack Tom Sterry, Ben Edwards and D. A. G. Ackerman were always in the thick of things.

Cardiff again proved that mediocre as they may appear in ordinary club games they can always pull out something extra for the big occasion, and they well merited their very fine victory.



DAILY MAIL 8/10/51

No scope for Newport's Roy Burnett. Here, Willis (left) and Judd, of Cardiff, collar him in possession.

In Electric Atmosphere Tamplin Gave Shocks

By OBSERVER

A FRENZIED, hoarsely-cheering crowd of 43,000 rugby fans, their handbells clanging and their rattles racketing, crammed every nook and cranny of the capacious Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday.

And, in an atmosphere electric with "international" tension, saw a reshuffled and somewhat despised Cardiff side confound their critics and dumbfound their friends by pulling out that something extra they seem to keep in reserve for the big occasion to soundly beat the redoubtable Newport XV by 11pts to 3.

As the burly Tamplin dug his divot for the opening kick not even the most rabid Cardiff enthusiast would have taken anything less than 2-1 against their chances of beating the "old enemy," and home supporters smiled thinly, crossed their fingers prayerfully and hoped for the best . . . and an outside in miracle!

They need not have worried! Straight from the first shrill blast of referee Trevor Jones's whistle 15 blue-and-black furies hurled themselves into the fray, and the powerful Uskiders soon realised that this would be anything but the "walk-over" promised by some over-sanguine supporters.

Even First Half

The first half was a torrid, even-Steven affair, with the lighter Cardiff eight holding the giant Newport pack in the light, the line-outs and the loose, until the gent's size 11 boot of veteran William Ewart Tamplin rocketed the ball (and Cardiff hopes!) high and handsome with two perfectly-gauged penalty kicks from the touchline near the visitors' 25 to put the home team six points up at half-time.

In the second half both sides "pulled out all stops" (the lyrical crowd supplying the vox humana) and to the accompaniment of a swelling chorus of cheers and counter-cheers gave us the most thrilling and breath-taking display of club football

S.W. ECHO

8/10/51

TWO CHANGES

For their game against Gloucester at Cardiff Arms Park on Wednesday (kick-off 5.0) Cardiff make two changes from the team which defeated Newport—D. James comes in at centre for Jack Matthews, who sustained a leg injury against Newport, whilst S. Judd moves up to the second row, replacing Malcolm Collins (damaged ear), and J. D. Nelson comes into the back row.

Team: F. Trotter; M. Evans, D. James, A. Thomas, H. Morris; Cliff Morgan, Rex Willis; Cliff Davies, G. Beckingham, A. Hull, W. E. Tamplin, S. Judd, C. D. Williams, Des O'Brien, J. D. Nelson.

that many of us can remember.

With shock-haired Irishman Des O'Brien as their inspiration-in-chief, the tigerish Cardiff forwards slowly mastered their lumbering opposite numbers and when young Arthur Hull tore over to win a thrilling race for the touchdown following a long, raking kick ahead by Alun Thomas you could have heard the cheers at Rodney Parade!

Tamplin added the easiest of extra points.

60 Yards Kick

In the dying moments of this fiercest of games, the visitors were awarded a penalty—a penalty 60yds. (if an inch) from the Cardiff posts!

Ponderously "Big Ben" Edwards (Wales's probable answer to the Springboks' Ceffin menace) did his usual spot of "gardening", poised for a moment, and proceeded to kick a really magnificent goal (magnificent, that is, even for Ben Edwards!), and the final whistle sounded with an inspired Newport team making a last despairing assault on the Cardiff line in an attempt to pull the game out of the fire.

It was a grand game, hard, fast, and clean, and one which will live long in memory.

Irrepressible Cliff Morgan was easily the best player on view, and his mercurial running and weaving must have impressed the Welsh Rugby Union selectors present.

A repetition of this superlative form will surely make "outside half" one position, at least, not likely to cause the poor selectors to increase their aspirin intake.

Malcolm Thomas was far and away the best Newport back, although Glyn Davies, Billy Williams and Bob Hughes were as good as they were allowed to be.

The long-awaited duel at half-back was the deciding factor of the game, Rex Willis and Cliff Morgan being in perfect accord, and well though Burnett and Williams played they were never the equal of the Cardiff pair.

RUGBY NOTES

SPORTING RECORD 13/10/51

By S. C. GRIFFITH

BRAVO CARDIFF!

It was grand to watch

I HAD looked forward so much to the match between Cardiff and Newport that it would not have been surprising had the event been disappointing . . . in this life such is so often the case. How pleasant and satisfying to record, therefore, that I have seldom seen a more exhilarating game or one that did more justice to the vast and enthusiastic crowd.

From the Rugby football follower's point of view there is nothing more encouraging than to see a Cardiff side playing well—especially when the conditions are right and they are watched by a crowd who really appreciate good football and give the whole affair that unique Welsh atmosphere.

The fact that Cardiff unexpectedly, if thoroughly deservedly, won this magnificent match 11-3 naturally added to the glorious thrill of it all, but what really made it a memorable afternoon was the pace, the dash, and the effectively controlled vigour which we saw.

This, I felt, was just exactly how Rugby was meant to be played and, for me, emphasised again Cardiff's—and, indeed, Newport's—invaluable contribution to the game in general. It is perhaps significant that 45,000 Welshmen watched the match—with Cardiff City playing at home on the same afternoon!

★

LAST week I mentioned the improvement in the play of Cardiff's international fly-half, Cliff Morgan, but I am afraid I did not quite appreciate just what great strides he has made. Last Saturday he was superb and at times seemed to be playing Newport on his own—in attack he was the mainspring and in defence his wonderful covering had to be seen to be believed. On this form he bids fair to be compared with Ireland's Jack Kyle.

Williams, as to destroy the balance of the Newport three-quarter line. Apart from O'Brien, none did better than the blind-side wing-forward, S. Judd.

Last week I suggested that more attention should be paid in Cardiff to giving their youngsters a fuller experience . . . I still think this should be done, but I fervently hope that I shall see them continue to play even half as well as their team did in this match, . . . It was the best of all rugby tonics.

Another Cardiff back who impressed me tremendously was Alun Thomas, the Welsh trialist and former Swansea centre. Thomas was playing on Saturday in place of the injured Blednydd Williams, and I imagine his performance will now have set the club's selection committee a pretty problem.

What, however, really settled the issue against Newport was the power of the Cardiff pack, about whom some harsh words have been spoken already this season.

Whether the return of the Irish international, D. J. O'Brien, who played magnificently, provided the necessary inspiration or not, I wouldn't know—the fact remains that this pack held the formidable Newport forwards and altogether showed far more life and strength in the loose.

Above all, they so reduced the effectiveness of the Newport halves, R. Burnett and W. A.



S. GRAPHIC 7/10/51 CARDIFF V NEWPORT

SCRUM-HALF Willis gets the ball away smartly to his threees after a quick heel.

Cardiff act the hosts to Tourists

BOTH Cardiff and Springbok teams attended the "Desert Rats" Reunion at the Capitol Cinema, Cardiff, on Friday—"Alamein Day"—and a well-known Welsh referee, Mr. C. J. Woolley, had the unusual pleasure of meeting up with a player who captained a South African "Test" team against New Zealand in a game which Mr. Woolley had refereed.

The unusual angle was that this game was played at Cairo, of all places, in a temperature in the 90's, and before a crowd of 20,000 interested "Desert Rats" . . . and the players! Basil Kenyon, the skipper of the current Springbok touring team at present staying at Cardiff!

An additional point of interest is that included in Basil Kenyon's Sixth South African Armoured Division "Test" side was a Gunner Muller . . . brother of Hennie Muller, Basil Kenyon's vice-captain on the present tour.

Special Training

The Arms Park has been well utilised this week by both Cardiff and South African teams, who were undergoing special training for their needle game this afternoon.

One person who seemed to be particularly interested in the Springbok kicking practice was a man who is not a particular student of the art of place-kicking, but seemed absorbed in the "gardening" operations of the South African kickers . . . and with good reason! He was Jim Pursey, the groundsman at the Arms Park!

Friends of John Phillips will be sorry to learn that the popular Cardiff forward is likely to be out of the game for some considerable time through illness, and Cardiff will miss this hardworking scrummager and "hooking" specialist.

Another outstanding centre Cardiff are interested in is young

Billy Boston, who has scored 22 points for Cardiff internationals so far this season. Where Denis leads Billy may follow, and Cardiff's future in midfield would hold few problems.

To other outstanding backs in this win against Treorchy were fullback A. J. Friday who positioned himself well and proved an able kicker, and left wing J. B. Neagle.

Neagle is an athletic "regular" and each week proves that he is one of the most deceptive runners in the game. His windings and meanderings, sharp turns inside and gallops into midfield invariably catch the opposition unguarded.

His runs come under the "suicidal" category, yet he gets away with them and, what is more important, they lead to tries. Murphy's run from halfway for a splendid try against Treorchy was only made possible by a typical Neagle effort. It's more the wonder that he would not suit a centre position rather than the wing!

Two young backs—both products

Deceptive running

of Cardiff and District Rugby Union football—starred in Cardiff Athletic's 16-11 win over a strong Treorchy team at the Arms Park last week.

V. S. Hinam, a former St. Clare's player, gave the best scrum half performance for the Athletic this season, throwing out some splendid passes and showing ability and courage in defence.

He proved that he could take hard knocks in the true Willis fashion and with a little more experience and polish should develop into a solid scrum worker. Certainly Cardiff will need one to take Willis's place if he is again called on for the Welsh XV.

The Arms Park has never been a really happy hunting ground for Pentyreh's brilliant young centre Dennis Murphy, younger brother to Cardiff's right winger Derek.

But dark-haired Denis gave the lie to all his critics with a dazzling performance against Treorchy. And what is more he played in his true position of centre. On nearly all his previous appearances on the Arms Park Denis has featured as a wing, but never with outstanding success.

His strong, deceptive running and ability to "make" openings slams him at the best mid-field prospect Cardiff have. If he remains with the Cardiff club his loss will be a big one to local football.

F. ECHO 29/10/51

THE "FOOTBALL ECHO" PAYS TRIBUTE TO CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB, WHO CELEBRATE THREE-QUARTERS OF A CENTURY OF LIFE THIS SEASON. HERE IS THE STORY FROM THE FIRST GAME ON CARDIFF ARMS PARK TELLING HOW THE RUGBY CODE HAS GROWN UP SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH . . .



The badge that didn't find favour

By OBSERVER

The Headline Club

for 75 Years

ON a fine early autumn day in 1874 there assembled in front of the old Cricket Pavilion on the Cardiff Arms Park a rather remarkable aggregation of moustachioed, bowler-batted young Cardiff sportsmen, who, after listening attentively to a short speech from a Mr. S. Campbell Cory, their leader, proceeded to divest themselves of ulsters and jackets, eased their high collars, shot their cuffs, stroked their moustaches . . . and prepared for action!

Twenty-four of the huskiest young "sports", still wearing their bowlers, lined up facing each other, twelve aside, bowed their heads (as if in recognition of the solemnity of the moment!) thus forming a "tunnel" into which with equal decorum and squint-eyed precision, a spectator rolled in a football . . . a ROUND football . . . and the first rugby match ever played in Cardiff was on!

For the next hour, 40 bowler-batted, shirt-sleeved figures hared up and down the field, their tight pantaloons swishing through the tall grass, indulging in a form of organised mayhem and cold-blooded skullduggery calculated to make the most perfrivod of modern Cardiff rugby fans blench with horror.

The players, members of the newly-formed Glamorgan Football Club, were playing their first practice match, and the rules adopted were (roughly) those in use at Cheltenham College, several of the players being old boys of that school.

A team consisted of 20 players; the ball was round, and was never to be picked up off the ground—it had to be "dapping," if only a few inches.

The ball, when caught on the full, or on any hop, was carried by the player in an endeavour to run for a try.

A player when "collared" (the term was not tackled) sometimes the team travelling in a coach and four.

On the return trip to Cardiff it was noticed that the coachman was showing signs of alcoholic remorse, and, after he had slid from view and had been duly hauled back again, his seat was taken by C. W. Watson, one of the players, who, although no slow-coach on the field, was most certainly no Jehu off it.

After smashing through the turnpike at Ely to the consternation of the pike-keeper, who thought they were trying to blink him) they pursued a tortuous and highly erratic course before finally coming into collision with a lamp-post outside the Town Hall, in St. Mary-street!

The resultant publicity seems to have encouraged competition, for in the same year two clubs were formed—the Cardiff Wanderers and the Tredegarville Football Club. The former was founded and captained by Mr. W. D. Phillips, whilst the Roath team included James Bush, father of the celebrated Percy F. Bush.

The Wanderers and the Glamorgan teams were well matched, and rivalry was keen. The "South Wales Daily News" for November 23, 1874, summed up a typically dour struggle between these rivals: "Ultimately this match was discontinued by consent, and was considered a drawn one."

Both Swansea and Newport had established teams, and were always able to beat either of the Cardiff clubs—a state of affairs which wounded newly-awakened civic pride, and attempts were made to effect an amalgamation of the clubs, but with little success.

In 1876, however, a further meeting was held to discuss this matter, and the following account appeared in the "South Wales Daily News":

In view of the approaching season the members of the Cardiff Wanderers and Glamorgan Football Clubs met together at the Swiss Hall, Queen-street, Cardiff, on Friday, September 22 (1876), to discuss the advisability of amalgamating the two clubs.

Mr. E. C. Fry was elected to the chair, supported by Mr. Donaldson Selby (captain of the Glamorgan Club) and Mr. W. D. Phillips (captain of the Cardiff Wanderers).

CLUB COLOURS

Soon changed

IT was thought that the merging of the two clubs would place Cardiff more on a level with other towns. It was decided that the association be known as the Cardiff Football Club.

Mr. Donaldson Selby was elected captain, Mr. W. D. Phillips vice-captain, Mr. E. C. Fry treasurer and secretary, and the committee: J. G. Thomas, S. C. Cory, F. S. Thomas and W. G. Jones.

First colours adopted by the Cardiff club were black jerseys with white skull and crossbones!

This tactless reminder of Cardiff's unfortunate past, when the town was reputedly the headquarters of piracy in the Bristol Channel, was frowned on by the authorities, and the colours were changed in 1877 to blue and black stripes.

On December 2, 1875, the club played their first game, an away fixture with Newport. The team of 15 players fielded two full-backs, one three-quarter, one half back (the "flying man") two quarter-backs and nine forwards. Here's an extract of the result of the day:

"On Newport Marshes, amid a shower of rain, which made the ground like a puddle. A charge of 6d. was made to the public and, notwithstanding the state of the weather, about 200 assembled to witness the contest. The game commenced at 5.30 lasted one hour, and play was of the best all through the game. Newport kept the ball well in the goal of their opponents and compelled them to touch down in self-defence 11 times. Newport also had two tries, but they failed to turn these into goals.

Cardiff compelled Newport to touch down twice in self-defence. The result was a win for Newport of two tries and 11 touchdowns to the good.

It should be remembered that a goal beat any amount of tries or touchdowns, and attempts from 70 yards and more were the order of the day.

They made rugby history



S. CAMPBELL CORY—organiser of the first rugby game in Cardiff.



DONALDSON SELBY, first captain of the Cardiff club.



F. E. HANCOCK, who instituted the four three-quarters technique.



The great Gwyn Nicholls.

IN 1877 the South Wales Challenge Cup was instituted and in a game with Carmarthen, E. C. Fry, the Cardiff quarter back, performed the remarkable feat of scoring a try after being forced over his own line.

Instead of touching down he actually threaded his way through the entire opposing team and scored between the posts!

Season 1878-9 was a busy one, Cardiff winning 16 games and losing four, whilst one game was abandoned owing to flooding of the Arms Park, and six cancelled because of frost.

At Sophia Gardens, Newport beat Cardiff in the South Wales Challenge Cup by 1 goal, 2 tries, 4 touchdowns to nil. Gate money amounted to £72, the first record of a charge for admission being made. This was an unpopular innovation and strong letters were printed in the local Press.

The Cardiff stars were W. B. Norton and W. D. Phillips, who, in addition to being high scorers were also devastating tacklers, being celebrated for literally running through their opponents, heads down.

The fixture card for this season contained the following announcement: "Unless notice is given to the contrary all matches will be played in any weather!"

In 1880, Cardiff won the South Wales Challenge Cup for the first time after a titanic struggle with Llanelly at Neath, two periods of extra time were played, and in the dying moments of the game, P. K. Heard scored a sensational try. The crowd invaded the pitch and the goal-kick could not be taken.

Returning to Cardiff the team were given a civic welcome, and, with bands playing, they were carried shoulder-high to the Queens Hotel, where the popular W. D. Phillips was forced to make a speech.

Cardiff supplied four men to the first Welsh International XV who were defeated by England at Blackheath by 8 goals, 5 tries to nil. They were: W. D. Phillips, E. B. Girling, B. B. Mann and L. Watkins.

The club broke new ground in 1882-3 by travelling outside Wales for the first time, visiting Gloucester and being soundly beaten. A return match at Cardiff resulted in a draw (one try each).

and the visitors were so popular that a fixture became an annual one.

Encouraged by this experience the Cardiff team looked farther afield, and visited London for the first time, defeating London Harlequins and Old Leysians.

For the first time in the history of the game FOUR three-quarters were included in the Cardiff team of 1883-84, being brought about as follows: F. E. Hancock was asked to make up the team to visit Cheltenham (a very strong club in those days), and played so well, scoring two tries, that he could not be left out of the subsequent teams.

One of the nine forwards was dropped and the fourth three-quarter made his appearance.

The line read: W. B. Norton, Tom Williams, F. E. Hancock and A. J. Stuart, and proved so successful that other teams were forced to come into line.

Up to this time, by the way, each side had provided an umpire to "see fair play," but so many arguments and near-riots developed that it was decided to introduce a neutral referee.

FAME GROWS

Hancock's golden days

THE Cardiff side were now playing good football, and their fame spread over the border and challenges were received from such famous teams as Wakefield Trinity, London Harlequins, Queen's College (of Cork), and the German Gymnasium (London).

Idol of the crowd at this time was Hugh Hughes, known popularly as "Sawdust," a prodigious kicker who thrilled the crowds with almost uncanny accuracy.

Entering season 1885-8 under the captaincy of F. E. Hancock, Cardiff experienced the first of their "golden eras."

"Hancock's Year" was almost an invincible one; they were beaten only once, and that in the last game of the season, Moseley winning by a goal and two tries to nil. Their record that season reads: Played 27, Won 26, Drawn 0, Lost 1.

Hancock's team attained a high standard of efficiency in passing and skilled combination, and was one of the best teams ever to represent Cardiff.

A stern disciplinarian Hancock ruled his team in no uncertain manner, and discouraged the propensity for "booting" the ball by insisting on handling on every possible occasion.

Lack of training facilities was stressed when, in 1888, the club hired a room in the "Cattle Market Hotel," Quay-street, as a training room and, twice a week, players "donned the mittens" and performed other exercises. George Lewis was employed at 6s. a week to rub players down!

In 1888-9 Cardiff played Oxford University for the first time and thoroughly outplayed what was considered to be the best team in the four countries, to the consternation of the pundits of the time.

In the same season, playing against the Maori touring team, S. H. Nicholls and W. T. Morgan were both credited with scoring the same try!

Cardiff midfield trio dazzled Northampton

Northampton, 0-0-0; Cardiff, 1-5-20

CARDIFF were worth every one of the 20 clear points by which they won at Northampton yesterday. After a slow start they took such complete control of the game that the score might have been heavier.

Had an accurate goal kicker been in the team it undoubtedly would have been, for only one of the six tries was converted. W. E. Tamplin, the leading kicker, was one of five internationals who played against Cambridge University but not at Northampton. Altogether, nine of Saturday's team were replaced.

This did not lead to smooth running as a team, but sufficient strength was left to make the Midlands club look a second rate side. They, too, were below full strength but did not find the same wealth of power in their reserves.

The Cardiff pack got on top both in the tight and the loose and their backs supported them with a speedy display, full of guile and surprises. There were few concerted back movements because of the spoiling tactics of the quick-breaking home forwards.

MIDFIELD TRIO

It was the ability of Jack Matthews, Bledwyn Williams and Cliff Morgan to come out on top despite this harassing that formed the basis of the victory, which was the biggest over Northampton since fixtures were resumed in 1948.

This midfield trio had a hand in all the scores.

Early on, Northampton looked to have a chance of at least holding their own. They shared the scrums and their backs developed a series of short passing movements. They were too orthodox, however, to outwit the Cardiff backs who moved up rapidly and tackled heavily.

The last 10 minutes of the first half saw Cardiff completely on top and by the interval they had 11 points, made up of tries by Matthews, Alun Thomas and M. Evans. The first was converted by Llewellyn.

BEST OF MATCH

The second half was largely repetition of the first, in that Northampton kept their line clear for 20 minutes. They yielded three times, twice to Williams and once to Horsfall.

Williams' second try was the best of the match. He went through on his own from the halfway line and completely deceived the full-back with a change of step.

F. ECHO

27/10/51

Tourists sing praises of Cardiff throng

CARDIFF doctors must have found queues of hoarse and voiceless club supporters at their surgeries on Monday after their superb vocal efforts on Saturday at the Arms Park! (writes Observer).

That singing was absolutely first class, and many Springboks and South African Pressmen have told me that it will be one of their most lasting memories of their tour of the British Isles.

So impressed were Basil Kenyon and others that I have been given the job of finding good representative records of Welsh crowds singing the old rugby anthems—"Sospas Fach," "Aberystwyth," "Alalou Lan" and "Cwm Rhodri." I do not mention "Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau" which the Springboks consider to be Wales' "Secret Weapon" judging by the effect it has on her football "enemies!"

One innovation I would like to see at the Arms Park is a public address announcement of scores during matches which would obviate a lot of argument and letters to the Football Echo.

One London paper commenting on last Saturday's game made a statement which somewhat puzzled me. "Many people left the Arms Park thinking that Cardiff had won."

No doubt

Well! Small though the scoreboard is (being dwarfed by the mammoth tote-boards!) most regulars know where it is and I am very surprised that anyone on Saturday should be in any doubt as to whether the Springboks won or not!

One look at the green-clad players as they left the field would have convinced them. They were overjoyed at beating the "old enemy."

With Derek Murphy back in harness again after his long lay-off following the Pontypool game on September 29, Cardiff will once again face that almost insuperable headache—too many players heading too few berths!

They can ill afford to drop Alan Thomas, whose all-round brilliance has been evident in recent games and who is likely to become one of the stalwarts of the blue-and-blacks.

Alternatively, players of the experience and big-match temperament of Jack Matthews and Bledwyn Williams are an absolute necessity with such important games as the recent Newport and Springbok fixtures filling the capacious Arms Park to its limits. Apart from Alun Thomas,

the "young idea" in the way of prospective centres are far too inexperienced, and the hurly-burly of "Big Game" rugby football is not the ideal proving-ground for these promising youngsters.

That these players need big game experience goes without saying, but the acclimatisation period is long and gradual. A premature "baptism of fire" has spoiled many talented boys who have found the ordeal too much for them and they have been lost to rugby football.

Particularly impressed

The amenities and resources of the Cardiff Athletic Club are viewed with envy by many visitors to the city.

The Springboks found the Arms Park the finest ground that many of them had ever played on.

Such is the respect for this famous piece of turf that when the South Africans arrived at the ground for their first practice recently, all the players stood aside for an old Springbok player (to whom this ground is sacred) to be the first of the Fourth Springbok Touring Team to tread foot on it.

It was Dr. Dannie Craven, the famous scrum half in Bennie Osler's team, who is now the assistant manager and coach of the current tourists.

South African journalists were particularly impressed with the play of young Cliff Morgan, and one well-known rugby scribe from the Union was convinced that when the British Isles Team returns the visit in 1956 Cliff (who will then be 26) is certain to be a star member of the team.

Rex Willis received the highest compliment that a Springbok can pay. "He's tough, all right!" said a husky 16 stoner who had been scrapping the Cardiff scrum half all afternoon. "And, what is more, he doesn't squeal when the going gets rough!"

This willingness to "mix it" by Welsh footballers has greatly pleased the burly Springboks and some of the roughest, toughest tussles between the giant Afrikaners and our own boys have been followed at after-match dinners and receptions with camaraderie and friendship based on that admirable foundation—mutual respect!

Two hookers in the Cardiff front row

One of the most pleasing performances of the Cardiff-British Lions game, enjoyed by 40,000 enthusiastic spectators, at Cardiff Arms Park last Saturday, was the masterly display of hooker George Beckingham.

Aided and abetted by fellow-hooker John Phillips (playing at prop) he had a decided edge over the formidable Karl Mulen, thought by many to be the outstanding "striker" in the four countries.

Cardiff believe in giving as many players as possible first-class match experience, and already this season 28 players have turned out for the first fifteen.

Although the game was clean and attractive, there was, nevertheless, some pretty all-embracing tackling and Bledwyn Williams sustained yet another black eye and presents a decidedly battered appearance at the moment.

J. Llewellyn, who has been understudying Frank Trotter, gave a fine display at Cheltenham, and when the Cardiff veteran decides to "hang up his boots" the "blue and blacks" have a reliable and most promising deputy ready to take over his duties.

Llewellyn's kicking and retrieving are first-class, and he appears likely to be a candidate for higher honours in the not-too-distant future.

Supporters pleased

Many people compare last Saturday's "exhibition" with the "Game of Games" between the Wallabies and the Barbarians in 1948, and, although it was lacking some of the "bite" of that epic encounter, I think that for sheer brilliance and excitement the Cardiff—Lions game will go down to history as "the best ever."

Several teams delayed the kicking of their club games in order to watch the spectacle, and inspired spirit and with the technical by the superlative rugby of the brilliance of Cardiff's 75th anniversary match, tried in turn to sally exhibition.

One blot on a great season

AT Cardiff's 75th birthday celebrations there were several present who attended the Cardiff club's smoking concert in the Park Hall 45 years ago.

It was held to celebrate the successful season of 1905-6 under the caplaincy of Percy Bush.

Cardiff in that season won 29 games out of 32 (two were drawn), and scored 513 points to their opponents' 86.

The only lost game was that with New Zealand who gained victory by ten points to eight. Chief try getters in this almost invincible season were J. L. Williams, 35, Cecil Biggs 17, Percy Bush 11, Reggie Gibbs 10, Gwyn Nicholls 9, Rhys Gibbs 8 and R. C. Thomas 6.

recapture some of the spirit of the old-fashioned open game when they met later.

This is as it should be. I only hope that it will inspire schools and youth sides to emulation... we can certainly do with all the open football we can get.

The game was filmed by two companies and a complete start-to-finish version of the game will be shown in rugby strongholds throughout the world.

The missionary value of this film should be enormous, and should demonstrate to players and enthusiasts in the Dominion the sheer delight a game of rugby football can be when played in the technical and with the technical.

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D. EXPRESS

24/9/51

Lewis Jones shows goal-kicker's art

By PAT MARSHALL: Cardiff 12 pts. British Lions 14 pts.

WHAT a birthday to remember; what an example to Rugby footballers the world over, this 75th anniversary of the great Cardiff club. For here was Rugby such as I have seen only once since the war, when the Barbarians beat the Wallabies at this same Cardiff Arms Park.

Jack Matthews, the Cardiff skipper, who led his side against his colleagues of the New Zealand tour, expressed the thoughts of the 40,000 who saw the game when proposing the toast to the "Lions" at the commemoration dinner.

"A great afternoon's sport; on such a day there can be no losing side."

This match between sides determined to play the open game gave a lead to international administrators who will be formulating the tactical policy of the Home Union sides to play the South African Tourists now on their way.

Surely the lesson was there to be learned: Forget about the South Africans' hard sloggish forward "subside and penetrate" type of games. They are better at it than we are and we cannot hope to beat them at their own particular brand of Rugby.

But we can make them try to play on our terms by keeping it open. If they try it then we can show them more than a few match-winning tricks.

Vile sums up

Tommy Vile, one of the great in Welsh Rugby as player, referee and administrator, summed it up: "We in Wales have to beat the South Africans. We can do it if we concentrate on just three things: Physical fitness, solid scrummaging and the open game."

To that short list I would add the near-forgotten art of place-kicking. Cardiff would have beaten the Lions on Saturday if they had possessed someone capable of converting a couple of their four tries scored by Derek Murphy (2), Bledwyn Williams and Stan Judd.

Lions had Lewis Jones at full-back. He is one of the few who has mastered the art. He landed a touch-line penalty and converted a try by Tom Clufford from the same spot, apart from hitting a post twice after corner tries by Jim McCarthy and Roy Judd.

Which proves my assertion of a week ago: a good club side should be able to beat an international side who have had little chance of training and playing together as a team. For remember, the Lions, though out of team practice, are not exactly strangers.

handed the ball to a team-mate, but he did not order any circumstances, did he throw it!

There was no "line-out." Twenty-four forwards formed two lines, heads down, and the ball was put into the "tunnel" by a spectator—any spectator!

As "healing" was unknown, the general idea was to force the ball through the opposition's back line, "drop" and "place" kicking was more reliable as the ball was round.

Tripping, although never etiquette, was sometimes indulged in, but scientific "heaving" was the mainstay of the game. The most popular method of bringing down an opponent.

FIRST GAME And its aftermath

JUST as the new-fangled "Rugby Football" seemed to be a "free for all," so, entrance to this game had been free to all—so, not unnaturally, the new code quickly became very popular.

The first away game was against Cowbridge Grammar School on November 21, 1874.

J. B. G. THOMAS TALKING RUGBY

Cardiff paying tribute to great players of past

THE fame of the Cardiff Club and its players has spread far across the world. From Canada in the West to New Zealand in the extreme South-east Rugby men have respected and admired the traditions of this great club, which on Saturday celebrates its 75th anniversary.

It all began way back in the 1870's, and after emerging quietly into the limelight in close company with long and trusted friends, Newport and Swansea, the club has held a place as one of the game's outstanding performers.

Great clubs are not made by mere suggestions or donations alone or by that matter publicity—they are built by grand and loyal players. Cardiff has had its full share of these and household words wherever Rugby is played. On Saturday when Cardiff play the British Lions two teams containing some of the best of contemporary players will pay homage to the great names of the past.

The match, apart from entertaining the large crowd in attendance, is bringing memories, many of them sentimental, huddling to the surface. Former players like Col. Pearson, R. T. Gabe, Percy Bush and many others sitting in the stand will recall their greatest and saddest moments.

FAMOUS TRY

Yet they will not be alone with their memories, for many a spectator present and many a visiting guest will recall how Rhys Gabe sent the late Teddy Morgan racing away for the New Zealand line in December, 1905, and how Percy Bush, a few days later, made the unlikeliest mistake of a magnificent career, to see his unbeaten streak lose the club's record to Dave Gallagher's 'All Blacks'.

The memories of some spectators will go further back than that, and like Col. Pearson they will recall F. E. Hancock and his year of 1884-5. There is no doubt that this was Cardiff's greatest season with 26 out of 27 matches won and one end-of-the-season defeat by Moseley. What a captain Hancock proved to be—perhaps the club's greatest. He developed the four three-quarter style of back-play, which remains as Cardiff's greatest contribution to Rugby's progress.

Hancock insisted that Rugby football was a handling game and the club has been faithful to his creed ever since.

Even in these post-war years, with contemporary Rugby dominating the scene, the Cardiff Club attempt to play the open game. Yes, and Cleaver—supreme among Welsh contemporary specialists—was the outside-half when Cardiff ran up the record total of 301 points in 1947-8. He was the link between the great Tanner, and Matthews, Williams and company.

BACK PLAY ALWAYS

The Rugby world has grown to expect the open game from Cardiff—win or lose—and it is now a club tradition that will never die. Perhaps it is due to the accent being placed upon back rather than forward play. Indeed, this might be the answer why the club has not enjoyed an invincible season! It surely is the reason why Cardiff has produced so many outstanding centre-three-quarters—Hancock, Nicholls, Gabe, Spiller, Gills, Cornish, Bowcott, Wooller, Matthews and Williams.

On Saturday fine clubs like Swansea and Newport, who have achieved invincibility, will pay homage to Cardiff at the commemoration dinner to be held at the City Hall after the match. Two of Cardiff's greatest protagonists—Sir Wavell Wakefield and Major T. H. Vile—will propose and respond to the toast to 'The Rugby Game.'



F. E. Hancock.
(1884)



Gwyn Nicholls.
(1896)



W. Wooller.
(1933)



B. L. Williams.
(1947)

The guests will recall the deeds of outstanding players. The heroes of the early days, W. D. Phillips, C. S. Arthur, W. M. Douglas, A. F. Hill, T. W. Pearson and Norman Higgs. Then on to Gwyn Nicholls (none can compare with him), Bush, Gabe, Neill, Brown, Winfield and J. L. Williams who shared in the 'Golden Era' of Welsh Rugby.

Before World War I came Gills, Dyke, Spiller and Jenkins, and then in the early 'twenties Clem Lewis, Tom Wallace, Arthur Cornish, Tom Johnson, Idris Richards and company.

Next arrived the group of 'Varsity' players in John and Bill Roberts, Harry and Jackie Bowcott, and the Turnbulls. Then the players who later became exiles like Delahay, Boon and Frank Williams.

A. H. Jones, G. Jones, Stone, Skyrn and Barrell were the leading players in the difficult years before the Cliff Jones—Wooler period revived Cardiff's fortunes on the field of play and at the turnstiles. Others too, helped, like E. Watkins, A. Bassett, L. M. Spence, W. G. Morgan and W. E. N. Davis.

In the post-war years we have seen players like Matthews, Williams, Cleaver, Trott, Tanner, Tamplin, C. Davies, Evans, Willis, Morgan and Morris carry on the traditions. May the club continue to thrive and hold its proud position in the world of Rugby football.

Ogmore Quins, 1-0-3; Nantymoel, 1-0-5. Nantymoel underestimated Ogmore Vale's reserve team and were fortunate to win a closely contested match by a converted try to nil. Although sharing the scrummages and line-out the home forwards with Webber, Davies and Seymour prominent, were always masters in the loose. After both teams had narrowly missed some difficult penalty kicks Nantymoel went ahead when their skipper, Dil Roberts, dived over the line following a loose Maul. G. Thomas converted from a difficult angle.

Aberavon too good forward

Cardiff, 1-0-5; Aberavon, *1-1-6
*Dropped.
Attendance, 10,000

By J. B. G. THOMAS
ABERAVON well deserved their one-point victory over Cardiff— their first for many years—at the Cardiff Arms Park last night. They proved themselves superior forward and never allowed the Cardiff backs to make much progress behind the scrum.

Aberavon enjoyed a far greater share of the play territorially and with added steadiness and more reliable place-kicking might have added to their score. Morris always looked dangerous on the left wing for Cardiff, but he had few chances and the whole side rarely functioned smoothly.

REGULARS ABSENT

Because of the failure to control the play at forward, Cardiff were always behind apart from one good spell early in the second half. True they lacked several regular players, but the substitutes did not shine. Indeed, the Cardiff reserve list appears to be far from matured, and the steadiest of the backs was Trott playing as substitute centre for Bledwyn Williams.

Willis, at scrum-half, had a harassing time with little protection, and Morgan, at outside-half, playing his first game of the season was out of touch with his passing of the ball.

Aberavon can play more attractive Rugby than they did in this match, but their combined speed on the ball in the loose was too good for Cardiff. Richards was steady at full-back. Evans and Sullivan best of the three-quarters, and D. Jones always looked for an opening at outside-half.

LIVELY PACK

Best of a lively pack were Meredith, David, and M. Williams. Cardiff scored first when C. Morgan gathered in the loose and sent Trott away. He made an opening and Morris completed the movement by weaving his way over. Tamplin converted.

Early in the second half R. Richards fielded a tough kick and ran in from the right to drop a good left-footed goal. Then Denzil Jones, receiving from a loose Maul, cut through and handed on to Sullivan. The centre sent J. Evans racing over in the corner for the winning try.

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T. W. (Tommy) PEARSON, Cardiff wing, whose record of 49 tries in a season stood from 1893.

WELSH RUGBY REVIEW by G. V. Wynne-Jones

CARDIFF HONOUR THE OLD IDOLS

AS an old Cardiff Rugby player I have often been accused by those further west of an eastern bias. It is a charge I constantly refute, but, be that as it may, the 75th anniversary of the famous Cardiff club is an event which demands attention.★

Few, if any, Rugby club in the world stand higher in public popularity and equally few have long standing records to compare with the "Blue and Blacks."

In their anniversary year Cardiff have a chairman whose reputation stands as high as that of his club.

HUBERT JOHNSON came to his place of honour the hard way.

He was often reserve for Cardiff "Rags," as the second team is affectionately known, he captained that side for several seasons, doing the job magnificently, and, finally, after a too-early retirement, he captained the Cardiff team during the war years.

Back-room boys

HE has a fine team of back-room boys behind him, including that hard-working honorary secretary BRUCE JENKINS, who has been a Cardiff fan for well over 40 years.

The rest of this season's committee are old players.

There is DANNY DAVIES, a past chairman and present vice-chairman, who, as a new player, started the Cardiff crowd in the 'twenties by beating Newport on his own in the first game he ever played for the club.

With him are LES SPENCE, an old Cardiff captain and near international, and the popular BILLY CLEAVER, one of the most glamorous fly halves who ever played in Wales.

Another international is MALDWIN JAMES, who knew more about hooking than most people, including referees.

THE rest were not internationals, but LYN WILLIAMS, A. T. THOMAS, GWYN PORTER, D. MAN BROWN, and HOWELL LAYVELL, who, as a person, were all exceptions that prove the statement so often made "that any player who plays regularly for Cardiff for three seasons usually gets a Welsh cap," such is the standard of play.

In addition to these comparatively recent players there is JOHNNY THOMAS, who was contemporary with Percy Bush but is still going strong as a committee-man.

Worth watching

FOR their anniversary celebrations Cardiff play the "British Lions" team, captained by CARL MULLEN, the young Irish doctor, and this should be a game worth watching.

After the game the Cardiff club will give a dinner at the City Hall. Many great names of the past and present will be there, the COLONEL TOMMY PEARSON, the oldest living captain of Cardiff, will attend—92 years after he first captained the club.

FOUR men who played in the Cardiff game against the New Zealanders on December 26 1905 will also be present.

Two of them are great names remembered today—PERCY BUSH and R. T. GABE.

Bush was the idol of Cardiff and it is said that if the crowd discovered he was not playing they left the ground and went home. Their remaining colleagues of that great game in 1905 will be

G. NORTHMORE, Cardiff's vice-captain that day and RALPH THOMAS, who scored the second of Cardiff's two tries.

THIS dinner will bring together again all surviving holders of Cardiff first fifteen caps and it has been a fine gesture to invite one of its members, one stand ticket holder, one enclosure member, and one field ticket holder.

One of them, B. H. THOMPSON, of Merches Gardens, has held uninterrupted membership since 1888.

In addition, invitations have been sent for one representative of every club on the Cardiff fixture list this season.

I shall be there and I shall look forward to meeting many of those with whom I played.

I SPOKE last week to ROY SETTON, Swansea's injured inside half.

Poor Roy has survived seasons of Rugby without very serious injury and in the only cricket game he played last season—he is not a regular cricketer—he received an eye injury which will keep him out of Rugby for at least another two months.

It was a "KNOCK-OUT" competition, and Roy was dragged in to keep wicket.

Within ten minutes the ball popped up off the leg stump and hit Sutton's left eye.

Good luck, Dai!

SWANSEA and Wales front-row forward, DAI JONES, has retired as a player, but he is hoping to make a quick comeback as a referee.

He is a little impatient at present because the referees' examination has been put back for a few weeks.

Good luck as a referee Dai, YOU ought to know what goes on in the front row of the scrum.

THIS week's "line for the book" is CLEN THOMAS, Swansea wing forward who was capped once for Wales when a youngster at Cambridge.

He is much bigger now and in my opinion a much better player. I have asked him to get really fit. If he keeps his promise he will add more caps to his one and only.

ARMS PARK THRILLS FOR 40,000

Lions beat Cardiff 14-12

in great game

Lewis Jones' kicks told

British Lions beat Cardiff by 14 points to 12 in a thrill-a-minute rugby match at Cardiff Arms Park to-day.

Cardiff scored four unconverted tries after some grand passing, and had their own line crossed by Roy John, Tom Clifford and McCarthy, a great penalty goal and a conversion by Lewis Jones turning the scales.

The big game atmosphere was well in evidence when a crowd of fully 40,000 people from as far afield as Scotland, Ireland and France, together with representatives of the rugby unions and most of the leading clubs in England and Wales, were on hand to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Cardiff Club.

The British Isles touring team deferred selection until just before the kick-off, and Rees Stephens and Dai Davies were left out and P. W. Kinnaird (Richmond and Scotland) was picked as touch judge for the Lions.

Conditions were perfect, and there was every prospect of an exhibition of fast and open football.

by
Observer

The Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Ald. Robert Bevan, was introduced to both teams and the kick-off was undertaken by Sir Wavell Wakefield, M.P., ex-president of the Rugby Union.

Straight from Sir Wavell's kick-off the ball went to Haydn Morris, who made a 40-yard dash to be brought down near the flag.

After a scrum the ball went right across the field in a magnificent passing movement and D. MURPHY opened the scoring with a try in the corner. W. E. Tamplin's kick was wide.

The high note on which the game started was maintained and the Cardiff backs were well in the picture with some movements reminiscent of their old-time sparkle.

J. D. Robins essayed a long-range penalty, but was wide.

The Lions often looked dangerous with individual runs and Henderson, on one occasion, was almost over, but a grand tackle by Frank Trott saved the day.

DEFENCE OUTPACED
Play was fast and furious and an

incisive burst down the centre by Jack Matthews had the crowd on its feet.

The ball went loose from a line-out on the Lions 25 and Rex Willis put Bledodyn Williams away.

A well-judged pass from the left centre saw MURPHY sprinting for the corner and his speed was too much for MacDonald and the Cardiff right winger scored near the flag.

Tamplin's kick was only just off the target.

Kyle's tactical kicking put the Lions on the offensive and only grand marking and whole-hearted tackling prevented the determined Lane reducing the lead after some good inter-passing.

Cardiff were penalised for a scrum infringement and LEWIS JONES, to the delight of the crowd, reduced the lead with a beautiful kick.

A minute later long-haired Billy Cleaver darted away from a scrum to put ROY JOHN over for a try. Lewis Jones's kick hitting a post and rebounding into play.

Cleaver denied his 12 months' retirement by some spirited kicking.

The Lions were being held by a revitalised Cardiff covering defence, which had not been in evidence in previous matches this season.

TOM CLIFFORD, the Irish wing forward, receiving the ball in the loose, charged over for a good try.

A truly superb touch-line kick from Lewis Jones put Lions ahead. Lewis Jones was in amazing form and his long-distance kicking frequently received ovations from the crowd.

From a melee in the Cardiff half Malcolm Thomas put Jackie Kyle away.

After a fine run Kyle put MC-CARTHY, the Irish wing forward, over for a try. Lewis Jones's kick again hit a post.

Half—British Lions .. 2 2 14
Cardiff .. 0 2 6

*Penalty.
Straight from the resumption Cliff Morgan saw an opening and

gave a nice pass to Bledodyn Williams who ran well but in endeavouring to side-step Lewis Jones the centre slipped, and the opportunity of an almost certain try was spoiled.

The Lions were now exerting strong pressure, and time and again Trott showed up well with cool defensive kicking.

At the other end a soccer kick by Lewis Jones cleared the Tourists' line when a virile Cardiff forward rush looked dangerous.

Haydn Morris was given a chance to show his paces but made the mistake of cutting in instead of running straight through, with the result that he was well tackled by Lewis Jones.

Then followed a superb try. After a series of dazzling inter-passing between Jack Matthews and BLEDDYN WILLIAMS the crowd rose to its feet when the latter streaked over to score. Malcolm Collins' kick just failed.

BLEDDYN'S FINE EFFORT
A kick ahead by Bledodyn Williams saw Lewis Jones and Murphy in a race for the ball and the Lion's full back averted danger with a cross-field kick.

Cardiff were now making strenuous efforts to even up matters and some scintillating play by the centres saw Bledodyn Williams, in one of his celebrated jinks, knifing through the line of defence to send JUDD away for a good try between the posts. Malcolm Collins missed an easy kick after no charge had been awarded.

Judd was again in the picture a moment later with a well-judged kick ahead, which had the Lions in severe trouble and some desperate play on the visitors' line ensued.

Cardiff were exerting every ounce of pressure to even the score and surge after surge of blue and black attacks were beaten back.

Kyle relieved with a nice run and kick, taking play to the home 25.

Cardiff would not be denied and a Haydn Morris dash had an excited crowd yelling wildly.

But a last minute tackle at the flag kept him out.

Desperate attempts at dropped goals by Matthews and Cliff Morgan were well off the target.

With only seconds of the game left Tamplin tried a desperate long-range penalty kick four yards inside his own half, but to the chagrin of the crowd his kick fell short.

Final—British Lions .. 2 2 14
Cardiff .. 0 4 12

*One penalty.
COMMENTS

This was a superlative game; an exhibition of rugby at its glorious best.

The Lions just merited their narrow victory by some extraordinary kicking by Lewis Jones and some virile play by their forwards.

Behind the scrums Cardiff, if looked slightly the better, and Bledodyn Williams and D. Murphy, in particular, being outstanding.

For Murphy this was a great day and his two tries were positive gems.

Frank Trott, as usual, was coolness personified, whilst the Cardiff halves, Rex Willis and Cliff Morgan, benefitting from G. Beckingham's first-class hooking, opened the game up admirably.

Morgan was also well in the picture at times with some good defensive kicking.

The Cardiff forwards played like heroes and it would be invidious to single out anyone for particular mention, although in the closing stages, S. Jull had the crowd roaring when heading some fierce rushes.

The Lions, as was expected, gave a great exhibition of fast and attractive football and their star was undoubtedly the inimitable Lewis Jones whose kicking was a joy to see.

Malcolm Thomas, at left centre, was in fine fettle and his co-centred Henderson and he often looked dangerous whilst MacDonald and Lane on the wings, although not getting the service that their opposite numbers were enjoying, still looked dangerous when the opportunity presented itself.

The spectacle of two of the greatest post-war outside halves in combination was in itself a thrill for the crowd, and Cleaver, running strongly, often threatened danger, whilst Kyle, it goes without saying, was just Kyle.

The Lions' forwards, ably led by K. D. Mullen, were a magnificent eight and Clifford, Roy John and Nelson, showed up to advantage in the loose.

All in all a game which sent a capacity crowd home well content. This will probably be the swansong of the Lions as a team, but from the talent on view this afternoon it was obvious why the British Lions earned the terrific reputation they did in Australia and New Zealand for brilliant open football.

Cardiff confounded their critics by more than a glimpse of their former brilliance and some of their former inter-passing, in which Jack Matthews and Bledodyn Williams took the honours had the crowd roaring as they used to do two and three seasons ago.



Murphy goes over for Cardiff's second try.



BLEDDYN WILLIAMS grounds the ball to score for Cardiff while Malcolm Thomas, the Lions' centre, whom he had evaded, goes sliding past in the anniversary match at the Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday.

The teams

British Isles Touring Team
(The Lions): Lewis Jones (Devonport Services, Llanelli and Wales); M. F. Lane (U.C. Cork and Ireland); M. J. Henderson (Queen's University and Ireland); M. C. Thomas (Newport and Wales); R. MacDonald (Edinburgh University and Scotland); J. W. Kyle (Queen's University and Ireland); W. B. Cleaver (Cardiff and Wales); J. D. Robins (Birkenhead Park and Wales); Carl D. Williams (Belvedere and Ireland) (captain); T. Clifford (Young Munster and Ireland); D. J. Hayward (Newbridge and Wales); J. E. Nelson

(Malone and Ireland); V. G. Roberts (Penryn, Swansea and England); E. R. John (Neath and Wales); J. S. McCarthy (Dolphin and Ireland).

Cardiff: F. Trott; H. Morris; Bledodyn Williams; J. Matthews; D. Murphy; Cliff Morgan; Rex Willis; J. R. Phillips; G. Beckingham; Cliff Davies; W. E. Tamplin; Malcolm Collins; P. Goodfellow; S. Judd; C. D. Williams; J. Mullen (International).

Referee: Mr. Ivor David. Neath.
Touch judge: L. M. Spence.

FOOTBALL ECHO
SEPT 22ND 1951

Magnificent Rugby made TRIBUTES anniversary game AT CLUB memorable DINNER

MANY were the words of wisdom, praise, humour and appreciation heard by some 400 guests at the Cardiff Rugby Club's 75th anniversary dinner held at the City-hall following the game with the British Lions.

The chairman was Mr. Hubert Johnson. Proposing the toast, "The City of Cardiff," Mr. D. Bernard Morgan said: "There is one glory that has been with us for 75 years and remains with us to-day—Cardiff Rugby Football Club."

The Lord Mayor of Cardiff (Alderman Robert Bevan) responded. Sir David Rowen-Jones, president of the Welsh Rugby Union, referred to the great game in the afternoon, which displayed all that was best in Cardiff Rugby.

Referring Mr. Hubert Johnson said: "As chairman of the Cardiff Club I am immensely proud to have risen to such a toast by such a man in such company and on such an occasion."

Dr. Jack Matthews, the captain, welcomed the "Lions" and Mr. Peter Kinnamonth responded. Sir Wavell Wakefield spoke of Rugby's growth throughout the British Isles, overseas and particularly in our schools. "No club in the world could quite stage such an occasion as this," commented Sir Wavell, proposing the toast, "The Rugby Game."

"Cardiff stands for all that is best in Rugby football," he declared. Responding, Major T. R. Vile remarked that the game was in good administrative hands and that 90 per cent of the places in the Welsh XV were open to young players.

Major Vile condemned the modern wing forward for closing up the game. "You chaps have got to beat South Africa," he emphasised, "and I hope we shall get the solid pushing scrum back."

Mr. Bruce H. Jenkins, the Cardiff hon. secretary, supported by Mr. L. M. Spence, proposed the toast to "Our Past Players," saying that it was fitting for Cardiff to celebrate their 75th birthday in the Festival of Britain year. He extended a warm welcome to 124 old players who attended the dinner.

Mr. B. T. Gabe and Mr. Idris Richards responded. Mr. D. E. Davies proposed "Our Guests," to which the Rt. Hon. E. J. Williams, High Commissioner in Australia, and Lieut.-col. Sir Geoffrey Betham, of the Blackheath R.F.C. replied.

"We in the Cardiff Club owe a tremendous lot to the Press," said Mr. Wymham Richards, particularly the Western Mail and South Wales Echo and Mr. J. B. G. Thomas, Rugby correspondent of the Western Mail.

Mr. J. B. G. Thomas, responding, said of the game's future players: "I hope they will give us as much pleasure to write about as the players of the past and the present."

Cardiff, 0-4-12; British Touring Team (Lions), *2-2-14
* One penalty.
Attendance, 45,000.
By J. B. G. THOMAS

THE Cardiff Rugby Club's 75th anniversary commemoration match with the British Lions produced some truly magnificent open Rugby at the Arms Park on Saturday.

Cardiff were defeated by a goal, a penalty, and two tries to four tries, yet they fully deserved the honour of a draw. But for an error of judgment in the most exciting stage of the game, when they failed to convert their fourth try from in front of the posts, following the order of "no charge," Cardiff would have shared the spoils.

Still, the result will cease to matter as the months and years roll by, for those who watched the game will remember it as a glorious exhibition of the true spirit of Rugby football. The co-temporary and scientific methods we see displayed so frequently in representative football were cast aside and both sides threw themselves wholeheartedly into the task of playing open football.

TACTICAL REFORM
It was not a case of the forwards being second fiddle to the backs. Indeed, the forwards were very much in evidence. However, the wing forwards, those modern villains of the piece, behaved like gentlemen. Instead of probing ahead deep into enemy territory in an attempt to frustrate every attack at birth they moved back to protect their own lines.

Thus they were part of the covering defence, and this small tactical reform in the conduct of the game produced more genuine centre play than we have seen on the Arms Park in an important match for some time. The two sides were fairly evenly matched, although the first half belonged to the Lions as they built up their winning lead, and the second to Cardiff as they rallied strongly to surprise even their own supporters. Throughout the match Mr. Ivor David refereed admirably. He was stern when infringements were flagrant—happily these were few—and closed one eye when a half-knock-on occurred so as not to halt the flow of handling movements. A splendid effort, Mr. David.

GREAT PACE
Many of the Lions' team were playing either their first or second match of the season. They tired towards the end, but so great had been the pace throughout the 80 minutes of play that Cardiff could not get the better of them towards the close. There were some "near-misses," but the Lions held out. For them Lewis Jones was

at his brilliant, if unorthodox, best at full-back. One could see why his tour manager said it was his best position, for his holding and kicking were superb. M. C. Thomas and N. J. Henderson ran with determination in the centre, and M. E. Lane was the best of the four wings on view.

Kyle was sound at outside-half, and Cleaver made a more-than-useful scrum-half in illustrious company despite his period of retirement. Of the forwards E. John gave a splendid exhibition of lock-man play, and T. Clifford, V. Roberts, and J. McCarthy were always prominent in the loose.

CARDIFF IMPROVE
Cardiff's play showed a great improvement for there was more life and cohesion in their combined efforts. Trost was safe at full-back, and Murphy a trier on the wing. Bledwyn Williams played his best game for a long time, and Matthews, until sustaining slight concussion early in the second half, ran very hard.

Morgan has not yet reached his peak this season, but Willis appeared to enjoy having his old partner (Cleaver) as an opponent. In the pack, which lasted the pace well Tamplin, Collins, Beckingham, and Judd all worked stoutly.

Cardiff were six points up in ten minutes, as the mid-field players combined to put Murphy over twice in the right-hand corner. Then the Lions scored 10 points without reply before the interval. Lewis Jones kicked a low, swift penalty from the touch-line before Cleaver darted away from a scrum to send Roy John galloping over. Jones's kick at goal hit an upright, but he converted the next try by Clifford from the touch-line.

BEAUTIFUL RUN
Then Malcolm Thomas made a beautiful swerving run down the middle to send McCarthy in, and Jones hit the upright again.

The interval brought relief to both sides, and then came Cardiff's turn. They had the better of the second half, and Bledwyn Williams and Matthews worked the scissors movement several times before Williams dived over in the right-hand corner. He made the running gain to put Judd over under the posts.

It seemed certain now that Cardiff would make a draw. Collins went to take the kick. The Lions were over-eager, and "no-charge" was ordered. As Collins kicked wide.

The final minutes were hectic and even Matthews had a drop at goal, but the end came with Tamplin attempting a penalty from five yards inside his own half. What a grand game!



CARDIFF players bundled R. MacDonald, of the British Lions, into touch by the corner flag at the Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday. But, as the photograph shows, it was a close escape for Cardiff as MacDonald actually grounded the ball over the line.



I—K. TROTT, Cardiff full-back, goes down to halt a foot rush by British Lions centre Henderson.

SMACK OVER THE LINE IT GOES



Cardiff right-wing Murchy plunges over the line to score Cardiff's first try.



CLEAVER manages to sling out a long pass despite a determined smothering tackle by Cardiff's Collins.

S. GRAPHIC 23/9/51

Cardiff's effort against Tourists deserved success

Cardiff *2-1-9; South Africa 1-2-11

*Penalties

Attendance 53,000

By J. B. G. THOMAS

HARD luck, Cardiff! In a tremendous game of exciting Rugby at the Arms Park they just failed to repeat their 1907 victory and become the first side to defeat the fourth South African touring side.

They lost by two penalties and a try against South Africa's goal and two tries, but what a terrific battle it was, and what a stirring climax it produced.

The flow of the struggle changed frequently, but whereas the Springboks accepted the few opportunities that came their way, Cardiff, enjoying more of the play territorially, failed to clinch a few chances that would have given them a well-deserved victory.

From the Rugby viewpoint Cardiff were the better side.

The Springboks, after being disturbed by the early shower of heavy rain which produced a slippery ball, were harassed by the determination and wholeheartedness of the Cardiff effort.

MAGNIFICENT PACK

The Cardiff pack was magnificent and offset the weight advantage of the South Africans to get the better of them in both the set scrums, where the visitors appeared unhappy about the approved method of heeling, and the line-outs.

Behind the scrum the Cardiff backs threatened the greater danger and we rarely saw the South Africans handle the wet ball well and present any thrust on the run. However, the South Africans' tactical kicking was better, and it was a beautiful diagonal kick by Brewis late in the game, which enabled the tourists to win the day. The Cardiff defenders could not get across to cover it and the opportunist, Ochse, was there to touch down for the all-important try.

It might be said now that the Springboks are not unbeatable and that they experienced a very narrow escape on Saturday. They were lucky, but as they improve they will become an extremely difficult side to defeat. Few sides will play as well together as did Cardiff. They rose to the occasion and gave of their best. Had they just taken all their chances, then there would have been a great victory.

For long periods the game was a contrast in styles. Cardiff always

threatened when advancing in the classical manner, but the Springboks showed how profitable tactical kicking can be against strong midfield defences.

The tourists must have learnt many lessons from this match. There is urgent need to correct their scrummaging and heeling from the tight; they must resist the tendency to run through the line-out and an over-eagerness to spoil around the scrum. Some 15 of the 23 penalties awarded were against them, and they found the refereeing of Mr. Joynson strict and unrelenting.

GRAND PLAYER

Buchler was safe and accurate at full-back and promises to become a grand player. Ochse, on the left wing, was by far the best of a disappointing three-quarter line. Brewis, at outside-half, was the most intelligent back. Oelofse, after a poor first half, improved considerably, and it was his try that helped to turn the tide of battle. In the pack, which did not appear as well together as the one at Pontypool, Koch, Barnard and Wyk were good, but Muller found conditions strange for his normal type of play at No. 8.

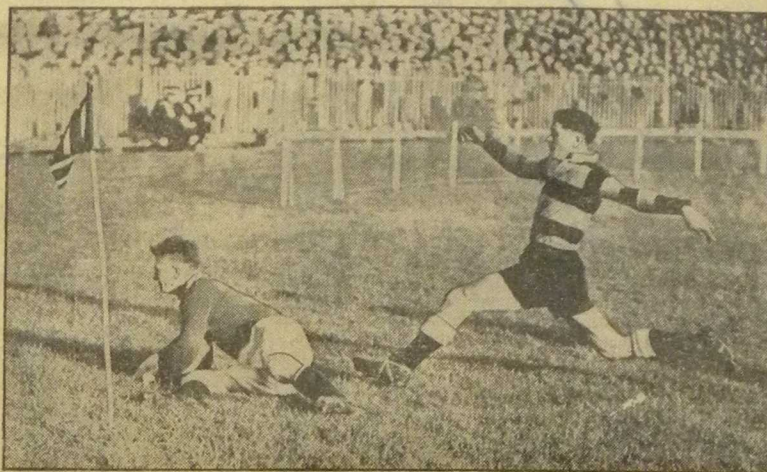
For Cardiff, Trott was a great saver and it was unfortunate that he just failed to get across to prevent the last try by starting too late. The wings had few chances, but the centres were good, with Williams playing particularly well at times to show the value of true centre play. Morgan was tireless at outside-half, but his kicking was more hurried and less accurate than usual. His running in the first half was excellent. Willis was back to form with a sterling display. In the pack O'Brien, Tamplin, Judd and Cliff Davies did well, but were no better than their colleagues, for as an eight they were truly great.

Before the game started the singing of the great crowd was more like that of pre-war days.

MAIN INCIDENTS

From the first kick Cardiff went into the attack and South Africa were soon in trouble when Matthews booted a stray pass up-field. Then Tamplin just failed with a penalty as heavy rain began to fall. After 12 minutes he landed a 40-yard goal following off-side play.

A Brewis diagonal punt put South Africa on the attack and from a scrum 10 yards out Brewis went to the blind-side and put the elusive Ochse over in the corner. Buchler converted



THIS was the try, minutes from no-side, that decided Cardiff's fate. Ochse has collected a Brewis diagonal punt and dived over the corner with Trott outpaced in the race.

'We were lucky,' says Kenyon

B. WILLIAMS'S GREAT TRY

DURING the dinner given to both the South African and Cardiff teams at the Royal Hotel after Saturday's match, Basil Kenyon, the touring team's captain, who watched the game, said, "We were lucky to win!" He and Hennie Muller congratulated the Cardiff team on their grand performance. After the speeches, Cliff Davies (Cardiff), and G. Daunhauser (Cardiff), and A. Gefin (Springboks) led the rival teams in an enjoyable singing.

with a splendid kick after "no charge" was ordered.

The rain stopped and Tamplin hit an upright with a 35 yards penalty kick. Cardiff continued to attack but just failed to finish their attacks before we saw a really good try.

Cardiff heeled from a scrum in the right hand corner and A. Thomas came inside for an extra man. Morgan carried on to make the gap and Matthews handed on to Williams who straightened up and dived over. It was a grand try, but Tamplin's kick was just short. Hall was injured, but after treatment carried on in the back row with Collins substituting as "prop."

ANOTHER PENALTY

In the second half Cardiff went further ahead with another Tamplin penalty from 45 yards—this time into the wind. Ten minutes later Morgan had a blind side kick charged down inside his own "25" by Oelofse, who gathered and dived over in exactly the same spot where Matthews had a try disallowed in the first half.

The kick failed and the battle continued furiously.

Tamplin just missed with another penalty shot, and with a few minutes to go Brewis put in one of his well-directed diagonal punts over the Cardiff line. Ochse got there first, just before Trott, to score the try and the game was won, but not before Cardiff had one more near miss with a stirring combined effort!



BLEDYNN WILLIAMS dives over R. Van Schoor (South Africa) to score the Cardiff try.

WING IN FULL FLIGHT



J. K. OCHSE, the South African wing, all out for the line and evading Alun Thomas to score the Springboks' first try following a blind-side movement.

54,000 say Springboks lost REF. DID NOT SEE MATTHEWS TRY

By PAT MARSHALL: Cardiff 9 pts. S. Africans 11

NEARLY all the 54,000 crowd left Arms Park firmly believing Cardiff had beaten the Springboks.

Ten minutes after the start Cardiff skipper Jackie Matthews charged down a hurried relieving kick right on the Springbok line, followed up, and dived over to touch down for what looked to all a perfect try.

To all except little Mr. Joynton, of Caerleon, that is. Mr. Joynton was unsighted; hidden behind the huge bulk of several South African heavyweights. And as Mr. Joynton happened to be refereeing, that was just too bad for Cardiff.

Rightly, because he was unsighted, he whistled and ordered a scrum. Rough justice, though, for Hannes Oelofse (pronounced Oo-lof-sa) scored South Africans' second try in exactly the same way.

The South African manager told me quite frankly: "I was relieved when the last whistle went; we were very, very lucky to get away with it."

Brewis the star

Still, there it is: after a hectic, diamond hard game the Springboks are still unbeaten. Apart from obscuring the view of the referee, though, it wasn't due to their massive pack.

No, it was almost entirely due to the lightest man in the side—Northern Transvaal Police Sergeant Hannes Brewis, who "made" two of the three tries.

Apart from Brewis, easily the outstanding figure on the field, Cardiff outshone their opposite numbers—especially surprising as it may sound, in the pack.

For once the South Africans were held and outhooked in the tight (21-14 in Cardiff's favour). They were made to look no more than competent in the line-out and almost novices when it came to dribbling a wet, greasy ball—no fault of theirs, for they rarely play with any but a dry ball on a hard, dry ground.

But it was in ideas that Cardiff really had the edge, making the stereotyped movements of the South African backs look very hack stuff. In all fairness to the Springboks, though, our interpretation of some of the laws—particularly those relating to scrummaging and line-outs—should be more clearly defined.

Twenty-one penalties were awarded—13 against the tourists, and all but two were incurred either in the scrum or the line-out.

Hint to referees

Now these big fellows in green are not cheats. They are absolutely first-class sportsmen, and are more than a little worried that they might be suspected of trying to take petty advantages.

So far they have played under four referees here. I have seen each of those four games, and

MORE SPORT ON PAGE TWO

each time the refereeing has been strictly fair, according to our interpretation. Yet they are being penalised too often—and the fault is not theirs.

Could not the referee have a chat with them before each game and explain just how he intends interpreting the laws? Then there can be no misconception.

Bill Tamplin (two penalties) and Bledwyn Williams (try) scored for Cardiff. Chum Ochse (Oosh, to you) (two), and Oelofse (tries), and Johnny Buchler (conversion) for South Africa.

CARDIFF SHOCKED TOURISTS



Only two points separated the visiting South Africans from the Cardiff Rugby Union team after a hard game yesterday at Cardiff. And with the luck a little more on their side the home team might have triumphed.

At any rate they kept a lead until half-time. The picture on the left shows the tough Springbok team well on the ball during a loose rush. From the left are Ochse, Muller and Brewis, following up the full back Buchler, on the right, who finally gained ground with a hefty kick to touch.



Oelofse, South Africa, starts a three-quarter move with his tongue out, making a long pass to Brewis (out of the picture) as the scrum wheels round after breaking up.

Ochse dashes for the line



"CHUM" OCHSE, the massive South African left-wing three-quarter, races for the line to score the winning try at Cardiff five minutes from the end.

Brewis—who Pat Marshall says was the star of the match—had sent over an astute cross-kick to let in Ochse.

Alun Thomas, the Cardiff right wing, went in pursuit, but Ochse was easily able to cross in the left corner.

Ochse and Brewis had combined to score the first try, which the 21-year-old Springbok full-back Johnny Buchler converted.

Brewis had a lively partner in outside half Oelofse, who scored a try when he charged down a clearance by Morgan.

Bill Tamplin, who kicked a couple of penalty goals, had hard luck with another kick which hit a post.

CARDIFF NEAR TO GLORY

By G. V. WYNNE-JONES

Cardiff 9 pts, South Africans 11

CARDIFF were so near to glory that the Springboks only scraped home five minutes from time with a try by Ochse. They are not a great side, and it was only a few minutes from the end that they looked like winning.

Their backs lacked unity and thrust, although their wings, with few chances, showed themselves to be dangerous.

This game could have been won by Cardiff on goal kicks alone, but TAMPLIN only succeeded in kicking two out of nine. None of his attempts were from impossible positions.

The smaller Cardiff pack did magnificently against these huge, hard men of South Africa.

The Cardiff backs, however, were somewhat disconcerted by the covering defence and the fact that in the Springboks' scrummage formation the two flank forwards, packing as they do on to the front row, are a couple of yards nearer to the attacking side.

A personality in the game was P. WESSEL, a bald-headed, six feet two, 15st, journalist, who was here, there, and everywhere, but the much-vaunted MULLER was rarely seen.

FRY, another flank forward, and BARNARD, in the second row, also did well.

The Springbok backs, with the exception of BREWIS, showed little initiative, and even Brewis was poor with his passing.

But his kicking, both to touch and tactically, was reminiscent of the inimitable Benny Osler.

It was an "Osler" kick, diagonal to the corner flag, which gave Ochse the chance to dive on the ball just inside the dead-ball line five minutes from time to shatter Cardiff's hopes.

THE EXTRA MAN

In the Cardiff team ALIN THOMAS, playing out of position on the wing, nevertheless showed himself to be the complete footballer.

Twice in the first half he came in from the right wing to make the extra man.

The first time subsequent bad handling robbed Cardiff of a great chance but 15 minutes later, when the same thing happened, BLEDDYN WILLIAMS dived over the Springboks' line to gain a 6-5.

Outstanding lock-forward

Few would cavil at the selection of Cardiff's brilliant lock-forward, Des. O'Brien, as Ireland's leader against the powerful Springboks, on December 8.



O'Brien, who led Ireland last week against Combined Services, is the outstanding player of his type in Britain, and his selection brings Ireland into line with the modern trend of choosing the back row man as skipper. Certainly Des and his pack should give the tourists a hotter fight than Scotland's eight.

lead for his team after TAMPLIN had kicked a penalty goal and BUCHLER had converted an OCHSE try for the Springboks.

Ochse's try came as a big surprise. After the interval the South Africans tried hard to reduce the lead, but it was Cardiff who went further ahead in seven minutes when TAMPLIN kicked a penalty awarded for obstruction.

CHARGED DOWN

Ten minutes later CLIFF MORGAN had a kick charged down by scrum half OLOPSE and it was the same player who, recovering quickly, touched down for a try to make the score 9-8.

Buchler's goal kick failed and at this point Cardiff seemed to have a great chance of victory.

There was little interesting back play from either side and I would say that nobody made a clean-cut opening throughout the game.

Once or twice Bleddyn Williams exploited his side-step, but was overwhelmed by an active defence before he got far.

One of the Cardiff heroes was the safe and sound veteran FRANK TROTT, and while the whole pack played very well indeed I made it 10 to be as good as any.

Hooking honours went to BURNHAM of Cardiff, and he did supply his backs with many chances of which the Cardiff three-quarters of two or three years ago would have taken advantage.

But we discovered that the Springboks must surely be beaten later on—also that some of the Cardiff backs must finally decide that their day is done.

Jack Matthews gets 3 tries for Cardiff

Cardiff beat the Light Blues by 29 points to 13 in a brilliant exposition of rugby at Cambridge to-day.

The Cambridge line was crossed no fewer than seven times and Jack Matthews got three of the tries, while Ewart Tamplin was in the picture with four conversions.

—by
Observer

Cardiff made two last-minute changes, Sig Judd, who was taken ill on the journey, standing down and his place was filled by D. G. Naylor, former Coventry and Warwickshire County player, whilst Rex Willis was at scrum half instead of V. S. Hynam.

Peter Davies, son of Emrys Davies, the Glamorgan cricketer, occupied the full-back position for the University.

Conditions were perfect and a fast open game was in prospect. Teams:

CAMBRIDGE: P. M. Davies; W. S. Dalgleish; K. J. Dalgleish; P. B. Reeve; R. Heron; F. L. Entwistle; R. B. Harrison; T. Davies; N. E. Williams; I. D. S. Beer; J. M. Jenkins (capt.); V. H. Leadbeter; B. J. C. Woodall; P. J. F. Wheeler; G. M. D. Archer.

CARDIFF: R. F. Trott; Alan Thomas; Jack Matthews; Bleddyn Williams; Haydn Morris; Cliff Morgan; R. Willis; Cliff Davies; G. Beckingham; G. Jenkins; W. E. Tamplin; M. Collins; C. D. Williams; D. Naylor; D. J. O'Brien.

Referee: Mr. V. Goodman. Cardiff opened strongly and a fine combined movement from a set scrum ended in Haydn Morris running strongly for what seemed a good try, but it was disallowed for a previous forward pass.

Peter Davies showed up well in the early exchanges, his kicking being exceptionally good.

Fierce pressure by the Varsity, in which Reeve was outstanding, looked dangerous and the blond-haired left centre was eventually brought down by sheer numbers after a cut through the centre.

Derek Williams had to leave the field after being hurt in a tackle.

FAST AND KEEN

Play was fast and keen and the powerful Cambridge pack were out-showing the Cardiff eight, but Cardiff's half back strength nullified this advantage.

Archer caught Cliff Morgan in possession, but after some hectic loose play the ball was worked clear.

Derek Williams returned and with Cardiff now at full strength the Blue and Blacks attacked strongly on the left and the defensive qualities of the Cambridge backs was thoroughly tested.

After about 17 minutes play Cardiff attacked and Bleddyn Williams came into the picture with a typical jinking run.

After beating two men he sent JACK MATTHEWS over unopposed. Tamplin added the extra points.

GLORIOUS RUN

Cambridge had an opportunity of reducing the score, but Peter Davies's penalty attempt was wide.

Tamplin essayed a long-distance shot at goal from the halfway line but was well off the target.

A scrummaging offence just outside the Cardiff half gave Cambridge another kickable penalty chance, but N. E. Williams's shot was well off the mark.

A minute later and another kickable attempt was fluffed, this time by Peter Davies.

Des O'Brien was often prominent in the loose and looked to be away, but he ran into trouble in the shape of three burly Cambridge forwards.

After 33 minutes CLIFF MORGAN cut through between the centre and outside half and after "showing the ball" to the entire Light Blues side slithered over for a splendid individualistic try.

Tamplin failed to convert.
Half—Cardiff 1 1 8
Cambridge Univ 0 0 0

Harrison, the Light Blues scrum half, was playing brilliantly and his splendid service from a typical base of scrum movement and a really clever Cambridge movement developed.

W. S. DALGLEISH, their right wing, although tackled, managed to ground the ball for a try. Peter Davies converted.

Their triumph was short lived, however. Bleddyn Williams, receiving a loose ball, cut through, kicked ahead.

The bounce deceived Peter Davies and ALAN THOMAS nipped in to score. Tamplin failed to add the extra points.

Malcolm Collins, who earlier this season was often called upon to take place kicks, had a 60-yard penalty attempt but just missed an upright.

A minute later MALCOLM COLLINS made amends by diving over after a quick throw in by Alan Thomas. Tamplin converted.

A protracted kicking duel between Frank Trott and Peter Davies ended in Entwistle intervening to find a nice touch.

JACK MATTHEWS dummed his way through the entire side to score wide out. Tamplin missed a difficult conversion.

Cambridge came back with a determined rush and Trott and Cliff Morgan brought off some first-class tackling to keep them out.

Peter Davies was hurt in going down for the ball to stop a fierce Cardiff rush, but recovered after attention.

It's a race . . . between Cardiff right wing, M. Evans, a couple of Oxford three-quarters, and the ball. Winner was the ball to the Cardiff dead-ball line in to-day's game at Arms Park.

Some poor handling by Matthews and Trott gave Cambridge an easy try, ARCHER nipping in, to ground the ball. P. Davies failed with an easy kick.

SPARKLING ATTACK

A sparkling Cardiff attack, initiated by Cliff Morgan, ended in Haydn Morris being brought down inches from the line.

The ball went loose and Bleddyn Williams attempted a drop kick, which fell short.

JACK MATTHEWS suddenly emerged from a loose maul and scored his third try between the posts. The nearest Cambridge defender being yards away. Tamplin converted.

Cambridge replied with a fine attack and K. Dalgleish sent REEVE over for a good try which Peter Davies converted.

It was not long before Cardiff again scored. This time BLEDDYN WILLIAMS hurled himself over for a try after some glorious inter-passing. Tamplin added the extra points with a wonderful kick.

Final—Cardiff 4 3 29
Cambridge Univ. 2 1 13

COMMENTS BY OBSERVER

This was splendid football played in perfect surroundings, and the large crowd which filled the Grange-road enclosure for the first Cardiff Saturday game for years saw the superior guile and brilliance of the Blue and Blacks proving too much for the younger ideas of the Cambridge team.

Bleddyn Williams and Jack Matthews were a tough handful for the young Cambridge backs to cope with, and Bleddyn jinked more this afternoon than I have seen him do for years.

The battle at half-back was very even, with R. B. Harrison, the Cambridge scrum half, shining.

Archer and Williams were always in the picture in a strong Cambridge pack, whilst for Cardiff D. G. Naylor, Des O'Brien and Gower Jenkins played superbly, and Tamplin was in good kicking form.

F. ECHO 2/10/51

WINNING GOALS BY TAMPLIN

It was Ewart Tamplin's kicking that once again turned the scale in Cardiff's favour, the Welsh international scoring 8 out of 11 points to give them a narrow victory.

The Blue and Blacks were forced to make a last-minute change, Bloddyn Williams, who played for Nantes against the Wasps on Thursday, being unfit.

This meant a reshuffle of the three-quarter line, Alan Thomas coming into the centre and Derek Murphy taking over the left wing position.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: C. J. Sanders, T. J. Brewer, B. Boobyer, O. J. Coutts, D. W. Holman, D. G. S. Baker, K. M. Spencer, W. E. Townsend, N. A. W. Creece, C. J. L. Griffith, E. Whipperis, E. A. J. Ferguson, G. L. Bullard (captain), D. E. Davies, M. Walker.

CARDIFF: Frank Troitt, Derek Murphy, Alan Thomas, Jack Matthews (captain), Mike Evans, C. Morgan, R. Willis, G. Davies, G. Beckingham, G. Jenkins, W. E. Tamplin, M. Collins, J. D. Nelson, Des O'Brien, S. Judd.

Referee: Mr. G. Goldsworthy, Penarth.

The Dark Blues quickly gave us a glimpse of their quality, and a nice passing movement from the base of the scrum saw the ball travel from Spencer to Baker, then on to Holman, who after beating a man, was forced to kick into touch.

Early Oxford pressure brought Cliff Morgan into the picture, and a nicely-judged kick cleared the Cardiff lines.

Boobyer, the English international, sold a perfect dummy and after beating man after man ran into some good covering defence, and a dangerous movement petered out.

THREE POINTS AHEAD

A scrum infringement outside the Oxford 25 gave Cardiff a chance to open the scoring.

Tamplin's kick sailed over to put the Blue and Blacks three points ahead after 10 minutes.

Boobyer was running brilliantly for Oxford and some of his dazzling breaks-through spelt trouble for the Cardiff defence.

Cliff Morgan and Troitt did well to kick clear under pressure following movements initiated by the Oxford centre.

Townsend very neatly levelled the scores with a penalty kick, the ball just dropping short of the cross-bar.

Play was remarkably even, both packs playing good honest-to-goodness rugby.

Although Cardiff looked the more dangerous side first-time tackling by the Dark Blues nullified this superiority.

With the Oxford line in danger, a combined movement ended in Cliff Morgan giving Mike Evans a pass which was adjudged forward.

Repeated thrusts down the centre by the Blue and Blacks frittered out with indifferent handling.

Jack Matthews was prominent with some full-blooded bursts down the centre, but the Oxford tackling was keen.

Baker, the Oxford outside half, put them on the offensive with a nice long pass to Coutts but the ever-reliable Troitt stepped in and pegged the Dark Blues back with a long touch-finder.

A run down the centre and a neat cross-kick looked dangerous, but

Observer

sound defensive work by Troitt and Alan Thomas saved the day.

Half-Cardiff *1 0 3
Oxford Univ. 0 0 0

*Penalty
Final-Cardiff *3 0 11
Oxford U. 1 1 8

*Two penalties

Sound work in the loose by Malcolm Collins enabled the Blue and Black machine to click into gear, but good tackling by Brewer and Baker kept the strong-running Evans out.

Cliff Morgan had the crowd on its feet with an electric burst down the centre, but again poor passing ruined a strong attack.

Oxford were now having much more of the game and Baker often initiated some promising movements.

A cross-kick from Willis was taken by Holman, who ran from his own 25, beating off tackle after tackle before transferring to Coutts, who put DAVIES across for a good try, which Townsend failed to convert.

A minute later an interception by Brewer brought BOOBYER into action and the Oxford centre streaked away to score a beautiful try, which Townsend converted.

Cardiff fought back furiously and showed more than a glimpse of their true form, and Jack Matthews, after a dogged run down the centre, fed Murphy, but the wing stepped into touch with the line almost at his mercy.

Cardiff reduced the arrears when from a penalty inside the Oxford half Tamplin put over a good penalty kick.

Cardiff were now on the tip-graduate and ALUN THOMAS, slipping through an unguarded gap on the blind side, crossed for a try which Tamplin converted from the touch line.

The fast breaking Varsity forwards were a menacing eight and backed up Baker in a breath-taking dribble which caught the Cardiff defence out of position.

Final-Cardiff *3 0 11
Oxford Univ. 1 1 8

*Two penalties

COMMENT

This game, which followed Cardiff's recent brilliant display against Cambridge University last week was considered to be a pointer for the Varsity's matches with the Springboks and for the annual Universities game in December.

But this afternoon's display by Cardiff was a particularly disappointing one.

Oxford appear a much sounder combination than their Light Blue rivals, and in D. G. S. Baker they have a real match-winner, whilst Spencer, Boobyer and Holman should never be allowed too much latitude, as they run strongly and appear to be most promising players.

Troitt was reliable, whilst Matthews and Thomas both strove hard in the centre.

Des O'Brien, Nelson and Jenkins seemed the pick of the Cardiff pack, and Tamplin's kicking once again brought them victory.

Beckingham in line for a cap

WITH the focus this week on trials and prospects for the international scene, one Cardiff player has earned golden opinions for his first-class displays in that most difficult of jobs—hooking (writes Observer).

Already he is being put forward by sound judges as a player of international calibre. His name?

George Beckingham, who is playing such a "stormer" at hooker, and is an all-round sportsman who lives a real open-air life.

Employed by Barry Parks Department as a gardener, George is a good swimmer and has never worn a tie in his life!

We wonder what will happen to that Cardiff tie he has earned by his recent superb performances?

If he doesn't want it, I can put him in touch with a Springbok who is collecting club ties as souvenirs . . . mainly for their novelty value . . . and secondly for the fact that they take up very little room in the already limited luggage space at the Springboks' disposal.

Cardiff started off their recent tour of the Midlands with a grand game against Cambridge University at the beautiful Grange - road ground, one of the prettiest rugby grounds in the country.

So perfect was the play of the Cardiff three that a good Cambridge side were made to look veritable tyros at times, and Cliff Morgan played an inspired game to merit some very warm tributes from knowledgeable rugby folk present.

Nine changes

Sid Judd, the "blue and blacks" consistent back-row forward, was unfortunately taken ill on the journey and was advised not to play by Dr. Jack.

This brought G. W. Naylor, the Coventry and Warwickshire county cap into the team as a last-minute substitute in a position he has never filled before—that of lock forward!

Des O'Brien, the brilliant Irish international, should have played in this position, but a septic ear which is not reacting to treatment proved troublesome, and he and Naylor exchanged places. Des, going to blind-side wing forward.

Naylor played well, and there was a virile look about the Cardiff eight which pleased their supporters.

Faced with a husky and quite weighty University pack, they showed up well in all phases of forward play and dominated both scrums and line-outs.

With nine changes in the team



GEORGE BECKINGHAM

that beat Cambridge so easily, Cardiff proceeded to Northampton, where they again won the plaudits of the crowd with a scintillating display of open rugby.

Sterling displays

Bloddyn Williams and Jack Matthews gave the lie to many of their detractors by turning in sterling performances. Bloddyn having recovered some of the speed and form which made him the best centre in the four countries a season or so ago.

The club are blessed with a very energetic and wide-awake supporters' club, and these irrepresible sportsmen (and women!) made the long journey to Cambridge by coach, and tired though they were on the trip back they all agreed that it was a worth-while pilgrimage.

This club are staging a grand dance at the Victoria Ballroom, Cowbridge-road, Cardiff, on Tuesday, November 6, and they extend to all rugby enthusiasts a really cordial welcome.

Amongst the newcomers to the Cardiff team who showed up so well at Northampton was V. Hynam, of the local side St. Clare's, 20-year-old son of a former Cardiff player, who threw out a long ball and looked extremely promising.

Haydn Morris is known as "Cardiff's flying wing" . . . last Thursday the club could boast two "flying centres" . . . both Jack Matthews and Bloddyn Williams flying to Nantes to play for the French club against the Wasps.

F. ECHO 3/11/51

MATTHEWS ON THE MOVE



Panic stations for the Oxford defence at Cardiff Arms Park last Saturday when Jack Matthews—Cardiff captain—carried an opening.

F. ECHO 10/11/51

3/11/51 F. ECHO

KICK EARNS CARDIFF DRAW

Frank Trott Injured in London Match

Deprived of the services of Frank Trott, their full-back, who was carried off injured after seven minutes, Cardiff managed to draw with Rosslyn Park—they shared 22 points—in London to-day.

Trott, who received a kick low down on the back of the head in stopping a forward rush, was taken to hospital, but allowed to depart after about an hour apparently none the worse for the mishap.

Despite the calls of the Welsh Trial, Cardiff were well represented in their first game ever against Rosslyn Park.

To give the players the opportunity of seeing the London—Springboks match in the afternoon, the game was played in the morning.

Cardiff made one change from their advertised side, G. Griffiths replacing D. C. Murphy on the wing.

Cardiff were soon on the attack. Judd, breaking away, cross-kicked for Evans to collect a badly dancing ball and send Jack Matthews on. The pass, however, was adjudged forward.

After five minutes the Park were penalised at a scrum, but Tamplin sliced his kick at goal.

TROTT CARRIED OFF

After Trott had gone off injured James went back and Nelson moved into the centre. Cardiff were awarded two quick



FRANK TROTT

goal, although bringing down the cross-bar in doing so.

Half—Rosslyn Park ..	*1 1 6
Cardiff	0 1 3
* Penalty	

On the re-start Cardiff forced play to the home 25 and the visiting forwards put on the pressure.

Collins and Judd burst through, and O'Brien was up to go over for a try which Tamplin improved to give Cardiff a well-deserved lead.

It was now the Park's turn to lose a player, Irish international Burgess receiving a jaw injury which sent him off the field.

The visitors did not hold their lead for long, however. Winn broke through the centre, side-stepped several defenders and finished a grand individual effort by sending England's international winger, SMITH, in for a try between the posts which Duff had a difficulty in converting.

The Welsh team forced play into the home territory and the Park were penalised.

TAMPLIN made no mistake this time and brought the scores level with a goal from 25yds.

Play had now become somewhat scrappy with the home side playing well in the loose.

penalties, but Tamplin had not got his shooting boots on.

After 17 minutes WALKER intercepted and, with a clear field, crossed for an unconverted try.

This roused the Welshmen, who pressed strongly. Jackie Matthews got possession and sent out a difficult pass to GRIFFITHS, who took it magnificently and scored in the corner. Tamplin failed to convert.

The Park were kept on the defensive but their keen tackling broke up several promising movements by the visiting backs.

Just before half time Cardiff were penalised and DUFF kicked a

Cardiff forwards seek recognition

A WELCOME and extremely popular visitor to the Arms Park recently was Phil Joslin, the Cardiff City goalkeeper, whose injury sustained early in the season has kept him out of the picture ever since.

Phil thoroughly enjoys a good game of rugby and has been given a permanent invitation to watch "real" football by Mr. Hubert Johnson, the Cardiff club's chairman.

This really sportsmanlike gesture will be appreciated by many soccer enthusiasts.

As forecast in this column last week, Cardiff were again well represented in the first trial game of the season at Abertillery, this afternoon, and great satisfaction was evinced by local supporters in the choice of Geoff Beckingham the club's hard-working and extremely efficient hooker.

Geoff, who is a keen student of forward play, has come to the fore with a rush this season, and his selection gives great satisfaction to those local enthusiasts who believe that he is certain to wear the red jersey of Wales before the season is over.

Other Cardiff players on the fringe of international honours are schoolteacher Sid Judd, the utility forward who is a "blind-side" specialist, Malcolm Collins, the hard-grafting second-row forward, and C. D. (Derek) Williams, the old Oxford "Double Blue" who is surely one of the most courageous and intelligent wing-forwards in the game.

Aided and abetted by Des O'Brien, the brilliant Irish international lock-forward, both Judd and Williams have shown up particularly well this season, and Cardiff's crowd-pleasing forward rushes invariably bring Messrs. Judd, O'Brien and Williams into the picture as foragers of first-class ability.

First-class reserves

Malcolm Collins always shines in line-out work and his great size and mobility make him a "possible" for future trial games.

He, too, benefits enormously from the fact that his fellow second-ranker W. E. Tamplin, is one of the best Welsh forwards of recent years and together they make a really sound "power-house."

Injuries and representative game selections present a major headache to the club's selection committee and they are very fortunate in having some first-rate reserves to fill in the gaps that result from illness, accident and "big-game" nominations.

Young Hinam, who played so well against Northampton, is a grand little scrum half in the making, and with Rex Willis likely to be on call as Wales's first string inside half his presence will make itself felt throughout the season.

Against Oxford University the club had a real "off day" and only skipper Jack Matthews (who is playing better than ever) and young Alun Thomas played up to form. The handling at times was really poor and was a complete reversal of their form against Cambridge University the week previously.

Tom Holley, the genial trainer of the "blue-and-blacks," plays a big part in the pleasant club spirit which so impressed the Springboks when they were in Cardiff. Tom, who travels around and sees every game his "boys" play, is a very sound judge of rugby football.

His quiet encouragement has helped more than one youngster to face up to the ordeal of a big game, and his "magic sponge" (not to mention that famous bottle) works wonders when casualties occur.

Cardiff backs were getting more of the ball but the home defence was very sound and held out until no-side.

Final—Rosslyn Park ..	*2 1 11
Cardiff	*2 1 11
* One penalty goal.	

COMMENTS

Morning matches as a rule lack spirit, but this game was an exception, being played in top gear from start to finish. Cardiff, grievously handicapped by the loss of Trott so early in the game, put up a grand show against a side which seized every opportunity and whose tackling and spoiling gave the lively Cardiff backs little chance to find an opening.

The packs were well matched with the Park slightly the better in the loose and the result was a fair reflection on the ding-dong nature of a grand struggle, which was unfortunately marred by injuries.

Trott may miss Xmas fixtures

CARDIFF are certainly having more than their share of injuries and misfortune this season, the latest casualty being Frank Trott, one of the most reliable and experienced full-backs in present-day rugby football.

From all accounts the club's game against Rosslyn Park last Saturday was full of incident and accident!

First Trott, then Irish international Burgess were taken to hospital with injuries, and then S. M. Duff, the Park full-back, brought down the cross-bar with a shot at penalty goal!

Cardiff just cannot keep out of the headlines!

Unhappily, Trott's head injury is a serious one. The popular full-back was examined by specialists earlier in the week and has been advised to take a complete rest from rugby for at least a month.

He is making good progress and remains his usually cheery self.

Frank has been a grand servant of the Cardiff club, and nobody is more pleased at the rapid rise to fame of his understudy, John Llewellyn, than the veteran himself.

Frank has helped and encouraged the youngster in every way possible, even offering to stand down from the Cardiff side against Oxford University a fortnight ago when it was learned that John Llewellyn had been chosen for the Probables in the first trial game at Abertillery Park.

A grand sporting gesture from one of Welsh rugby's most popular players.

Additional worries

The club are extremely fortunate in having the young trialist to fall back on in this emergency, but the injuries sustained by Haydn Morris, Derek Williams and Des O'Brien are additional worries for secretary Brice Jenkins and his committee.

And at the moment the hard-working hon. secretary is having more than his fill of troubles and headaches!

The public ballot for grandstand tickets for the Wales v. Springboks game at Cardiff Arms Park on December 22 will take place at the club headquarters at 6.30 on Monday. Full particulars were given in the official programme for to-day's game against Llanelli. For those who are not too clear as to



FRANK TROTT

the arrangements made, here is a brief resume:

GRANDSTAND TICKETS.—The names of all grandstand season-ticket holders will go into the hat and the lucky ones will be notified by November 23, but will be excluded from subsequent ballots for the Springboks-Barbarians game on January 26 and Wales-Scotland on February 2.

Those grandstand season ticket holders who have not been notified by November 25 can obtain field tickets by submitting slip "A" from their season ticket together with 3s. and a stamped and addressed envelope.

ENCLOSURE AND FIELD.—Season ticket holders for both enclosure and field should send in remittances for 5s. (enclosure) and 3s. (field) with slip "A" and stamped and addressed envelope.

Personal and telephoned applications will be ignored.

As for non-season ticket holders, their chances are hopeless and they are requested not to apply for ticket as there are none available. Written applications should be made to the Hon. Secretary, Cardiff R.F.C., and remittances should be made payable to Cardiff Athletic Club with a stamped and addressed envelope enclosed.

Tamplin's penalty beat Llanelly

A penalty goal, kicked by Ewart Tamplin in the first half, was the only score in a contested game between Cardiff and Llanelly at Arms Park to-day.

Cardiff made two changes. Bledwyn Williams and A. Thomas had to stand down through injuries. M. Evans came in at left wing and G. Griffiths at left centre.

Llanelly, introduced by P. Coleman on the right wing and P. Stone was left out of the nine provisionally selected forwards. Teams:

CARDIFF: J. Lewellyn; M. Evans, G. Griffiths, J. Matthews, D. G. Murphy; C. Morgan, R. Willis; G. Davies, G. Beckingham, G. Jenkins, W. E. Tamplin, M. Collins, J. D. Nelson, S. Judd, E. M. Cooke. LLANELLY: G. Williams; P. Coleman, R. Williams, Lewis Jones, M. John; L. Phillips, D. B. Rees, T. Griffiths, R. H. Williams, P. Evans, D. Jones, A. Jones.

Referee: Mr. J. T. Morgan, Abertridwr.

Heavy pressure by the Cardiff pack marked the opening 10 minutes.

A poor kick to touch from Gerwyn Williams was returned with interest by Murphy and Cardiff forwards rushed the ball to the Llanelly line.

From a line-out Tamplin put Cardiff three in action, but Griffiths dropped a vital pass.

Then Cliff Morgan tried a break from Llanelly's 25, but was collared by Phillips.

Rees relieved pressure with a neat kick to touch, but Cardiff came again and Tamplin was just wide with a penalty shot from 10 yards inside the Llanelly half.

When Matthews tried to bulldoze through the centre, Lewis Jones missed his tackle, but the Cardiff skipper was finally brought down by weight of numbers.

Lewis Jones finally pushed Cardiff back when he set up a passing movement, but Griffiths replied with a dangerous run which ended when he threw forward.

Lewis Jones was wide with two penalty kicks for Llanelly and then almost got through Cardiff's defence when intercepting a pass from Morgan.

There was little to choose between the sides though Cardiff seemed more dangerous outside.

This they confirmed when Matthews made an opening for Murphy to cross-kick beautifully to his on-rushing forwards.

The bounce of the ball, however, best Collins end Goodfellow and a loose maul developed in front of the Llanelly posts and 15 yards out.

Here Llanelly were penalised and TAMPLIN kicked a simple goal.

Cardiff were almost six points up a few minutes later when Mike Evans intercepted a Llanelly pass and kicked over the head of Gerwyn Williams.

A forward was up, but failed to pick up properly and Llanelly were able to minor.

Gerwyn Williams cleverly evaded four Cardiff forwards to save a tricky situation, and then Malcolm John sent a Llanelly penalty wide.

A neat kick ahead by Matthews put the visitors in trouble when Evans and Griffiths carried on with their feet.

Ray Williams rushed across just in time to kick the ball dead.

A penalty from Lewis Jones curled just outside a Cardiff upright before a Cliff Morgan run ended Llanelly's pressure.

Then came the best move of the match when Gareth Griffiths set out on a 40-yard run before

Murphy was tackled just short of the line.

From the ensuing touch the ball was worked out to Cardiff's left where Evans almost got over.

P. Evans Matthews electrified the 14,000 present with a fine burst before Evans, who carried on the move, fell to a Lewis Jones tackle.

It was Jones in the closing stages who rallied Llanelly with a splendid inter-passing movement but all their efforts were met and matched by the fine Cardiff pack.


Final—Cardiff 1 0 3
Llanelly 0 0 0

*Penalty

COMMENTS
This was a grand game between two well-matched sides. Play was fast and fortunes changed rapidly.

Of the established stars and promising youngsters none played better than G. Griffiths, at centre, a last minute substitute for A. Thomas.

REG PELLING'S
Welsh Note Book



Skipper gave sound advice

BLEDWYN WILLIAMS, Cardiff left-centre and captain of the Probables in next Saturday's final Welsh trial, would have played for Cardiff against Bridgend if it had been absolutely necessary.

But he had a slight groin injury and when he explained this to his club captain, Dr. Jack Matthews, there was immediate agreement that Bledwyn should stand down so as to take no risks.

It was felt, perhaps on both sides, that he would need to be at his best against his opposite number—the captain and right-centre of the Welsh Possibles.

Who is that? Why, Dr. Jack Matthews!

Not only will Bledwyn and Jack be doing all they possibly can to cancel each other out as players, but they are also the two chief contenders for that kingdom of international honours, the captaincy of Wales against South Africa.

HIS SADDEST DAY

In spite of all the clamour which has gone on recently about the advantages of captaining international teams from the lock-forward position, I think you can assume that so far as Wales is concerned, the skipper will be whoever of these centres gets into the side. If both get in with, say, Malcolm Thomas on the left wing again, it will be almost a toss-up for the leadership.

Quite unashamedly, I'm going to say right out that I hope Bledwyn gets it. For one thing, Jack has already captained Wales and Bledwyn has not. Though he was actually chosen to do so two years ago when Wales started on their first Triple Crown season for 30 players.

I shall never forget Bledwyn's dejection when 24 hours before he was due to lead Wales against England at Twickenham, he had to cry himself off because a knee injury had not mended sufficiently.

"This is the saddest moment of my life," he told me.



Llanelly captain (Lewis Jones), with the ball, is tackled by Cardiff forward Nelson at Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday.



Cliff Morgan, Cardiff outside half, avoids unwanted Llanelly attentions in getting the ball away from a line-out in to-day's game at the Arms Park.

O'Brien's new role will be watched

CARDIFF rugby supporters will be sorry to hear that Haydn Morris, the international right wing, is likely to be out of the side until after Christmas as through a back injury.

But it is an ill-wind that blows nobody good as M. Evans, his understudy, is gaining plenty of first-team experience and is playing really well.

The choice of popular Des O'Brien as captain of the Irish XV to play the Combined Services' side in a pipe-opener before Ireland meet the Springboks is one that is fraught with possibilities.

Although Karl Mullen, who captained the British Isles touring team in Australasia is included in the team against the Services, the experiment of leading the side from the back row in the approved Springbok manner is entrusted to the brilliant Cardiff lock forward.

It is an experiment that will be watched with interest by all rugby enthusiasts... and maybe the W.R.U. will mull over the possibilities for the Welsh XV against the South Africans... with John Gwilliam undertaking Des O'Brien's role!

Les Spence has returned to his duties after a three-week sojourn in Hookwood Hospital and his fellow members of the Cardiff selection committee were extremely pleased to see him back in harness.

again. Billy Cleaver has been acting for Les during his absence.

Many Cardiff Athletic players have been given the opportunity of first team experience through the spate of injuries that has hit the club in the past few weeks.

Geoff Thorburn, a former Athletic player, has been showing admirable form for University College.

Another beneficiary

Giving a helping hand to "lame dogs" is an old Cardiff custom and the latest beneficiaries are a few without a scrum half for their game to-day against Newport United, were allowed to play V. Hinam, the clever Athletic scrum half.

The tributes paid to the Blue-and-Blacks for the manner in which they "lay things on" for big matches is understood when the facilities at the Arms Park are compared with those on other Welsh grounds.

It is not so much a question of having money and resources, however, so much as using imagination in order to make the occasion really worth while.

The stirring music of the bands at Cardiff headquarters is greatly preferable to the canned music and well-worn gramophone needles of some grounds we could name.

E. M. "Emma" Cooke had a difficult task on his big game debut against Llanelly being marked by Lewis Jones's brother, Allan, but his quick recovery served him well and he came out of the ordeal with flying colours.

Billy Boston, who earned many golden opinions for his play in the first game of the season against the District League XV is likely to play for Cardiff Athletic.

Boston, a grand natural centre, is going great guns at the moment, and his try from the half-way line, followed by a magnificent 40-yard penalty kick, enabled his side, Cardiff Internationals, to retain their unbeaten certificate against Giffach Coch by 6-5 recently.



Peter Goodfellow, Cardiff's lock forward, finds himself in the middle of a tangle with Bridgend's pack at the Arms Park this afternoon.

CARDIFF WIN AT COVENTRY

Shortly after Beckenham, Cardiff's hooker, left the field with a head injury at Coventry to-day, the home team took the lead with a penalty goal by Mottram. Cardiff equalised later and took the lead with a try by Collins. They won by 6 points to 3.

Attempting to emulate Swansea, who removed Coventry's unbeaten record last week, brought last season's Coventry forward David Naylor into the second row for Tamplin. Naylor had been selected as wing forward, and this place was filled by E. M. Cooke. Both sides were without their international full-backs—Llewellyn did duty for Frank Trott and Peter Mottram for Ted Hewitt. Coventry—P. J. Mottram; H. F. Greasley, C. Dupenois, J. R. D. Palmer, A. R. Sutton; T. Preece, N. J. Stock; H. Walker, E. Robinson, G. H. Turnbull, N. R. Jones, B. F. Lilley, J. Gardiner, S. J. Adkins, R. F. Balstone. Cardiff—Llewellyn; D. C. Murphy, Jack Matthews, Bledwyn Williams, Gareth Griffiths; Cliff Morgan, Rex Willis; Cliff Davies, G. Beckingham, G. Jenkins, D. G. Naylor, M. Collins, J. D. Nelson, S. Judd, E. M. Cooke. Referee, Mr. J. H. Darville. London Society of Referees. A record crowd for this season (10,000) was present when Collins kicked off for Cardiff. Stock made early ground for Coventry with a kick ahead and Cardiff went on the defence.

An attempted clearance by Llewellyn was charged down by Dupenois but the ball ran into touch a yard short of Cardiff's line. Murphy broke clear away for Cardiff, but his pass inside was wild and Coventry were able to clear their lines. The Coventry pack then took a hand and when Atkins led a dribble Griffiths ran cross field and cleared into touch. Willis went off on the blind side and sent his threats away but the handling broke down.

THE LEAD Cardiff's hooker, Beckenham, had to go off with a head injury. Cardiff were penalised and MOTTRAM put Coventry ahead with a penalty goal. Jack Matthews made a wonderful 30-yard run and when the ball ran loose Cooke, who was chasing it, was obstructed. Coventry were penalised and COLLINS kicked an equalising goal. Coventry were piling on the pressure, but Beckingham had returned and as each set of backs went into action Cardiff appeared to be slightly superior. Coventry lost a centre, Dupenois, with an eye injury and Gardiner came out of the pack. Coventry were again penalised for obstruction, but Collins missed the kick. Dupenois was able to resume and the strain on Coventry's defence was relaxed.

Half-Coventry 1 0 3
Cardiff 1 0 3
One penalty goal each. Preece made an unsuccessful attempt to drop a goal shortly after play resumed and Cardiff sent the home 15 back to their quarters for a stubborn attack, which was not relieved until Cardiff were penalised for feet-up in front of the home post. Preece then began to demonstrate various touches which made him England's choice two seasons ago. He neatly dumfied past Llewellyn and cross-kicked to bring his pack into action. Cardiff swung themselves on the ball in desperation and there began a series of battering thrusts which nearly carried the home 15 over.

PERSISTED Then Williams cleared well up inside the home 25. From the line-out Cardiff lost Naylor with a shoulder injury, but they persisted and COLLINS forced himself over for a try which he could not convert.

Cardiff continued to batter away at the Coventry line and Willis and Morgan made several dangerous close runs. Naylor was able to return and in trying conditions the final stages were played out as a seemingly endless forward maul. Final—Cardiff 1 6
Coventry 1 0 3
Penalties
COMMENTS Whatever chances came Cardiff's way the Welshmen took, and they deserved their somewhat narrow victory in a game contested throughout at a furious pace. Cardiff had a superiority outside the scrum which carried the day.

Family atmosphere key to success WHAT is the secret of the "Cardiff spirit"? This question has been put to more than one official of the Cardiff Rugby Club in the past month or so. Before the Springboks left Wales for their Northern tour Basil Kenyon, their popular skipper, took Mr. Hubert Johnson, the club's chairman, aside and made this sincere and spontaneous tribute: "If we ever meet a club with a better team-spirit than Cardiff . . . Lord help us!" I think that the answer is that the club is a "family."

Once a player dons the blue-and-black jersey, no matter if he functions in the "Rags" or amongst the stars, he is "one of the boys" and just as important a cog in the machine as the most highly-publicized international performer. This "family atmosphere" is particularly in evidence on tours and the team have a repertoire of "Cardiff versions" which are in great demand at after-match dinners and functions. On Monday last the club inaugurated a "Ladies' Night" which was so successful that it will now become an annual affair. Mr. Hubert Johnson and his committee decided that a tribute should be paid to those "grass widows" of rugby football, the wives and girlfriends of the players and officials and "Ladies' Night" came into being!

Adopted 'war song' At the function Miss "Babs" Filer was presented with a suitably inscribed silver salver—"To 'Our Babs' for 21 years service to rugby"—and Mr. Hubert Johnson, in making the presentation stressed the camaraderie and spirit of this "family occasion."

The famous club war-song (guaranteed to bring dismay and confusion to any "enemy")—"It's a way we have in the Cardiff team"—greatly impressed Basil Kenyon and company when they were here and they have now adopted it, substituting the word "Springbok" for "Cardiff!"

When the train steamed out of Cardiff station after their first visit to Wales the Cardiff committee men who saw the Tourists off were serenaded with an impromptu version of this "battle song" to the great delight (and mystification) of porters and passengers alike. . . not to mention Okey Giffin, who really enjoys using that phenomenal voice of his!

Okey's own "Zulu War Song" is a prime favourite amongst the Cardiff boys, who would very much like to include a record of it in the famous Cardiff rugby museum. Saturday was a blank day for followers of Welsh rugby's "Big Three" and dismal conditions, with torrential rain and gusting winds, made what little football that was staged an ordeal both to pay and to watch.

Five county caps At Cardiff Arms Park, however, a handful of spectators braved the elements and were rewarded by witnessing a really first-class game between Harlequin Wanderers and Cardiff Athletic. The Londoners were not abashed by the awful conditions and endeavoured to throw the ball about on every possible occasion, and the "Rags" were quick to follow suit. The Quins Wanderers lost eventually by 11 points to nil after a grand tussle in which the Cardiff half-backs, Paul Ash and Alan Greedy, showed up well. Included in the Londoners' XV was second-row forward K. J. O'Connor, who played for Olago against the British Isles Touring Team, while no fewer than five county caps turned out for this Harlequins' reserve team! E. Jenkins, a newcomer from Penarth, played extremely well and joins Paul Ash, Dudley Owen (hooker), and P. V. Davies, all of whom have played at one time or another for the "Seasiders."

CARDIFF THRUST BEAT BRIDGEND

Although Cardiff gained a good win over Bridgend at Arms Park to-day, the second half was well advanced before they showed marked superiority.

The visitors, Bridgend, are having more than their share of adversity this season and are valiantly trying to keep the flag of Rugby Union flying at the Bandstand Field.

Cardiff made a few last-minute changes. Gareth Griffiths coming in for Bledwyn Williams and Derek Murphy substituting for Alun Thomas on the right wing. Des O'Brien, who will be playing for Ireland against the Springboks in a week's time, was rested, and Peter Goodfellow took up the lock forward position.

CARDIFF: J. Llewellyn; M. Evans, G. Griffiths, J. Matthews (capt.), D. Murphy, C. Morgan, R. Willis; C. Davies, G. Beckingham, G. Jenkins, W. E. Tamplin, M. Collins, J. D. Nelson, P. Goodfellow, S. Judd. **BRIDGEND:** W. Morgan (capt.), Howard Nicholls, Gwyn Llewellyn, Marcus Pearce, Ivor John, John O'Brien, H. Greenslade, Doug Jones, Rhys Loveluck, Sid Matthews, Harry Jennings, Terry Coote, Brian Sparks, John Brown, Ivor Jones. Referee: Mr. E. D. Williams, Clydach.

The opening phases of play were characterised by a series of keen forward mauls in which the sprightly Bridgend, towards more than held their own. Cliff Morgan was quickly in the picture with a nicely judged defensive kick which pegged back the quick breaking Bridgend forwards.

Ivor John gathered and kicked ahead and the first real offensive saw the Cardiff defence sorely pressed before Morgan cleared his line with another nice kick.

G. Beckingham was injured, but after treatment was able to continue.

From a scrum outside the Cardiff 25 the kick ahead brought J. Llewellyn into action for the first time and his clearing kick was well judged.

NICE GOAL Marcus Pearce put Bridgend on the attack with a neat kick and another from John O'Brien took play into the Cardiff 25.

Bridgend went ahead when from a penalty kick BILLY MORGAN landed a nice penalty goal.

John Llewellyn earned applause for the clean way in which he caught a high clearance from Howard Nicholls and his long kick put Cardiff on the offensive.

An exciting race for the ball, as it crossed the Bridgend line, was won by MIKE EVANS after John O'Brien had failed to touch down and the Cardiff left winger score near the posts. Tamplin converted to put Cardiff ahead.

Nelson broke up a promising Bridgend combined movement by a smart interception and a fierce Cardiff rush ensued.

Things looked dangerous for the Llynly Valley side until Billy Morgan coolly nipped in to clear under pressure.

STRONG TACKLING The Cardiff three-quarters had very few chances to show their mettle.

Bridgend were having their share of the tight scrums and keen marking and strong tackling were giving Willis and Morgan a hectic time.

Cardiff went further ahead when, after sustained pressure MALCOLM COLLINS crossed for a try near the posts and Tamplin converted.

Gareth Griffiths, who was deputising for Bledwyn Williams, broke through to put Cardiff on the attack.

Bridgend were tackling resolutely and their marking was exemplary.

Gower Jenkins led an exciting raid on the Bridgend line which went very close to putting Cardiff further ahead.

Half—Cardiff 2 0 10
Bridgend 1 0 3
Penalty.

After the interval Bridgend made

by
Observer

desperate attempts to get on terms and Jennings's beautifully-judged kicked gave Ivor John a chance on the Bridgend left wing which, however, did not go to hand.

A minute later, however, GWYN LLEWELLYN reduced the lead with a well-taken try after Sparks had done the spade work.

Billy Morgan had hard luck when he saw the ball hitting an upright.

Bridgend were now going great guns, and it was no surprise when following fine work by Marcus Pearce, GWYN LLEWELLYN dashed across for another try. This time Billy Morgan's kick missed by inches.

SOUND APPROACH With only one point between the sides the struggle waxed fast and furious with the Mid-Glamorgan team putting up a really sterling performance.

Cardiff fought back determinedly and sound approach work by Willis and Goodfellow resulted in JACK MATTHEWS throwing himself over for a try in the corner although well tackled by Ivor Jones. Tamplin missed a difficult touch-line conversion.

Cardiff were now coming into their own and a perfect example of traditional Blue and Black team work saw them going further ahead when Cliff Morgan slipped through the middle and sent a reverse pass to Matthews who put MURPHY away for an unconverted try.

A few seconds later Cliff Morgan had the crowd roaring with an electric burst which ended in GARETH GRIFFITHS crossing for a well earned try, which Tamplin failed to improve.

An amazing piece of sleight of hand and ball manipulation in which the entire Cardiff team seemed to take part ended in Goodfellow putting COLLINS over between the posts, but the final pass was adjudged forward.

Bridgend made frantic efforts to reduce the deficit, but the Cardiff defence remained firm.

Final—Cardiff 2 3 19
Bridgend 1 2 9
Penalty

COMMENTS

A typical grandstand finish enabled Cardiff to emerge from this afternoon's tussle with their Mid-Glamorgan rivals with a comfortable victory.

The first half was a particularly even affair in which we saw a lot of the spirited Bridgend pack, which more than held its own with the Cardiff eight.

In the second half the Cardiff back machine clicked into gear, and it was obvious that they had too many tricks for the Bridgend boys.

The Bridgend half-backs, O'Brien and Greenslade, had a very successful afternoon, whilst Pearce and Gwyn Llewellyn were two hard-working centres.

Both full-backs were sound, and although the Cardiff team obviously missed some of their stars they nevertheless put up a very workmanlike performance.

Cardiff's best forwards were Collins, Judd and Jenkins, while Beckingham had a dour tussle for hooking supremacy with his Bridgend opposite number, Loveluck.

F. ECHO
1/12/51

O. EXPRESS
3/12/51

Trial contenders look good

WITH Cardiff Arms Park given over to the final Welsh trial game and both Cardiff and the Athletic sides without a fixture last week most local rugby enthusiasts had their attention focused on the various Cardiff players taking part in the trial.

Played in the most atrocious weather, with rain-laden squalls buffeting the players and reducing the conditions underfoot to a veritable quagmire, the contenders for places in the Welsh team to face the Springboks next Saturday at Cardiff Arms Park nevertheless showed up well and a surprisingly interesting game ensued.

The club's famous half-back pair, Rex Willis and Cliff Morgan, were in splendid form, and their display made them favourites for the big game.

The Springboks have a very sincere respect for the Cardiff duo, and a South African journalist told me this week that Cliff Morgan was the best outside half they had run up against so far. Jackie Kyle included, whilst the resilience of the "blue-and-blacks" scrum half has earned praise from the huge Springbok forwards, who tried to make life unhappy for Rex during that thrilling 11-9 affair on October 20.

Geoff Beekingham and Sid Hull played grandly, and impressed the small crowd of sporting "die-hards" who braved the storm.

Geoff, I thought, was very unlucky not to make the grade and his clean-heeling (with five different props forwards in the course of the game) was most impressive.

The selectors obviously allowed Dai Davies's experience to tip the scales, but the likeable Cardiff hooker will have his chance before long and is a certainty for a cap before the season ends.

Customary dash

Sid Judd, pitchedforked into the second row, nevertheless played with all his customary dash, and is another future cap in the making.

With Cardiff supplying the captains of either side, there was an added touch of piquancy to the play of Blodwyn Williams and Jack Matthews, and the former made certain of his position in the national side by turning in a really impressive performance.

Jack Matthews, playing behind a scratch half-back pair, did not get the same amount of opportunity to shine as his opposite number, but his tackling and defensive covering were as sound as ever, and many people would like to see him in the Welsh XV where his celebrated "flooring technique" would be invaluable. . . . at least so that Murrayfield debacle would suggest.

C. D. ("Derek") Williams made a welcome return to the side after a prolonged lay-off owing to injury and his early season form suggested that he was a contender for that wing forward position, which owing to R. T. Evans has gone to Allan Forward.

The "Double Blue" is another player who may well figure in the scarlet jersey of his country before the end of the season.

Strenuous season

Mr. Brice Jenkins, who has been confined to bed with an attack of pleurisy, is making remarkable progress and is expected to be out and about in time for next Saturday's great occasion. Brice has had a particularly strenuous season to date and in addition to his extra 75th anniversary commitments has been working feverishly at the allocation of tickets for the "plum games" of the season.

All his friends wish him well and trust he will make a speedy recovery.

The club are staging a "film night" on January 26, when films of interest to rugby enthusiasts will be shown.

The Cardiff "rugby museum" is well stocked with films of big games and special sporting occasions and is probably the best-equipped museum of its kind in the country.

The club hope to arrange an "Any Questions?" evening and several well-known sporting personalities have been approached to take part.

Most onlookers at the Arms Park last Saturday commented on the improvement in the draining arrangements at the ground.

Despite the torrential rainfall the pitch stood up to the punishment well, although groundman Jim Pursey and his staff will doubtless have their hands full attempting to get the famous turf in ship-shape condition for the "Battle of the Giants" next Saturday.

Haydn Morris out for months

IT was a sad blow for Cardiff (and Wales!) when Haydn Morris, the free-scoring left wing, was injured a month ago. The latest news regarding the "Cardiff Flyer" is anything but reassuring.

Haydn, suffering from a displaced disc in the spine, has to undergo special treatment necessitating at least two or three months in a plaster cast.

This is a particularly bitter pill for Morris himself and for his many admirers, who had hoped to see the long-striding speed-merchant haring for the line in this season's international battles.

Although Cardiff were forced to play several understudies because of injuries they nevertheless proved too good for a very enterprising Bridgend side at the Arms Park last Saturday. It was an interesting tussle, in which the "Blue and Blacks" were given a hard game forward by the fiery and extremely competent Mid-Glamorgan pack.

Several former Cardiff players showed up well in the Bridgend colours. Gwyn Llewellyn, in particular, playing extremely well to score two opportunistic tries.

A feature of the game was the terrific struggle at "hooker" between Geoff Beekingham, considered by many to be Wales's most promising hooker, and Rees Loveluck, which ended slightly in favour of the Bridgend man.

Beekingham, who was hurt in the opening minutes, played in great pain for the major portion of the game and, in the circumstances, was not his usual self. That does not detract from the performance of his opposite number, who was in very fine form.

Gaining experience

Young Mike Evans again demonstrated his pace and is gaining experience in every match. Gareth Griffiths, too, scored a try, and always looked dangerous, whilst Derek Murphy, in the unusual left-wing berth, proved by his two well-taken tries that he is back in the side to stay.

With injuries playing such an important part in club affairs at the moment, it was not surprising that the players and officials who visited Rookwood Hospital on Thursday evening for a "Sporting Evening" felt so much at home.

This visit was a nice sporting gesture on the part of the players and officials alike, and was greatly appreciated.

Mr. Brice Jenkins, the popular and hard-working secretary of the club, has been confined to bed with a touch of pleurisy, but is expected to be up and about before long.

Second-half shocks

The Athletic game against Treorchy last Saturday was a very disappointing affair, the Cardiff XV losing in the end by 16 points to 14 after being 14 points up at half-time!

It was the old story of dropped passes, a kick ahead and a score and the Rhondda side won through, taking the few heaven-sent opportunities that came their way.

Groundsman Jim Pursey is very pleased with the manner in which the new draining system is standing up to the exceptional rainfall of the past few weeks.

"This time last year the ground was in very bad shape with the notorious 'bad spot' in front of the stand coming in for a lot of heartfelt abuse!

This season things are very much better, and the drainage system now installed is expected to cope with the wettest conditions and in South Wales that is indeed saying something.

Rex sights the ball—and gets cracking like a sprinter



REX WILLIS, Cardiff's inside half, saw the ball go loose among the Bridgend forwards in the match at Arms Park.

Off went Rex like a runner in a 100 yards sprint, dashed between the Bridgend men and turned play in the opposite direction.

Rex, who is the Probables inside half in the final Wales Trial next Saturday, and practically a certainty (with partner Cliff Morgan) for a cap, did not score, but he made openings for his centres.



OPPOSING inside half was Howell Greenslade, a former Cardiff player.

Other Cardiff men in the Bridgend side were Gwyn Llewellyn, who scored a couple of excellent tries, and Marcus Pearce, left centre.

30,000 will watch Newport—Cardiff clash

WHILE nearly 50,000 people are watching to-day's big match at St. Helen's, Swansea, it is likely that 30,000 will be present to see Newport and Cardiff meet at Rodney Parade in their second match of the season (writes J. B. G. Thomas).

The meetings between the two famous eastern clubs have always attracted large crowds in post-war years, and the much improved accommodation at Rodney Parade makes it possible for most of Cardiff's regular supporters to visit the neighbouring club.

To-day's match finds both sides almost at full strength. Newport are without their captain R. I. Evans and Glyn Davies, and Cardiff lack F. Trot and H. Morris. Members of the Welsh selection committee will be watching certain players in action.

MATTHEWS RECALLED?

No doubt they will keep an eye on Malcolm Thomas (Newport) and Dr. J. Matthews (Cardiff) in the centre, and J. Lane (Newport) on the wing. It is possible that on Monday evening they will bring Matthews back into the side and put Thomas on the wing if Phillips (Swansea) does not have a good game against the South Africans.

All the week the A. N. Other position in the Welsh team has provided a guessing game for Rugby followers. It depends very much on to-day's games.

This factor in itself would be enough to give the 34th meeting of Cardiff and Newport a flavour, but since Newport are determined to avenge the defeat suffered in October at the Arms Park there is added keenness.

FORWARD "BATTLE"

I do not think there will be more than a few points dividing the sides at the end of the game and, as usual in these hard struggles, all will depend upon the outcome of the forward "battle" and the effectiveness of the opposing outside halves.

Tamplyn's leadership of the tighter Cardiff eight, supported by good work from Morgan and Willis at half-back, will test Newport particularly if C. D. Williams marks Roy Burnett as effectively as usual.

On the other hand, if the heartier Newport eight, led by L. E. T. Jones in the absence of Evans, get on top and B. Edwards kicks a couple of early goals it will be Newport who will call the tune.

W. MAILE
15/12/51

F. ECHO
15/12/51

CARDIFF'S DRAMATIC VICTORY

Last minute try steals Newport's record

Ken Jones's great run

After Newport had established a well deserved lead of 5 points for three parts of the game at Rodney Parade to-day Cardiff came with a late rally to snatch victory by a point.

Newport thus sustained their first defeat at home since March, 1950, and it was Cardiff who deprived them of their record on that occasion.

A military band played before the game, there was community singing and there was a crowd of about 20,000 at the kick-off.

There were late changes in both teams. For Newport John Lane, with a pulled leg muscle, made way for Ken Sergeant on the left wing, and for Cardiff back-row forward C. D. Williams reported sick and his place was taken by J. D. Nelson.

NEWPORT: R. Hughes; K. Jones, M. Thomas, B. Williams, K. Sergeant; R. Burnett, W. Williams; T. Sterry, L. Davies, G. Hirst, R. Edwards, L. E. T. Jones, D. G. Ackerman, P. Davies, S. Kimpton.

CARDIFF: J. Llewellyn; D. G. Murphy, J. Matthews, Bledwyn Williams, A. Thomas, C. Morgan, R. Willis; G. Jenkins, G. Beckenham, C. Davies, W. E. Tamplin, M. Collins, J. D. Nelson, D. O'Brien, S. Judd.

Referee: Mr. G. Walters, Gower-ton.

Ben Edwards kicked off for Newport, who were soon pressing in the Cardiff 25. Ken Sergeant failed to hold a cross-kick from Burnett and Murphy could not find touch.

Bob Hughes coolly gathered and put the ball into touch on the Cardiff 25.

Newport were driven back but were penalised near half way and Tamplin's kick went wide.

Most of the attacking in the first 10 minutes was done by Newport, who won every set scrum and nearly every line-out.

Cardiff got under way at last with a lively break through by Alun Thomas, who made a good 15 yards into the Newport half before he was smothered by Ken Jones.

FINE KICKING

Fine touch-kicking by Malcolm Thomas and Bryn Williams repeatedly turned Newport's defence into attack.

Bledwyn Williams tried to jink his way through but was stopped by Kimpton.

Following this incident Newport were again penalised and Tamplin's second attempt from near half-way was short of the target.

A minute later Jack Matthews sent a long kick to touch near the Newport 25.

Newport were penalised for a line-out infringement and Tamplin's third attempt within the first 20 minutes was unsuccessful.

The crowd came to its feet when Malcolm Thomas lost possession and O'Brien led a forward rush which came to a halt when Ackerman fell on the ball.

A neat piece of passing, set in motion by Kimpton, sent Ken Sergeant away on the wing but his pass inside to Bryn Williams went astray.

A few minutes before the interval Newport opened their account when KEN JONES got possession from a loose maul 35 yards out and, with remarkable acceleration, shook off two or three would-be Cardiff tacklers and went straight for the line to score behind the posts. Ben Edwards converted.

Half-Newport	.....	1	0	5
Cardiff	.....	0	0	0

Cardiff put everything into their attack after the interval, but the Newport forwards barricaded the way over the line.

Roy Burnett made several of his famous breakaway, and Bryn Williams added the finishing touches with skilful touch-kicking, which soon had the Black and Blues on the defensive.

Ken Sergeant was again in the picture with a grand solo dash, but he was held up by Alan Thomas ten yards out.

Newport were now in an attacking position, but, following a line-out, Cliff Morgan played for safety and put the ball into touch near the half-way line.

FUTILE SHOTS

A minute later Cardiff were penalised and Ben Edwards's kick was a yard wide.

Another chance came his way within seconds and from the same position, but again Ben missed.

Cardiff could not break out of their half and within the next 30 seconds Malcolm Thomas twice unsuccessfully tried to drop a goal from just inside the half-way line.

Newport were definitely getting the better of Cardiff in this half, not only territorially, but in the general run of play, and many Cardiff stars failed to twinkle.

A forward rush by Cardiff took play on to the Newport 25, where Newport were penalised and AMPLIN kicked the goal.

This appeared to give Cardiff new life and they were soon in full cry for the Newport line.

A high cross-kick by Cliff Morgan in the last minute laid the foundation for giving Cardiff a win by one point.

Bob Hughes fumbled his catch and NELSON raced up, took the ball and in half a dozen strides was over the Newport line. Tamplin failed with the kick.

Final-Cardiff	.....	1	1	6
Newport	.....	1	0	5

* Penalty.

COMMENTS

It was a hard struggle with Newport getting the best of the game right up until the last minute.

Roy Burnett, Malcolm Thomas and Bryn Williams were all outstanding for Newport—particularly the last two, whose touch kicking was brilliant.

All three tackled hard and blotted out Jack Matthews and Bledwyn Williams.

Cardiff were not as dangerous behind the scrum as one would expect, but their forwards, led by Des O'Brien, were grand in the loose. Len Davies out-kicked Beckenham.

On the general run of play Newport definitely did not deserve to lose.

F. ECHO 15/12/51



Newport and Cardiff forwards jump for a line-out ball. Malcolm Collins, of Cardiff, tops the lot, but it is Ben Edwards (in skull cap) who captures it.

W. MAIL 17/12/51



DES O'BRIEN, of Cardiff, takes the ball off the feet of a Newport forward in the game at Rodney Parade, Newport.

In defence of two great rivals

ALTHOUGH Cardiff were undoubtedly a very lucky side to emerge from the fray at Rodney Parade winners by one point, the acid comments of some sections of the partisan Press leave a particularly nasty taste in the mouth.

Granted that Cardiff were lucky, but they are not the only team in rugby to come from behind to snatch a dramatic last-minute victory.

I seem to remember a game not so long ago when Cardiff had that experience themselves — when "Chum" Ochse nipped over to score for the Springboks, who won a game that they will admit themselves they should have lost.

This "squealing" is as much against the spirit of rugby football as some of the alleged duplicity of the Cardiff tea last Saturday.

The teams concerned know these tragic quirks of fate or luck or chance or what have you, and take the rough with the smooth in the true philosophic spirit of your real rugby lover.

As for the Cardiff-Springbok game Jack Matthews stressed to the South Africans that his side had no "kicks," and I am quite sure that the genial Bob Evans, the Newport skipper, would be the last person in the world to complain against any "injustice" or "sharp practice."

With the feeling between the two giants of Welsh football better now than they have ever been, it is a great pity that capital should be made out of alleged incidents that might affect the camaraderie now so pronounced in Cardiff-Newport relations.

Rivals? Yes! Enemies? Not on your life!

Casualties

The amazing run of ill-luck that has dogged the club this season was brought to mind during the week when I chatted with Mr. H. S. J. Holt, the general secretary of the Cardiff Athletic Club, who was injured in a car crash whilst returning from the Varsity game at Twickenham.

Although still receiving treatment Mr. Holt managed to persuade his medical advisers to allow him to look in at the club's offices where the staff have been working overtime on the allocation of tickets for to-day's and forthcoming big games.

Another "invalid" is Mr. Brice Jenkins who has been laid up for the past few weeks with pleurisy and I am glad to be able to inform friends of the popular and hard-working Cardiff R.F.C. hon. secretary that he is on the mend and hopes to be about shortly.



MR. BRICE JENKINS

The list of players who are temporarily out of action is, unhappily, a long one and Cardiff have suffered three severe blows this season through the continued absence of such stalwarts as Frank Trott, John Phillips, the popular hooker, and Haydn Morris, the speedy left wing.

A pleasing ceremony took place at the Arms Park on Wednesday evening, when Mr. D. Bernard Morgan, president of the Athletic Club, presented cheques to popular and long-serving members of the staff.

The first was to Miss Babs Filer, the stewardess of the club, in recognition of the completion of 21 years service.

The other recipient was Mr. Jim Pursey, the head groundsman, for his splendid work in completely relaying and reconditioning the famous ground during the close season.

This major operation was completed in record time and the Arms Park was ready for the start of this busiest of all seasons.

Watsonians lost but took honours against Cardiff

Cardiff, 0-1-3; Watsonians, 0-0-0

Attendance, 5,000.

By J. B. G. THOMAS

WHILE Cardiff won this rollicking game in the mud it was the Watsonians who deserved most of the honours. They held their more experienced opponents until two minutes from the end, when Cardiff scored the only points of the game with a try in the corner.

Until then we had seen both sides battling against the mud, the wind, and the rain. It suited the keen spoiling game of the young and lighter Watsonians, who got among the Cardiff players like terriers and prevented them indulging in their match-winning passing.

Playing against the strong wind in the first half, it was not expected that Cardiff would score many points, but after the interval it was anticipated that they would notch at least 15 points.

OTHER IDEAS

The Watsonians had other ideas, and as Cardiff floundered in the mud and the cold it was certainly not a day for good Rugby—the Scotsmen kept their line intact by heroic saving and rushing. D. Crighan, a young and slim full-back, was splendid; W. Clegham, D. I. Kinnear (at three-quarter), and G. T. Ross (at outside-half) stopped movements on their own line. The pack, with C. Hasting, M. Barton, C. Forrest, and R. Fleming leading, rushed at the bigger Cardiff pack bravely.

With a few minutes left for play it appeared inevitable that the game would be drawn. Then at long last one of Cardiff's three-quarter movements succeeded.

ROBBED OPPONENT

B. Mark, the Cardiff scrum-half, tackled and robbed an opponent to send his backs away. Alun Thomas handed on to Matthews, who made an opening but stumbled as he was going for the line. However, he got the ball away to Bledwyn Williams, who carried on and sent left-wing M. Evans diving over in the corner. Collins failed with the conversion. Previously he had gone near with three penalty attempts.

In the Cardiff pack M. Collins, P. Goodfellow, C. D. Williams, and G. Beekingham all did well. B. Mark was a hard worker at their heels, but the backs as a whole had a cold and frustrating afternoon.

W. MAIL 27/12/51

Cardiff take another record

Cardiff, although in arrears by 3pts. after four minutes, fought back to score 8pts. in the second half and thus take Bristol's home record on the Memorial Ground.

Cardiff were without four of their star players, Bledwyn Williams, Rex Willis, Cliff Morgan and G. Becker, ham, for their visit to Bristol in the return match on the Memorial Ground.

BRISTOL: J. Holt; J. A. Gregory, B. W. Rowsell, M. D. Corbett, K. C. Smith; R. Standing, G. Lovell; J. A. Woodward, M. J. Howell, J. A. Scott, A. Macdonald, R. H. Muller, D. Gunson, D. G. Pratten, R. T. Moule.

CARDIFF: J. Llewellyn; D. Murphy, J. Matthews, G. Griffiths, M. Evans; A. Greedy, B. Marks; C. Davies, D. Owen, G. Jenkins, T. W. E. Tamplin, M. Collins, J. Nelson, S. Judd, C. D. Williams.

Referee: Mr. C. Cooper, London Society.

Bristol opened their scoring in four minutes, SMITH, their left wing, grounding in the corner after good passing bouts. He failed with the kick.

Cardiff hit back strongly, Griffiths making a glorious weaving run, but a try was thrown away because he held on too long.

The visitors kept at it and the home line had extremely narrow escapes as the attack was swung from wing to wing.

It was all Cardiff at this stage, but the Bristol defence was extremely quick and calm.

Bristol staged another rally, and only offside from a Gregory cross-kick prevented the score from coming and then Murphy tackled Smith as he was making another all out bid.

Tamplin had another shot at a long-range penalty, but the ball passed inches wide of the upright.

A Bristol clearing kick was charged down, and the home line had another narrow escape, but an

even closer one was when Nelson ran through being overwhelmed by sheer weight of numbers only a foot from the line.

Cardiff still hammered away, but were unable to get on terms at the interval.

Half-Bristol 0 1 3
Cardiff 0 0 0

Bristol should have increased their lead shortly after the resumption when Cardiff were penalised in their own 25.

Smith, however, failed to gain his mark, and then Cardiff staged a tremendous rally.

Both backs and forwards combined in fierce raids and C. D. WILLIAMS, gaining possession 10 yards out, ran in easily. Tamplin missed the kick.

This put the sides on level terms and the Welshmen continuing their pressure met with further success when GRIFFITHS showing great determination crashed his way over with three or four men hanging on to him to score.

Tamplin converted, the ball going over after hitting the upright and bouncing on the cross bar.

Bristol made all out efforts after these two fine tries and Gregory was within 12ft of scoring.

Then Evans intercepted and raced through, only Gregory's speed saving a certain try after the Cardiff winger had beaten the full back.

Final-Cardiff 1 1 8
Bristol 0 1 3

COMMENTS

Despite the absence of four of their star players Cardiff succeeded in taking the Bristol ground record, and deserved to do so.

Their forwards lasted better than the home eight and this, plus determination, especially of Griffiths, was a major factor in their victory.

Both their halves, Greedy and Marks, combined well and Llewellyn was very safe at full back.

Of the pack Nelson, Judd and Williams were outstanding.

Cardiff played "cat and mouse" with Wasps

Cardiff, 4-1-21; Wasps, 0-0-0

* One penalty.
Attendance, 15,000.

By J. B. G. THOMAS

IN striking contrast to Saturday's international with its tension and gourness, yesterday's club match at the Cardiff Arms Park provided plenty of lighthearted entertainment and carefree Rugby.

Cardiff were far too strong for a weakened Wasps side and gradually got on top to control the game and win by three goals, a penalty, and a try to nil.

The Wasps were without their internationals, J. E. Woodward (chosen to play against the Springboks for England) and P. W. Sykes, and though full of life and determination forward had little thrust and speed behind the scrum.

Llewellyn steady

Consequently the game was nothing like as close or exciting as last year, when a mere point divided the sides at the end. Cardiff were at full strength, and the forwards secured a good supply of the ball for their backs. In their turn the backs tried all kinds of movements as if they were entertainers rather than Rugby players, but they enjoyed themselves.

J. Llewellyn was steady at full-back, and A. Thomas with two tries was speedy and resourceful on the left wing. J. Matthews and B. L. Williams were too strong for their opposite numbers, and Williams scored a fine try.

Morgan out of bondage

C. Morgan, at outside-half, appeared like a released spirit from Saturday's spell of close marking, and Willis, as usual, gave a good service. All the backs made mistakes, but few cared, least of all themselves. The forwards took a long time to warm up, but Tamplin, C. Davies, and S. Judd were always going hard. J. Nelson scored a splendid try after a long diagonal run.

Best for the Wasps were D. Chapman and A. Stalder in the three-quarters, and J. F. Syrett in the pack. The side were all triers, but never really had a chance of victory.

Scorers for Cardiff were A. Thomas (two), Nelson, and B. L. Williams tries. Tamplin converted three, and kicked a penalty.

W. MAIL 27/12/51

S.W. ECHO 28/12/51

Coming Thro' the Mud

Coming through the mud Cardiff forwards led by Stan Bowes, try to bustle their way through a melee with the Watsonians in yesterday's game at the Arms Park, which Cardiff won 3pts. to nil.



BRIAN MARK, the promising reserve Cardiff scrum-half, received the ball and broke away before being threatened by the fast Watsonian forwards at Cardiff Arms Park yesterday.



Alan Thomas the Cardiff centre coming round in support of Mike Evans (No. 5) at the Arms Park clash with Watsonians, Cardiff winning by a late try to nil.

W. MAIL 27/12/51



BLEDYNN WILLIAMS, the Cardiff centre, although tackled by D. Chapman, of the Wasps, passed the ball to a colleague. An incident during yesterday's game at the Cardiff Arms Park.

F. ECHO 29/12/51

W. MAIL 15/1/52



A run by Coventry wing Sutton along the Arms Park touchline is brought to a halt by a vigorous tackle by Cardiff right wing Griffiths.

F. ECHO 29/12/51

Cardiff double over Coventry

After a pointless first half, at Arms Park to-day, Cardiff mastered a stubborn Coventry to run out winners by 9 points to nil, and thus complete a double at the Midlanders' expense.

After losing their ground record to Cardiff on November 24, by 8 points to 3 Coventry were keen to avenge this defeat and fielded a strong side.

Both sides made last minute changes, for Coventry G. A. Long came into the right wing position for A. E. Sutton, and E. Blackburn in the front row for C. Turnbull.

Cardiff changes were: D. James substituted for J. Llewellyn at full-back, while at half-back A. Thomas and Brian Mark (who played against the Watsonians) replaced Cliff Morgan and R. Willis, who failed to pass a fitness test. Teams:

CARDIFF: D. James; D. Murphy, J. Matthews (capt.), Bledwyn Williams, G. Griffiths; A. Thomas, B. Mark; C. Davies, G. Beckingham, J. D. Evans, W. E. Tamplin, M. Collins, S. Judd, D. J. O'Brien, C. D. Williams.

COVENTRY: E. N. Hewitt; G. A. Long, C. Dupenois, J. R. D. Palmer, H. F. Greasley; L. Preece, N. J. Stock; H. Walker, E. Robinson, E. Blackburn, N. R. Jones, B. Lilley, T. Gardiner, S. J. Atkins, R. F. Batstone.

Straight from the start Cardiff swept to the offensive and play, during the opening minutes, took place in the Coventry 25.

Although Cardiff had the better of the tight scrums the quick breaking of Gardiner and Batstone played havoc with the service of the Cardiff halves.

Things looked awkward for Cardiff when Palmer caught James in possession but a good recovery by O'Brien and Thomas negated a dangerous Coventry thrust.

Play was remarkably even with both teams going into the tackle with zest and was mainly confined to a fierce forward battle between two well-matched packs.

EXCITING PLAY

Coventry had an early chance to go ahead when they were awarded a penalty about 40 yards out but Hewitt was short with his kick.

Alun Thomas was prominent with some good defensive kicking which kept the lively Coventry forwards at bay.

Cardiff in turn had a chance to open the score when Tamplin took a penalty kick from a similar distance, but his kick, although having plenty of length and height, just missed the upright.

Cardiff were now on the offensive, and some exciting play took place near the Coventry line. From a line-out the ball travelled right across the Cardiff three-quarter line to Murphy, who made a strong burst on the right.

When challenged by Greasley, Murphy kicked across and had the Coventry line in jeopardy until Hewitt nipped in to touch down when menaced by C. D. Williams and Collins.

by
Observer

DAZZLING BURSTS

A minute later Des O'Brien broke through and again the reliable Hewitt was on the spot to clear the hard-pressed Coventry line.

Cardiff showed glimpses of their old-time brilliance, Bledwyn Williams and Alun Thomas being frequently in the picture with dazzling bursts through the centre, but they found the Midlanders' covering very sound.

James, the Cardiff full-back, tried a long run but his reverse pass to Thomas went astray and it was only some scrambling play by Matthews and Mark which prevented the visitors from breaking away into undefended Cardiff territory.

Half—Cardiff 0 0 0
Coventry 0 0 0

Straight from the restart Cliff Davies put Cardiff in an attacking position with a neat kick which found touch well inside the Coventry half.

Some spirited melees developed and after one of these three Coventry forwards were caught off-side and referee David awarded a penalty to Cardiff in front of the posts.

To the dismay of the crowd Tamplin sliced his kick.

Hewitt earned applause for the clean way in which he took a long Alun Thomas clearance and Coventry surged to the attack.

Brian Mark soon put Cardiff back again with a neat touch-finder.

Bledwyn Williams streaked through in typical fashion and his pass to Griffiths on the left was a beauty, but Long tackled well and a promising movement was nipped in the bud.

LACK OF COHESION

Though Bledwyn Williams, Jack Matthews and Alun Thomas tried their best to get the blue and black machine into action there was very little cohesion on either side and play in the main was confined to individual bursts, interceptions and spirited loose mauls, mainly in the Coventry half.

A lone Coventry breakaway found James in difficulties with a rolling ball.

A full-blooded counter-attack led by Des O'Brien and Judd took play deep into Coventry territory.

Murphy ran strongly before putting in a nice cross-kick, but a Cardiff forward got offside.

GOOD TRY

Seconds later, however, Cardiff went ahead. Alun Thomas drew his man before putting BLEDYNN WILLIAMS away and sheer determination took the Cardiff centre over for a good try.

Tamplin's kick fell inches short. Gardiner, who had been very prominent for Coventry, tried a solo dribble which probed the weakness of a somewhat unsteady Cardiff defence.

There were some desperate exchanges near the Cardiff line before the ball was worked to safety.

Jack Matthews and Bledwyn Williams both had the Midlanders' defence in trouble when they essayed characteristic bursts.

On one occasion only a bad pass to Murphy spoiled what would have been a certain try.

Cardiff went further ahead when Judd tore across to score after strong pressure on the left. Again Tamplin's kick was off the target.

Jack Matthews was a spearhead of another determined attack on the Coventry line, and interpassed cleverly with Murphy before the winger cross kicked for C D WILLIAMS to hurl himself over for a well-earned try. Tamplin again missed the conversion.

This last-minute revival saw Cardiff going great guns, with Bledwyn Williams, Alun Thomas and Jack Matthews all looking extremely dangerous as they probed the harassed Coventry defence.

Bledwyn Williams went very near to scoring in the last minute after a spectacular solo run, in which he beat three or four players with his speed and characteristic jink.

Final—Cardiff 0 3 9
Coventry 0 0 0

COMMENTS

The Cardiff centres, Bledwyn Williams and Jack Matthews, had a good game, the former having too many tricks for the rather slow-footed Coventry defence.

There was little concerted effort and neither wing had much opportunity to shine, although Murphy ran strongly whenever the opportunity presented itself.

D. James, the reserve full back, started somewhat shakily, but found his confidence in the second half and put in some very good kicks.

Alun Thomas and Brian Mark combined well with the young scrum half, throwing out a long ball and defending courageously. Judd, Collins and O'Brien were the pick of a hard-working pack.

For Coventry Hewitt was very sound, whilst Dupenois and Palmer, with limited chances, looked dangerous early in the game.



CARDIFF sorum-half Brian Mark taking the ball from a line-out in the match against Coventry.

NEWS-CHRONICLE 31/12/57

No slipping this tackle

The line was only a few yards away when this happened. Cardiff right-wing D. Murphy seemed almost certain to cross. Then Harold Greasley, of Coventry, dived at him and felled him down. But there were three other occasions when Cardiff did get over



F. ECHO 29/12/57

Reserves take their chance

WITH several of their brightest "stars" involved in the gruelling Wales v. Springbok epic at the Arms Park last Saturday a very depleted Cardiff side journeyed to Bristol, where they achieved a meritorious "double" and, incidentally, robbed the West Countrymen of their home record.

Dudley Owen, the former Penarth wing forward, substituted for Geoff Beckingham (a reserve at the Arms Park) and the blonde-haired hooker gave a good account of himself in a hard-grafting Cardiff pack.

Reserve halves Alan Greedy and Brian Mark impressed with their smooth combination and had a big hand in Cardiff's 6-3 victory.

Three points down at half-time, the "blue-and-blacks" rallied to score eight points and thoroughly deserved their success against a strong Bristol side.

The determined running of Gareth Griffiths on the right wing was a feature of the game, and his try, with four opponents hanging on to him, was a grand piece of courageous rugby.

John Llewellyn was his customary cool, and collected self, whilst forward no-one was more impressive than Ewart Tamplin. Derek Williams and Nelson.

The Boxing Day encounter between Cardiff and the Wasps was a rollicking sort of spree intermingled in a seasonal potpourri of carefree rugby.

Cardiff won easily enough by 21 clear points and the stingless Wasps never had much of a chance to shine.

Cliff Morgan, John Llewellyn and Jack Matthews played grandly in defence and Alun Thomas and Bledwyn Williams were outstanding in attack.

Sid Judd, Nelson and Gower Jenkins dominated the game forward, whilst Tamplin again shone as a place-kicker.

With the band playing Christmas carols and cigar-smoke curling up from stands, enclosures and bob-bank alike there was plenty of the festive "atmosphere" about!

Sporting evenings

A sporting evening that will appeal to many of the younger Cardiff fans will be staged on Wednesday, January 9, at 7.30 at the Technical College, Cathays Park, Cardiff.

This, the second in the series of "Playing the Game" talks and film shows sponsored by the Rotary Club of Cardiff, will have as principal speaker none other than Colonel Frank Mellish, manager of the Springbok touring team.

His talk will be followed by films illustrating the highlights of star rugby games and a "Brains Trust" consisting of members of the South African team and the Cardiff Rugby Football Club.

As this is the first time that the popular Afrikaners have been invited into taking part in one of these affairs it should bring forth some most intriguing answers to controversial rugby questions.

All seats are free for this meeting, but admittance will be by ticket only and confined to youths and young men between the ages of 15 and 21 years.

Application should be made to Mr. Robert King (hon. secretary youth committee), 94, Cardiff-road, Llandaff, Cardiff, not later than January 2. A stamped and addressed envelope should accompany all applications.

Cardiff club members should note that a similar sporting evening is being held at the Athletic Club on January 25 as part of the 75th anniversary celebrations, when a



GARETH GRIFFITHS

film and "Brains Trust" programme will take place in which the Springboks and British Lions will take part.

Mr. Hubert Johnson, the chairman of the Cardiff club, will preside as question master.

With such sporting "brains" as Danie Craven, Frank Mellish, Billy Cleaver, Jack Matthews, Basil Kenyon and Bledwyn Williams on the platforms, these evenings should be really worthwhile affairs.



D. EXPRESS
31/12/51

BRIAN RUNS - BUT IS COLLARED

LITTLE Brian Marks, Cardiff's inside half, gathers a loose ball, but there's no colleague to whom to pass.

He tried a run, but the 5ft. 6ins. Marks—deputy for International Rex Willis—was speedily enveloped by a lively Coventry back row.



Malcolm Collins, Cardiff's second-row forward, tries to bulldoze his way through, only to be well collared by Walker and Jones, of Coventry's pack.

F. ECHO
29/12/51

NEW FACES AT ARMS PARK

THE strenuous Christmas season culminated in Cardiff making a "grandstand finish" to achieve the "double" over Coventry, winning a drab game by nine clear points (writes Observer).

With weather conditions anything but helpful, the club can look back on their four games in a week with great satisfaction, with four wins out of four, 41 points for and only three against! A record that many Welsh clubs would dearly like to have emulated!

This is the eighth successive win for the "blue and blacks," who were last beaten when the Springboks came from behind to win 11-9 on October 20 and should discount some of the rumours circulating around to the effect that "Cardiff have had it!"

The record would seem to disprove that quaint suggestion.

It is gratifying to the club's supporters that, despite a spate of injuries and the necessity of finding "stand-ins" for several of their brightest "stars," the reserve talent has stood up to the ordeal with commendable pluck and Gareth Griffiths, David James, Brian Mark and Mike Evans, in particular, have shown promise of great things to come!

With Des O'Brien and C. D. "Derek" Williams back the Cardiff pack look more like the real thing, as they proved in the tough struggle against Coventry last Saturday.

Derek, incidentally, has just become the proud father of a girl and celebrated by scoring Cardiff's third unconverted try against the Midlanders.

Welcome reappearance

Another popular player to throw in his lot with the club is Gwyn Rowlands, the brilliant Welsh and English trial wing, who used to turn out for London Hospitals.

So far he has been content to play a few games with the "Rags," but will soon be a candidate for game with the premier team.

It is nice to hear that Haydn Morris, the famous "flying left wing," is making a welcome reappearance in the Cardiff colours after a long lay-off through injury.

Haydn had a run-out with the Athletic side against Old Iltydians to-day, and his form was studied with interest by his admirers, many of whom consider that if he had been included in the Wales side against the Springboks the result might have been different!

Baa-Baa's plan

The following arrangements have been made for the distribution of tickets for the Barbarians v. Springboks game on January 26 and Wales v. Scotland on February 2:

GRAND STAND TICKETS

Grand stand tickets have been ballotted for, and those whose names were drawn have been notified.

ENCLOSURE TICKETS

Only a small number are available, and these will be allocated to enclosure season-ticket holders. Send slip B and 3s. and stamped, addressed envelope.

FIELD TICKETS

The following applies only to those grand stand and field season ticket holders who were successful in obtaining a ticket for the Wales v. South Africa match.

There will only be a sufficient number of tickets to allow a few hundred applicants to purchase a ticket for both the Barbarians v. Springboks and Wales v. Scotland games, and these will be dealt with in strict rotation and you must therefore enclose a B slip together with two separate postal orders or cheques for 3s. for these games (if you hold more than one season ticket you are reminded that each B slip must be accompanied by two postal orders, etc. for 3s.).

Members who are not fortunate enough to receive tickets for both games will receive a Barbarians v. Springboks match ticket and a refund of 3s.

No personal applications will be entertained for either of the above matches.

F. ECHO
5/1/52

F. ECHO
29/12/51

F. ECHO 5/1/52

CARDIFF BACKS BEAT MOSELEY

Cardiff beat Moseley by 9 points to 3 in the Midlands, and one of the highlights of the game was a great try by Bleddyn Williams in the second half.

The visit of Cardiff to Moseley, Birmingham, after a lapse of 25 years drew one of the biggest crowds of the season to the Reddings.

Welsh "exiles" living in the Midlands were there in force. Moseley, strongly represented, included three Welshmen in Llew Morgan (full back), who had played for Cross Keys; hooker Eddie Humphries, a native of Merthyr; and Harry Thomas, who had also played for Cross Keys.

Cardiff were without A. Thomas, for whom M. Evans deputised on the left wing.

Tamplyn, like Thomas, was unable to travel and P. Goodfellow was brought into the pack.

Teams:—
MOSELEY: L. Morgan; D. M. Layton, A. M. Hall, B. P. Brighton, C. Bourke, A. M. Edge, J. Robbins; A. D. Cathcart, E. R. H. Humphries, J. R. Owen, R. W. Perry, R. J. Little, E. Rossiter, D. J. F. Stammers, H. Thomas.

CARDIFF: J. Llewellyn; M. Evans, Bleddyn Williams, Jack Matthews, D. Murphy; C. Morgan, R. Willis; C. Davies, G. Beckenham, J. D. Naylor, S. Todd, M. Collins, P. Goodfellow, D. J. O'Brien, C. D. Williams.

Referee: Mr. T. L. Davies, London Society.

Cardiff opened with a fine passing movement from a line-out, but Matthews's short punt ahead was fielded by Morgan, the Moseley full back.

Moseley had the better of the early scrums, but could make little headway against strong tackling.

The Cardiff centres tried hard to break through when Willis started his backs moving with quick passes from the line-out and loose.

Collins was short with a penalty kick for Cardiff from almost half-way.

In the next minute Cardiff took the lead with a delightful try.

Cliff Morgan made the opening when he cut through the Moseley defence and working to the centre he sent MURPHY in for a try far out. Collins failed to convert.

Spirited work by the Moseley forwards saw them set up a series of attacks.

When passing by Cardiff backs broke down Stammers took advantage of a cross-kick to pass to Rossiter, who crossed, only to be recalled for a forward pass.

Moseley were still superior in the set scrums; only Cardiff's pull in the line-out enabling them to hold an advantage to get their backs in action.

BRILLIANT FORM

Morgan, Cardiff's fly half, was as slippery as an eel, and Moseley found difficulty in holding him.

Only some fine tackling by Hall, the Moseley centre, stopped Morgan going clean through.

Morgan, the Moseley full-back, was in brilliant form, his touch-kicking gaining his side territorial advantage on many occasions.

Play was in the Cardiff half for some minutes before half-time, when Morgan and Llewellyn were

prominent with some sound defensive play.

Then Bleddyn Williams, receiving from the loose, went away with a jinking run which spreadeagled the Moseley defence. He sent out a long pass to the left which was taken by SID JUDD, who sold a couple of "dummies" before scoring near the post. Collins hit the upright with the goal kick.

Half—Cardiff 0 2 6
Moseley 0 0 0

Cardiff backs' speed and penetrative power was a feature and but for some resolute tackling by Moseley more tries would have come early in the second half.

Evans, on the left wing, made one determined run from an opening by Williams, but his pass to a couple of forwards was intercepted near the line.

Morgan saved Moseley with his fine fielding and kicking when Cardiff were on the offensive for a time.

Collins missed two more long-range penalty kicks for Cardiff whose forwards were now getting a better share of the ball in set scrums and the backs were continually in action.

Moseley backs started a movement from a scrum, but when Brighton attempted to break through he was promptly felled by Matthews.

A GREAT TRY

Cardiff went further ahead when BLEDDYN WILLIAMS raced through the Moseley defence from Morgan's pass to score near the post. Llewellyn missed the goal.

Williams's sudden change of direction completely baffled the Moseley defence, and the crowd rose to him for a great try.

Cardiff were in a dominant mood and only a great tackle by Edge, the Moseley fly-half, stopped Morgan on the line after a fine run.

Near the end LAYTON kicked a penalty goal for Moseley from near the posts when one of the Cardiff forwards were offside.

Final—Cardiff 0 3 9
Moseley 0 0 3

COMMENTS

Cardiff, better equipped behind the scrum, gave a delightful display of three-quarter play, particularly in the second half when their forwards did better in the set scrums.

Moseley had no answer to the wiles of Willis and Morgan and with Williams in brilliant form Moseley had to defend stubbornly at times.

Outstanding for Moseley was Lew Morgan, the former Cross Keys full-back, whose fielding and kicking were of a high order.



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