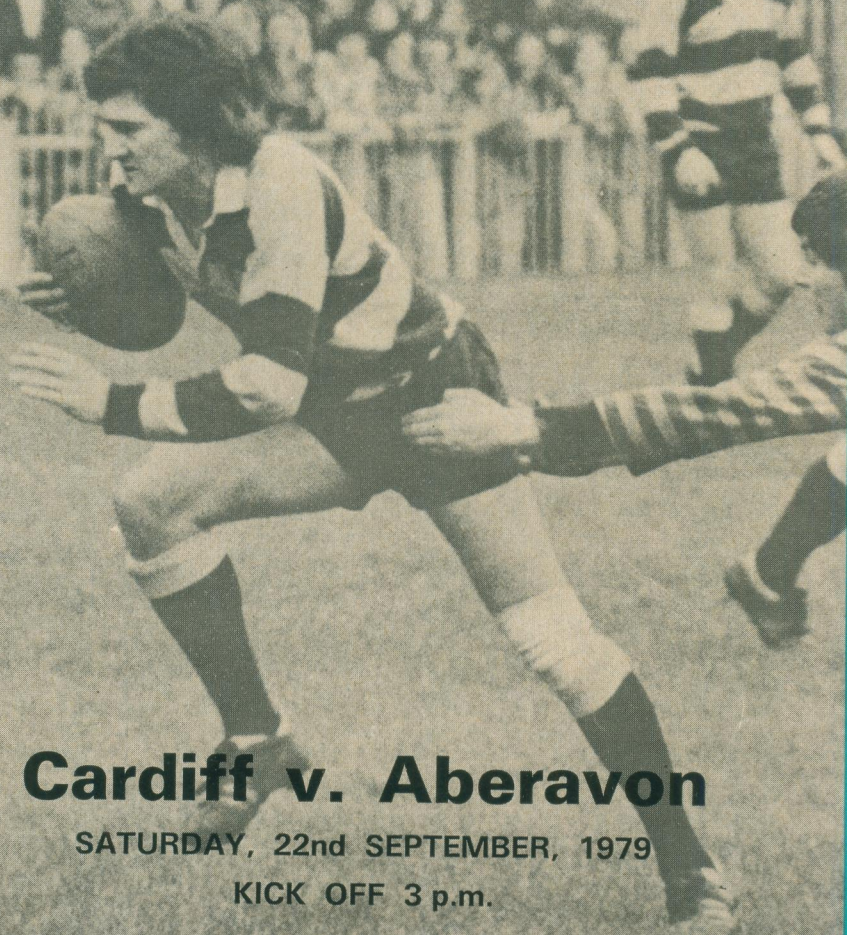




Cardiff Rugby Club



Cardiff v. Aberavon

SATURDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER, 1979

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 10p

Cardiff v. Aberavon

SATURDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER, 1979 KICK OFF 3 p.m.

With the 1979 cricket season now a thing of the past, a distinct nip in the morning and evening air and the likes of me who are rejoicing about putting our lawn mowers away until next spring, we can now say that season 1979/80 is exclusively entrenched and well and truly under way. Gone are the preliminaries and, hopefully, the to-ing and fro-ing of players seeking new clubs. With the Welsh selectors having announced that the best available side will be chosen to play against Romania on October 6th, the urgency is now on the leading players to show their international form. Today, therefore, it gives us great pleasure to welcome the "Wizards" of Aberavon to the Arms Park for what we hope will be another thrilling encounter to add to those that have already taken place in the past.

Aberavon, of course, we can consider our twin side in Welsh rugby as we were both founded in the same year, 1876, and subsequently celebrated our centenary season coincidentally. It is rather surprising therefore that today's game is only the 96th game in the series between our clubs. Of the previous 95, Cardiff have won 54, lost 35 and drawn 6 with the points tally standing at 947 to Cardiff, against 718. Of 30 games played at the Arms Park since 1950, on resumption of fixtures after the Second World War, the Wizards have managed victory on eight occasions. These were in 1951, 1954, 1955, 1958, 1961, 1967, 1975 and 1976. Of these Aberavon victories I should imagine that the one which is etched on the hearts of the most ardent Cardiff supporters was the Wizards' last victory in Cardiff in 1976. The occasion was a W.R.U. Cup match and they fully justified their name that day by snatching a remarkable victory from the very jaws of defeat to win by 16 pts. to 12 in the dying moments of the game. This typifies the Aberavon spirit as cup fighters however and, like ourselves, they have been beaten finalists on two occasions in the cup competition.

By their own high standards Aberavon had a poor season last year when of 40 games played they won 18, lost 20 and drew two. This situation wasn't bad enough for it was further compounded by the close season goings on. As is appropriate, with a town that has the biggest tidal harbour in Britain, players left the club on the same scale as boat people leaving Vietnam. We ourselves were one of the beneficiaries in the acquisition of Neil Hutchings. He has played in the first five fixtures up to and including last Saturday's game at Coventry and has scored a try in each game. Then British Lion Clive Williams defected to Swansea and he has greatly assisted the All Whites in establishing themselves as front runners in Welsh rugby for this season with some very impressive form. These were followed by a further two transfers, which would have knocked the guts out of lesser mortals than Aberavon, when Alan Martin and Jeff Griffiths decided that Llanelli was the club for them. Lots of people must have thought that this was curtains for the Wizards, but no. They embarked on the current season with a new young captain, Billy James, at the helm in undaunted fashion, and included among their early victims were no other than Llanelli. This victory did them the world of good and with some new young blood in their pack it should soon be an eight to stand comparison with some of the Wizards packs of recent years. This coupled with a couple of half backs as good as most in Wales should soon make the Wizards a force to be reckoned with. Added to this again is another bonus in the shape of Alan Martin's return to his old club. He is a massive man in both stature and experience and his presence in the black and red jersey again will pep up his team mates no end. He is, of course, Aberavon's record cap holder with 27, having overtaken the previous holder, the legendary Ned Jenkins who had 21. He should add to this total again this season because it looks as if he has no peer in his position in Wales at the moment. So to Aberavon we again say welcome and we also hope that includes in your numbers at the Arms Park today the Wizards' No. 1 fan Mrs. Mainwaring. What a marvellous supporter she is. They need to have no fear of lack of verbal encouragement for her beloved "BRAVON" while she is around.

And now to the home front. In Danny's History of the Club, the synopsis of season 1879-80 states, and I quote: "Seven matches were arranged for the Second Fifteen, two each against the second strings of Caerleon, Maindee (Newport), the Newport Club itself and the remaining one was fixed up with Monkton House School, Cardiff." This, therefore, heralds the centenary season of the Rags. Several special fixtures have been organised to mark the occasion and the man honoured with the captaincy for the year is Roger Lane. Roger is a player of long standing having joined in season 1970/71. His tremendous experience and enthusiasm coupled with the wealth of talent at his disposal should see the Rags having their customary good season. Their brand of rugby always complies with the true Cardiff spirit and visits to the Arms Park on Saturday afternoons when they are home are always very satisfying. It is also a very pleasing feature to see so many of our own ex-youth players in the Athletic ranks these days and most gratifying for all concerned with running the youth team. So to Roger and his 'Rags' we say may your season be a most enjoyable one.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

The not so really controversial 'pile-up' problems have had a fair airing. As I said on Wednesday, our referees, with the players' cooperation, will sort it out.

There is much evidence already to support this. At Llandaff v. the Americans on Monday, Penarth v. the Presidents XV on Tuesday and in the Canadian match we saw 'no problems'. The crux of it all is that the players must release the ball immediately, once they go to ground, in order that it can be played. The game can then go on and that's what it's all about.

Movements of players is something that all clubs are concerned about. There are appropriate regulations connected with permits and transfers. Many have asked about this. Let me explain.

If any club under the jurisdiction of the Union want the services of another player, it is up to *that club* to obtain written permission of the parent club. No direct approach may be made to the player; a record of the permit must be kept; only six games are allowed on permit, in the same season. After that a *transfer* is necessary.

A transfer must be applied for by the *player himself* after permission from the parent club. There is an official form which must go to the W.R.U. On this form the reasons for desiring transfer have to be stated.

A player who has obtained a transfer cannot again be transferred until at least six weeks has elapsed and, unless the Union considers the circumstances exceptional only TWO transfers will be allowed in one season.

It is strictly forbidden for clubs to make overtures to players; players can apply for transfer without the necessity of playing six games under permit and a player has the right to appeal if a transfer is refused.

These rules apply during the 'close' season as well as during the playing season and it equally applies to players in the youth or junior sections of all W.R.U. clubs.

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Cardiff

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| 15. C. WEBBER | Full Back |
| 14. D. THOMAS | Right Wing |
| 13. N. HUTCHINGS | Right Centre |
| 12. P. ELLIOTT | Left Centre |
| 11. A. YEANDLE | Left Wing |
| 10. Gareth DAVIES (Capt.) | Outside Half |
| 9. T. HOLMES | Inside Half |
| 1. D. LLEWELLYN | Forwards |
| 2. M. WATKINS | |
| 3. J. DIXON | |
| 4. P. SOUTO | |
| 5. R. NORSTER | |
| 6. B. LAKIN | |
| 8. J. SCOTT | |
| 7. T. CHARLES | |
| R. NEWMAN | |
| T. LEE | |



Replacements

Referee: D. E. WILLIAMS (W.R.U.)

Aberavon

- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| W. LEWIS | 15. |
| G. WILLIAMS | 14. |
| D. JACOB | 13. |
| K. COSLETT | 12. |
| L. KEEN | 11. |
| B. THOMAS | 10. |
| C. SHELL | 9. |
| J. RICHARDSON | 1. |
| B. JAMES | 2. |
| B. LEWIS | 3. |
| A. MARTIN | 4. |
| J. JAMES | 5. |
| R. DAVIES | 6. |
| M. EDWARDS | 8. |
| M. TOBIN | 7. |
| J. GREENWAY | |
| O. ALEXANDER | |



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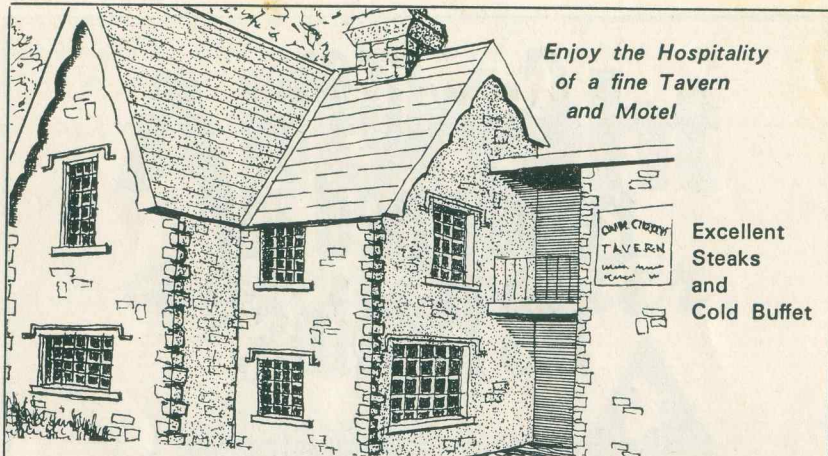
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Dec. 22	Bridgend	£2.00
Jan. 5	Moseley	£3.00
Jan. 26	Aberavon	£2.00
Feb. 2	Ebbw Vale	£2.00
Feb. 9	Bristol	£2.50
Feb. 16	London Welsh (Twickenham trip)	
Apr. 12	Swansea	£2.20
Apr. 19	Neath	£2.00

Functions:—

Sept. 28	Referee's Forum
Oct. 12	Film Show
Dec. 21	Dinner/Dance



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NEXT HOME FIXTURES

Saturday, 29th September: **CARDIFF v. MOSELEY** 3 p.m.
 Wednesday, 3rd October: **CARDIFF v. BRIDGEND** 7.15 p.m.
 Sat., 13th October: **CARDIFF v. NORTHAMPTON** 3 p.m.

FIRST XV FIXTURES

1979			
SEPTEMBER			
Sat. 1	East District	H 66-8	
Wed. 5	Glamorgan Wands.	A 26-9	
Sat. 8	Neath	H 28-3	
Wed. 12	Bristol	H 17-17	
Sat. 15	Coventry	A 15-16	
Wed. 19	Canada	H 19-8	
Sat. 22	Aberavon	H.....	
Wed. 26	Penarth	A.....	
Sat. 29	Moseley	H.....	
OCTOBER			
Wed. 3	Bridgend	H.....	
Sat. 6			
Wed. 10	Pontypridd	A.....	
Sat. 13	Northampton	H.....	
Wed. 17	Newport	A.....	
Sat. 20	Cambridge Univ.	H.....	
Wed. 24	Pontypool	A.....	
Sat. 27	Harlequins	A.....	
Wed. 31	Don Pill Memorial	H.....	
	Selected XV (All pay)		
NOVEMBER			
Sat. 3	Munster	A.....	
Wed. 7	Oxford University	H.....	
Sat. 10	Ebbw Vale	H.....	
Sat. 17	W.R.U. Cup 1st Round		
Sat. 24	Llanelli	A.....	
DECEMBER			
Sat. 1	Swansea	H.....	
Wed. 5	Maesteg	A.....	
Sat. 8	London Welsh	H.....	
Sat. 15	W.R.U. Cup 2nd Round		
Sat. 22	Bridgend	A.....	
Wed. 26	Pontypridd	H.....	
Sat. 29	Coventry	H.....	
1980			
JANUARY			
Tues. 1	Bath	H.....	
Sat. 5	Moseley	A.....	
Sat. 12	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round		
Fri. 18			
Wed. 23	S. Wales Police	H.....	
Sat. 26	Aberavon	A.....	
FEBRUARY			
Sat. 2	Ebbw Vale	A.....	
Sat. 9	Bristol	A.....	
Sat. 16	London Welsh	A.....	
Sat. 23	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round		
Fri. 29	Heriots F.P.	H.....	
MARCH			
Tues. 4	San Isidro (All pay)	H.....	
Sat. 8	Pontypool	H.....	
Sat. 15			
Sat. 22	Newport	H.....	
Sat. 29	Llanelli	H.....	
APRIL			
Sat. 5	Barbarians	H.....	
Mon. 7	Harlequins	H.....	
Wed. 9			
Sat. 12	Swansea	A.....	
Wed. 16			
Sat. 19	Neath	A.....	
Sat. 26	W.R.U. Cup Final		



• **CARDIFF v. NATAL:** Glyn Davies brings Natal's Laurie Sharp to ground.

Photo by courtesy of the Natal Mercury.

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