



Cardiff Rugby Club

Cardiff v Pontypridd

SATURDAY, 26th DECEMBER, 1981

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

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It has been said that when priests and policemen become to look like boys it means you are getting old. To add substance to the undoubted wisdom of that analogy is the fact that once again we have come to the point in the current season where we can enjoy what has now become established as one of the highlights of the whole campaign and that's the visit of Pontypridd. As you can probably well recall, the Wasps were our regular visitors for some 16 years after the war on this Boxing Day date but due to the time of year it became very impracticable for them to continue. After a one off affair with the Welsh Academicals, we then entertained English club Liverpool for some eight years but since 1972 Cardiff v. Pontypridd has become a very acceptable part of the Christmas festivities for the supporters of both clubs. The marvellous atmosphere that pervades at the Arms Park on these occasions is a joy to experience.

Today will be the 9th time we have met on this now traditional Boxing Day occasion, having missed out in 1976, but the 48th in the series between our clubs. The history of previous results reads 33 wins to us 12 to Pontypridd with 2 games ending in stalemate. We first met the Pontypridd club in season 1878-79 and I have no doubt in saying during this period the Sardis Road men will consider that the last ten years have been the most illustrious in all their great history. During the scintillating seventies the Ponty club really came into it's own. During that period it became the top club in Wales on three occasions and were there or thereabouts on all others. The wonderful progress and improvement to their ground is also very tangible testimony to the magnificent enthusiasm and dedication of the administration that exists at Sardis Road. All this came to final fruition on the 1st of this month when Pontypridd were honoured with a fixture against the current touring side, Australia. And what a great fight they put up on that historic day, but alas, went down by the narrowest of margins 4-3. Pontypridd until this year were led by that dynamic forward, Tom David and with due respect to all others in the club set up who are such wonderful workers, Tom was able to inspire his side on the field in such a manner that was so instrumental in the Ponty climb to the top. His loss to the club was incalculable but being such a determined outfit, they are soldiering on in fine fashion. This year by their own high standards of late they are not having too good a season and after beating them at Ponty earlier on this year they will no doubt be keen to avoid us getting a double. There is one thing we can be reasonably assured of, however, and that is, regardless of the festive occasion we as spectators will be indulging in, the 30 players on the field will be flat out for their respective sides. If previous encounters are anything to go by we can look forward to a feast of good rugby this afternoon played before a capacity crowd who as I've previously stated, will be abounding in good will and keeping with the festivities of the occasion. Ponty for their part will be keen to register their second Boxing Day win to add to the one achieved in 1977. So to Pontypridd then we extend a very warm and festive welcome and may today's occasion further cement the strong and friendly relationship that exists between the clubs.

In talking of the seasonal festivities perhaps we should spare a kind thought for Sir Nick Shehadie and his Australia tourists who will be celebrating Christmas some 12,000 miles from their families.

Next we come to the abominable weather and bad luck that has plagued us since our game against Llanelli. The Swansea game could have taken place had they been able to travel. Then last Saturday week had we been able to make a normal 3 o'clock start the London Welsh game could have been played. Last Saturday's cancellation in our cup game against the Glamorgan Wanderers has put tremendous pressure on the players to get through a very stiff patch. Because of the holiday, these notes were written on Sunday and things were as awry as they could be. One game is one too many for poor hard worked fixture secretaries to re-arrange but when it comes to three and four in some instances it is well nigh impossible. From our point of view an ideal day would have been Monday 28th December to play the Wanderers but no

doubt Bridgend would have a say in the matter as it is a plumb fixture from their point of view being the home team. Time will tell, of course, and in the meantime let's hope that the weather will get better and not further compound our already complex situation.

One thing is certain, however, if we survive our game with the Wanderers we will be away again in the 3rd round which is now uncommonly close on 23rd January. This means a very heavy programme for those players who will play for Wales against Ireland and are also selected to play for the Baa Baas against Australia. These tough games interspersed with 2 cup rounds add up to a very trying start to the year 1982.

Just recently Ted John has resigned his position as chairman of the Cardiff supporters Club. Ted has been a marvellous servant to that organisation and it is one we as a club should be proud of. To Ted and his wife Nancy, who, of course, are ever present in the Club Souvenir shop I'm sure all supporters whether members of the official body or not, we say good luck to you and we hope you enjoy the spare time you may now have.

Finally, today the Cardiff Rugby Club would like to sincerely thank Nash of Cardiff for their generous sponsorship of today's game.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

As promised in the last programme, here are the remainder of the questions and answers included in the recent directive to all referees from the W.R.U. in their determination to help solve the number of 'grey areas' as they have been called regarding the law changes this season.

For those who haven't seen the last programme, they included players in a maul, the position of a third player after a tackle and a tackled player stratching over the goal line. There are still programmes about if you're interested. The last four questions and answers are now produced. Incidentally, although they went out at the instigation of the Coaching and Refereeing Department, run by John Dawes and Malcolm Lewis they have been officially agreed and confirmed by the Five Nations Committee.

Q. Can a tackled player pass or hand the ball to a supporting player at the moment he hits the ground?

A. No. He is deemed to be tackled and must release the ball.

Q. Can a player who is ankle-tapped short of the line, crawl with the ball to score a try?

A. No. A player who is so tripped is not tackled, Law 18(3) but cannot, therefore, crawl with it. He can get up with the ball and continue to play.

Q. Can a tackled player purposely place the ball by his side?

A. No. Law 18(1) specifically says 'he must release the ball immediately without playing it in any other way'.

If this was allowed then WHERE he placed the ball could be tactically important and advantageous to his team.

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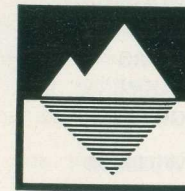
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7. O. GOLDING

G. WILLIAM
L. O'BRIEN

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



Replacements

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

Today's match ball donated by T. J. (FACTORY CLEARANCE) LTD.

Pontypridd

- J. PRITCHARD 15.
- A. ROSE 14.
- J. POOLE 13.
- S. FLYNN 12.
- M. LEWIS 11.
- M. HODGKINSON 10.
- R. DYER 9.
- R. LOTT 1.
- M. ALEXANDER 2.
- N. WILDING 3.
- K. THOMPSON 4.
- R. COOKSLEY 5.
- M. SHALLARD 6.
- C. SMITH 8.
- D. JONES 7.

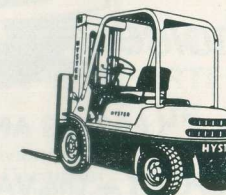
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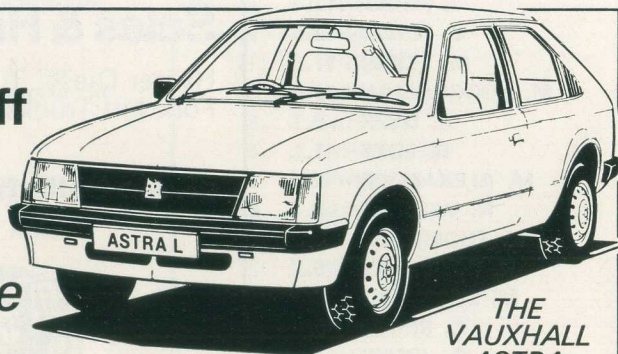
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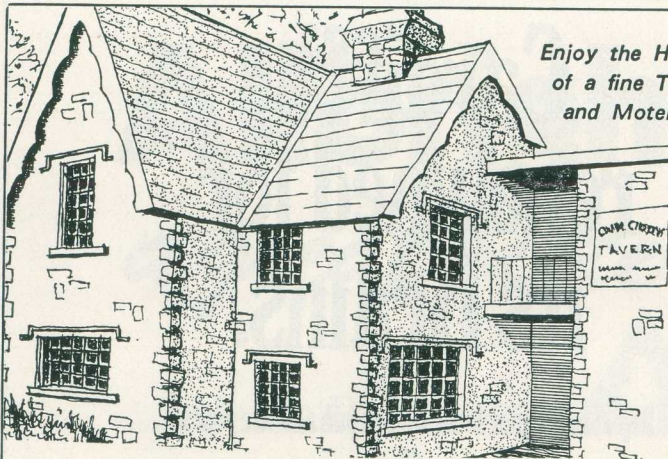
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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1981			
SEPTEMBER			
Wed. 2	Glam. Wanderers	A	9-3
Sat. 5	East District	H	40-6
Wed. 9	Bristol	H	37-17
Sat. 12	Neath	H	25-8
Wed. 16	Penarth	A	23-7
Sat. 19	Coventry	A	12-12
Sat. 26	Aberavon	H	11-25
Wed. 30	Pontypridd	A	10-3
OCTOBER			
Sat. 3	Newport	A	15-6
Wed. 7	Bridgend	H	18-14
Sat. 10	Northampton	H	26-22
Wed. 14	Pontypool	A	15-24
Sat. 17	Bath	H	32-3
Wed. 21	Newbridge	A	15-12
Sat. 24	Harlequins	A	47-17
Tues. 27	Maesteg	A	25-11
Sat. 31	Moseley	A	26-24
NOVEMBER			
Sat. 7	Munster	H	16-10
Wed. 11	Oxford University	H	38-9
Sat. 14	Ebbw Vale	H	33-4
Sat. 21	W. Barry (Cup)	A	45-6
Fri. 27	Llanelli	A	15-7
DECEMBER			
Wed. 9	Swansea	H	Post.
Sat. 12	Lon. Welsh Aband.	H	6-6

Sat. 19	W.R.U. Cup 2nd Round	
Sat. 26	Pontypridd	H.....
Mon. 28	Bridgend	A.....

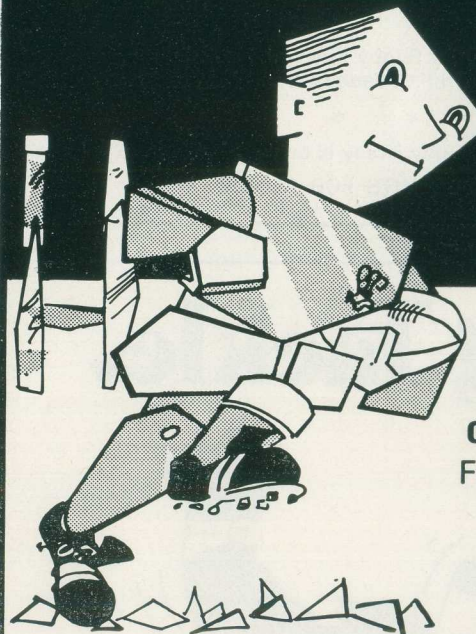
1982			
JANUARY			
Sat. 2	Moseley	H.....	
Wed. 6	Aberavon	A.....	
Fri. 15	Bective Rangers	A.....	
Sat. 23	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round		
Sat. 30	Llanelli	H.....	

FEBRUARY			
Sat. 13	Bristol	A.....	
Sat. 20	Ebbw Vale	A.....	
Sat. 27	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round		

MARCH			
Sat. 6	London Welsh	A.....	
Sat. 13	Pontypool	H.....	
Fri. 19	Heriots F.P.	H.....	
Sat. 27	Newport (Cup S.F.)	H.....	
Wed. 31	Swansea	A.....	

APRIL			
Sat. 3	Bedford	A.....	
Sat. 10	Barbarians	H.....	
Mon. 12	Harlequins	H.....	
Sat. 17	Neath	A.....	
Sat. 24	W.R.U. Cup Final		

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