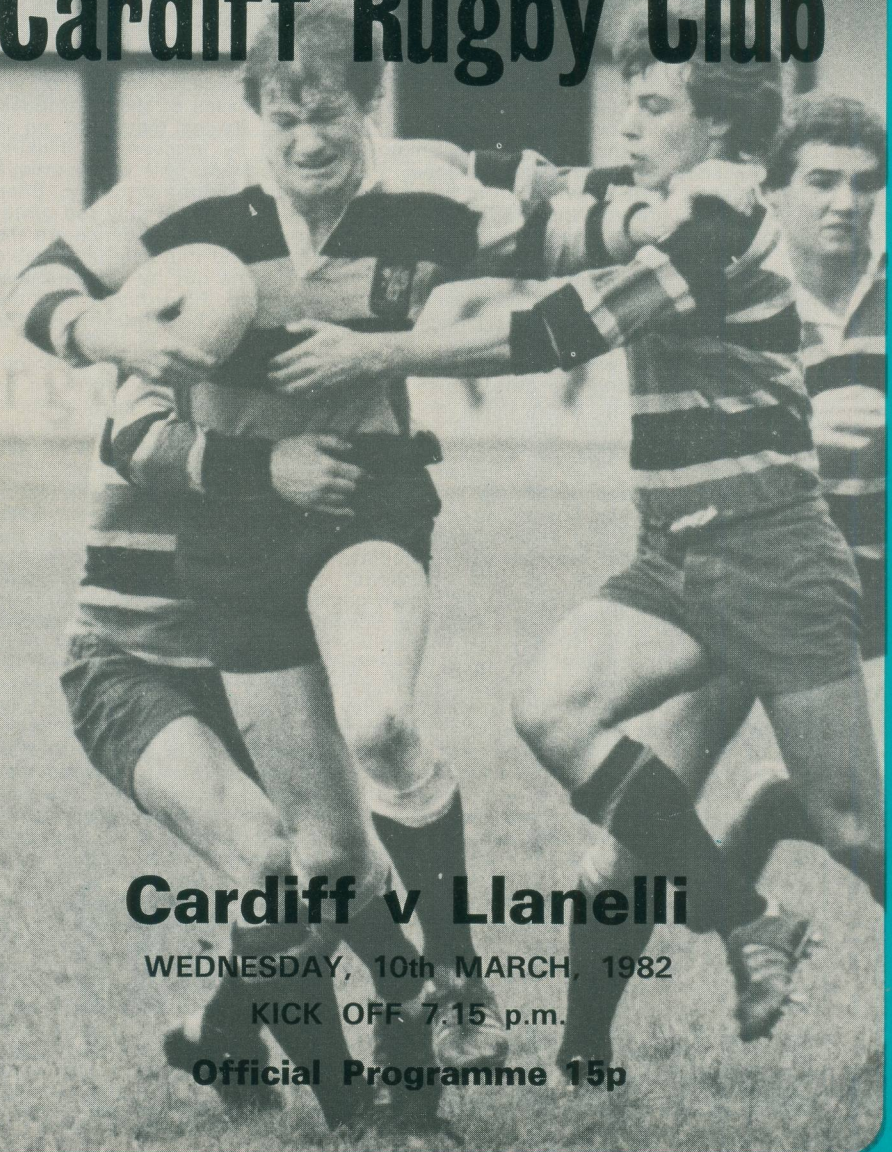




Cardiff Rugby Club



Cardiff v Llanelli

WEDNESDAY, 10th MARCH, 1982

KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

Cardiff v. Llanelli

WEDNESDAY, 10th MARCH, 1982 KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

It's been many a long day since we had the situation, indeed has it ever happened before, whereby we played the same opponents at the same venue on consecutive Saturdays. It arose, of course, as a result of our Cup game against Ebbw Vale, being re-arranged on the Saturday prior to our normal domestic fixture with them. Slap in the middle of these two visits to Eugene Cross Park we played and defeated Swansea at home (and what a great game that turned out to be). I suppose the odds on a similar situation arising should be fairly high but lo and behold who provides the opposition tonight, no other than Llanelli. Now you don't have to have the best memory in the world to recollect that it is only some 10 days ago since we defeated the Scarlets at the Arms Park in the fourth round of the Schweppes Cup and here they are in Cardiff again providing the opposition on a second consecutive occasion. To complete the analogy of the Ebbw Vale situation in reverse, we played away last Saturday and defeated the Scarlet Exiles of the Metropolis, London Welsh. When you consider the to-ing and fro-ing that went on in order to achieve these dates, the unknowing could be forgiven for thinking that the situation was stage managed in order to produce this rather unique coincidence. Well a word from our hard working fixture secretary, Brian Mark, will assure you that this is certainly not the case. He is only too grateful to be able to fit these games in and the parameters of coincidence are the last thing in the world he considers in his quest to find mutually acceptable dates for ourselves and our opponents. This is borne out by the fact that of our last 7 matches 4 of them have been re-arranged. Also this is now the third season on the trot that Llanelli at home has not been played on the date it was originally scheduled for.

Tonight then we welcome Llanelli again and thank them for their co-operation in agreeing the date. I also hope the weather will be kinder to us tonight than it was when these notes were being compiled because both sides would prefer firm ground on which to exhibit their particular skills. This evening's game brings the series up to 199 in total, including 3 in the Schweppes Cup, which are spread over 101 years. A quick look into next season's fixtures shows that we have the privilege of staging the 200th match when we oppose the Scarlets at the Arms Park on 27th November next. Let's hope we can break the re-arrangement stranglehold that seems to bedevil the fixture in order that we can duly celebrate the occasion. A check of the records shows that of the previous 198 games we have won 110, Llanelli 72, with 16 ending as drawn games. Our points tally amounts to 1822 while Llanelli's total is 1339. The Scarlets come tonight determined to reverse the result of 10 days ago when our victory edged us in front by a 2 to 1 margin in the 3 cup encounters that have taken place between us. Cardiff is not a particularly happy hunting ground for them, however, and in 39 post war matches at the Arms Park they have ended up winners on only 8 occasions (this includes their cup final victory on the National ground at the end of season 1972-73). Their last victory in Cardiff was in season 1978-79 when they triumphed by 15-9 and this was also the last occasion when they doubled us. Even with a win tonight they couldn't achieve that situation again because we have already recorded a 15-7 victory at Stradey Park earlier on this season. Since that defeat on their last visit here 10 days ago, they have won 2 games and I'm sure they will be thirsting to have another crack at us tonight. They have some very good young players (indeed I was rather amazed to see how fresh faced and young looking some of these Scarlet starlets are) and I'm sure they will blossom in the future and fully justify the confidence that coach John McClean has in them. John, of course, has recently announced that he will be resigning his position at the end of this season so his skill, expertise and dedication will be sadly missed by the Scarlets. However, comes the hour comes the man, so I'm sure that a club of Llanelli's standing will have no difficulty in finding another good man to replace John McClean. Perhaps a significant feature in Llanelli's favour recently is the fact that Derek Quinell is back on their team sheet so they couldn't have more experience with him amongst their forwards and that great Welshman Ray

Cover picture by courtesy of Western Mail & Echo

Gravell marshalling the talents of his young backs. So again we say welcome Llanelli and let's hope we have a fine dry night on which to witness a good game of Welsh club rugby at its best.

Now, what of the events of last weekend. We were all obviously disappointed with the Welsh defeat but I think we must admit that England were the better organised side on the day and deserved their victory. The really depressing feature, however, was the injury to Terry Holmes which could keep him sidelined for some 5 to 6 weeks. This is rather unfortunate for us at this very crucial stage of the season because, as the world class player he is Terry would be missed in any side. However, we mustn't be too despondent because if you remember we got to and passed the semi-final stage of the cup last year without Terry's services and we should be thankful that we have players in reserve such as Gwynfor Williams and Terry Lee. To offset the disappointment of the Terry Holmes injury comes the good news that Mike Murphy is back on the scene after surgery on both his shoulders. He played in the Rags game last Saturday when they beat London Welsh Druids. The win by the first team stretched our winning run to 21 games so, no doubt, all our opponents from here on in will be very eager to break that sequence. Llanelli tonight and our next opponents Pontypool on Saturday will be no exceptions to that cause.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

A strange game last Saturday at Twickenham. I won't go into the pros and cons of tactics, decisions and so forth but deal with what is my subject. Never, ever before in all the many years that I have been observing and recording can I recall an international during which, in the first half there was not one penalty kick at goal by one side and that, alas was Wales and, in the second half, a solitary one which, sadly hit the post.

When the media have rightly waged a bit of a campaign over the dominance of penalties at the expense of tries in recent seasons and none, up until Twickenham, more than in this season, it is ironical, to put it mildly that the above fact has to be reported. During the same match, the total penalty count for Wales was two in the first half and six in the second. England had nine and six with, of the fifteen, six at goal, three of them successful.

Contrast this with the match against France at the Arms Park. Then, there was a total of thirty six, twenty five to Wales, that's a change and eleven to France. It doesn't add up to me. Never will.

Back to last Saturday, what did perplex me and most around me in the press box was the penalty awarded to England, converted by that man Hare, after the Winterbottom, Moriarty, confrontation. You will recall that, from a maul the pair peeled away, went to ground and continued their bit of fun there. Both were warned, both seemed equally guilty, we were then on the receiving and and that was a fairly decisive kick. Referee Palmade, an old friend, whose English is not too bad and is known to many at the Arms Park, did say that Moriarty was definitely the instigator and that Winterbottom's retaliation, although it could not be ignored was the lesser offence.

Fair enough. He's the boss.

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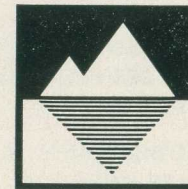
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2. A. J. PHILLIPS
3. I. EIDMAN
4. R. NORSTER
5. K. EDWARDS
6. O. GOLDING
8. J. P. SCOTT (Captain)
7. J. R. LEWIS

- From L. O'BRIEN
T. LEE
R. LAKIN
P. GOODFELLOW
A. MOGRIDGE
M. RING

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



Replacements

Llanelli

- K. THOMAS 15.
- P. HOPKINS 14.
- R. GRAVELL (Captain) 13.
- P. MORGAN 12.
- J. GRIFFITHS 11.
- M. GRAVELLE 10.
- M. DOUGLAS 9.
- P. REES 1.
- K. TOWNLEY 2.
- L. DELANEY 3.
- P. MAY 4.
- R. CORNELIUS 5.
- N. SANDERS 6.
- J. HARRIS 8.
- D. PICKERING 7.

- B. THOMAS
A. DAVIES

Referee: To be announced

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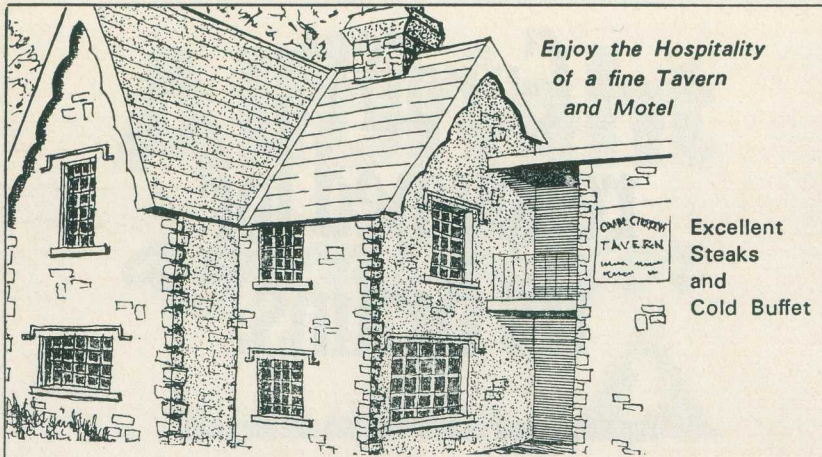
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FIRST XV FIXTURES

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
Sat. 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. 26	Pontypridd	H	16-0
Mon. 28	Glam. Wdrs. (Cup)	A	33-6

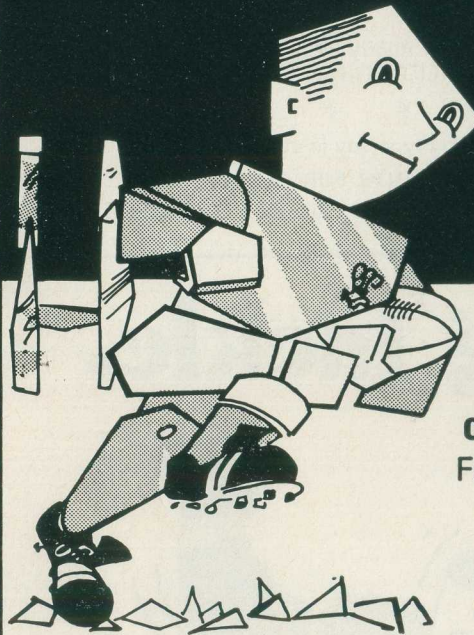
1982			
JANUARY			
Sat. 2	Moseley	H	25-14
Wed. 6	Aberavon	A	12-6
Fri. 22	Bective Rangers	A	23-12
Sat. 30	Waterloo	H	40-9

FEBRUARY			
Sat. 13	Ebbw Vale (Cup)	A	22-6
Wed. 17	Swansea	H	16-3
Sat. 20	Ebbw Vale	A	15-0
Sat. 27	Llanelli (Cup)	H	12-3

MARCH			
Sat. 6	London Welsh	A	20-13
Wed. 10	Llanelli	H
Sat. 13	Pontypool	H
Fri. 19	Herlots 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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