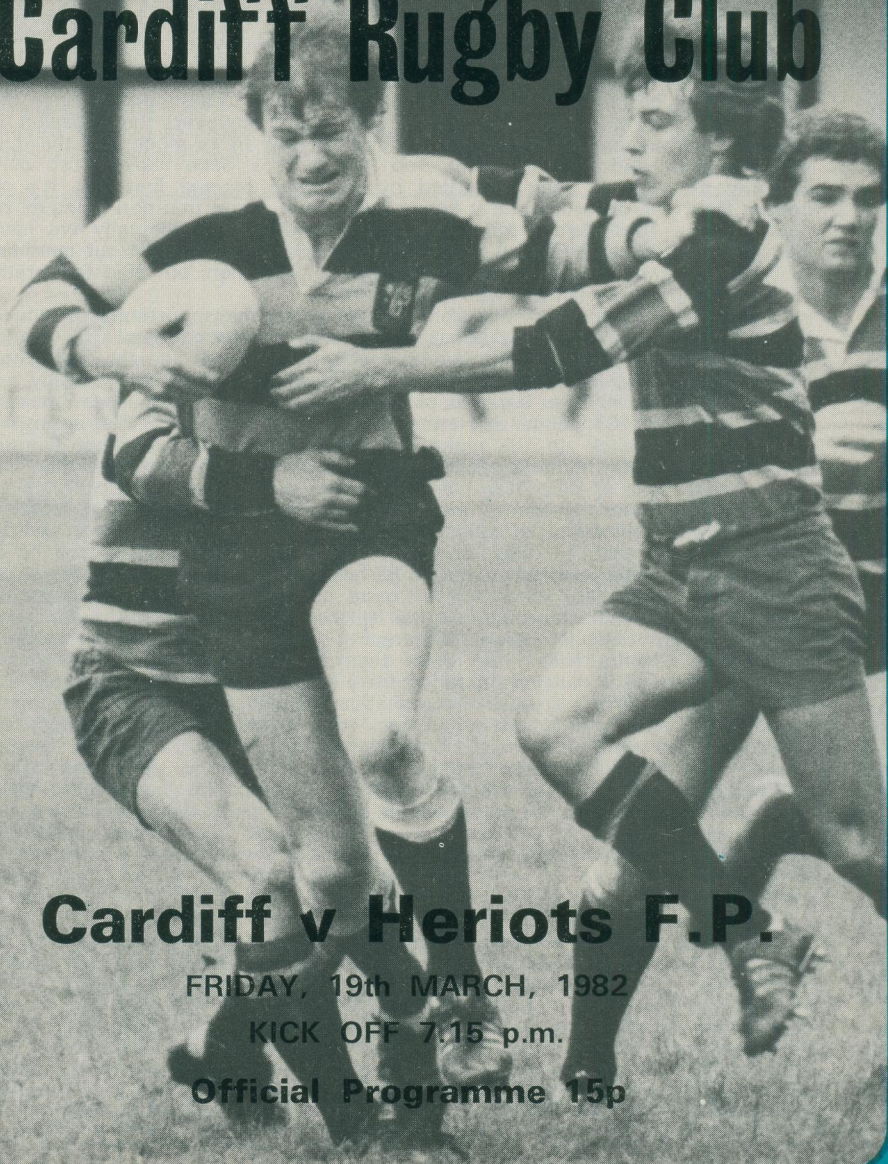




Cardiff Rugby Club



Cardiff v Heriots F.P.

FRIDAY, 19th MARCH, 1982

KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

Cardiff v. Heriots F.P.

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There is, no doubt, that by the time this match is staged tonight, we will all be very aware of the fact that the biennial tartan invasion of our fair city will be well and truly underway. The swinging kilt and jaunty Tam O'Shanter proudly sporting the plaids of the clans of Mackintosh, Machlachlan, Macleod, MacPherson, MacGregor, MacDonald and many more will all combine to help create a Caledonian atmosphere around the place. These tartans look very much alike to most of us, but to say that to a true Scot would cause as much offence as spelling whisky with an "e". The "Men of the Thistle" come in their hordes on this occasion with what they must consider to be the best opportunity they have had for many a long day to register their supremacy over the Leek. Their last victory in Cardiff was 20 years ago in 1962 when they won by 8-3. Another victory tomorrow would also shatter the dominance the Red shirt has held in Cardiff in the Five Nations Championship since the last defeat by France in 1968. Come what may, however, the occasion is already a joyous one from our club's point of view in as much that the outstanding graft and expertise that Bob Norster has been showing so consistently of late has been rewarded by his selection and first cap. It's an honour Bob well deserves and it keeps a long and proud tradition going as he becomes the 16th Cardiff player to represent Wales. Incidentally we have also had 1 Scottish, 2 English and 4 Irish internationals amongst our numbers to bring our grand total to 168. Particularly to Bob then, but also to Gareth, Alan and Rhodri we wish you well for tomorrow.

The international weekend, of course, gives us the opportunity of renewing and prolonging our happy acquaintance with the Former Pupils of George Heriots School, Edinburgh. The series is now 10 years of age the first game having taken place in Cardiff in February 1972. Heriots won that game by 9-8 but we have won all other 6 games played subsequently. During these 7 games we have scored 163 points to Heriots 56. On the occasion of that inaugural game their full back on the night has now become Heriots most famous son and one of the legendary names of Scottish rugby — no other than the great Andy Irvine M.B.E. Over the last decade he has gone on to create all kinds of records for his country and now he is within a whisker of overtaking Sandy Carmichael's 50 caps to become Scotland's most capped player. Due to the infrequency that we play Scottish club sides and the fact that he is engaged at national level when we do he has had very little, if any, chance to flavour the atmosphere generated by good old fashioned Welsh club rugby but I'm sure he would thoroughly enjoy it if he could experience the situation. Mind, they get their fair share of competitiveness in their domestic rugby beyond the Cheviot Hills. They have their Schweppes Club Championship which consists of 7 divisions catering for a promotion and relegation set up. This championship has existed since season 1973-74 so it's now in its ninth season. Needless to say that our visitors tonight have been ever-present in Division 1 and won the championship in season 1978-79. They have always been among the first 3 teams in the top division and this year, after being runners-up to Gala in the 2 previous seasons have to take second best again by only a one point margin to new champions Hawick. Did you see the game on television that clinched the honour for Hawick? That other grand old warhorse of Scottish rugby placed a superb last second penalty goal which virtually took the title. So with commiserations to Heriots we welcome them tonight in the hope that they enjoy themselves as much as we do in Edinburgh.

From our own point of view the season is now really on the boil and a thrilling climax is on the cards. Some of the faint-hearted were beginning to think that a crack was appearing in our armour after the Llanelli game last Wednesday. The sceptics said that signs of pressure were beginning to show and staleness and loss of form seemed to be setting in. Well what an answer those who did think this were given last Saturday on the occasion of the Pontypool visit. What a cracking game that turned out to be with great credit due to all 30 players involved and also referee Clive Norling who's interpretation kept the game flowing from end to end in such a spectacular manner. We were very lucky to have had such a fine day too, which contributed to

Cover picture by courtesy of Western Mail & Echo

making it an afternoon of such glorious entertainment. Oh that we could have some more of such games and full marks to Pontypool for their contribution. It took our winning sequence up to 23 games and to find anything better than this we have to go back to the great all talented side of 1947-48 which was captained by the inimitable Haydn Tanner. During that season of 41 games played 39 were won and 2 lost. A win against Cardiff and District in the first game was followed by a defeat at Pontypool by 17-14. Then from September 13, 1947 to March 6, 1948, all 25 games played were won. The 28th was lost however, to (now this will raise a few eyebrows) Penarth away by 15-6. The remaining 13 games after that defeat were won. If we manage a win tonight to take us into our Cup semi-final another one there would see us equal that long established record besides putting us on the gravy train to the final. Hopefully then we can extend this winning sequence beyond 25 which will need a real trawl into passed records to find when, if ever, we have experienced a better run.

Some news now on re-arranged games. As I've already mentioned in a previous programme we will be playing at Bridgend on April 6 next. As far as our home game against Newport and away to Bristol are concerned, however, it looks as if both will have to go to the wall because there just isn't enough time to fit either in. The extension to the season is no good to us as we shall be leaving for South Africa on Monday, April 26th.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

The illustrious International Board met for three days last week, they talked but certainly failed to solve any of the many problems of law and the press conference held on the final day was an anti-climax to put it mildly.

Most of you will know that Wales, represented by Gwilym Treharne and Ken Harris wanted the penalty goal devalued to two points but were not unexpectedly unsuccessful. For many years the W.R.U. have similarly wished to have the Mark abolished with similar results.

There were a couple of small resolutions agreed which must be duly noted. Purely by coincidence I last wrote about John Scott and his end of the line-out ploy. Make the most of what's left of this season John. No way can you enjoy moving back to take the ball next term. That will be OUT.

The required number of players of each side to form a scrum has been increased from the now mandatory three to the front five excepting in Sevens. A mute point whether anything is to be gained by this. Time surely would have been better spent on solving the present tackle troubles which have certainly accumulated instead of being solved as this season has progressed.

What it all boiled down to was a major marking time non operation with all member countries agreeing to investigate the present problems.

One disappointing resolution to me was the abandonment of the laws re-write committee which has worked for six years under the chairmanship of Wales' Hermas Evans (W.R.U. President elect) to simplify the whole structure and composition of the holy book. From frustration mainly Hermas resigned from this position and it seems as though no-one else could be found to take the job on. It could seem that all is not well with the world's governing rugby body.

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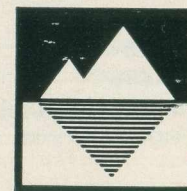
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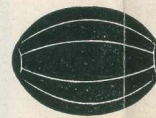
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2. L. O'BRIEN
3. I. EIDMAN
4. T. MOGRIDGE
5. K. EDWARDS
6. R. LAKIN
8. J. SCOTT (Captain)
7. O. GOLDING

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



Replacements

Referee: R. O. P. JONES (W.R.U.)

Today's match ball donated by GOLD MURGER, Guildhall Place, Cardiff.

Heriots F.P.

- J. STEVENSON 15.
- S. LANG 14.
- N. MARSHALL 13.
- G. KERR 12.
- P. HEWITT 11.
- K. YUILL 10.
- A. LAWSON (Captain) 9.
- G. McDONALD 1.
- K. MILNE 2.
- N. WEIR 3.
- D. LYNN 4.
- A. BOBIE 5.
- T. O'NEIL 6.
- G. MILLICAN 8.
- P. WHITELAW 7.



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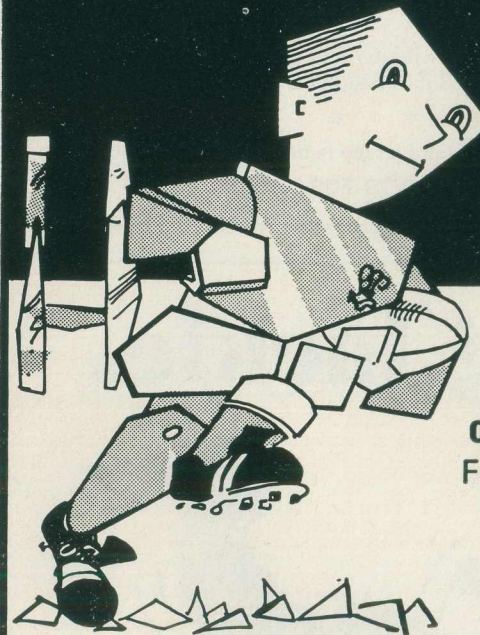
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FIRST XV FIXTURES

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. 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	15-10
Sat. 13	Pontypool	H	36-23
Fri. 19	Herlots F.P.	H
Sat. 27	Newbridge (Cup Semi-final) (at Newport)	A
Wed. 31	Swansea	A
APRIL			
Sat. 3	Bedford	A
Tue. 6	Bridgend	A
Sat. 10	Barbarians	H
Mon. 12	Harlequins	H
Sat. 17	Neath	A
Sat. 24	W.R.U. Cup Final		

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