



Cardiff v. Bristol

WEDNESDAY, 11st SEPTEMBER, 1985 KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Off we go again then into the 1985-86 season. Although the new campaign is already 11 days old it doesn't really seem to have arrived until we get that first home game under our belts. Hopefully, the place will still be intact, upright and all in working order after last night's Celtic encounter in the round ball game at neighbouring Ninian Park. Let's also hope the result gave Wales a passage into the World Cup.

Back to the oval ball game then and to a pristine looking Arms Park, particularly so the playing surface. Groundsman Albert Francis and his staff have done a great job during the close season. The other important happenings of the summer were the appointments of the Chairman and Captain. As you probably now know David Hayward has taken over as Chairman to add to his already long list of appointments held within the Club. David of course has the unique distinction of having captained the 1st XV, Rags and Extras team during the short time that that latter side was in being. So the Chairmanship adds to that long list and we earnestly hope he enjoys a successful and happy season.

To complete a top double Alan Phillips has been appointed as captain. This again fulfils a lifelong ambition and adds to his very well merited selection for both Wales and The British Lions. Alan has been on the Cardiff scene at senior level for some time now. He won his Rags cap in season 1973-74 and the following season he won his 1st XV cap. So he is now in his 13th season with the club and is really looking forward to the job of being at the helm. The Rags this year will be captained by back row forward Matthew Hadley. Matthew's talents have been envied by many first class clubs but his loyalty in remaining Blue and Black has now been justly rewarded. In speaking of appointments it's nice to see an ex-Cardiff player in the top administrative spot in Welsh Rugby in the person of Alun Thomas as President. We wish him well in his year of office and hope he has an enjoyable and successful appointment.

Our season has certainly started on the right note with three away wins. More pleasing is the sort of form our senior players seem to have achieved right from the outset. The now very famous firm of Holmes and Davies are now being regarded in the mould of Tanner and Davies, Morgan and Willis, John and Edwards and that can't be bad for their reputation can it. With Richie Griffiths deciding to throw in his lot with us amongst several other talented young backs, it all helps to compensate for Mark Ring's absence. The forward battle for places is also going to be as difficult as playing a game once selected. This holds so particularly in the back row, where we appear to have no end of talent.

Still enough of that, it's now on to tonight and what better a position would we want to open our home programme than our old friends from across the bridge. Cardiff and Bristol. What a magic store of great memories those three words can generate to those fortunate enought to have witnessed those games in the past. Season after season the standard and appealing nature of play seems incredibly to get better and better. Our last encounter at Bristol last September (we were prevented from staging our home fixture last February due to the icy weather) was an absolute cracker. The see-saw to-ing the fro-ing of play that went on was fit enough to give you heart failure. It was real end to end stuff and a great credit to the players whose skill and approach was absolutely first class. It was all the more satisfying to us that we came back over the bridge with a 30 points to 26 victory tucked under our belts. Oh, that all games could be of such a standard.

Bristol come today then in yet another attempt to score a victory on our soil. These have been very few and far between. 1972 was the last recorded victory on The Arms Park when they won by 15 points to 12. Prior to that they did it in 1930, 1928 and 1922 to record only four victories in Cardiff in a sequence of 160 games played since the series began way back in 1888. During these 160 games we have managed a best winning sequence of 18 whereas the West Country men have only ever managed 2. High scoring has also been a feature of the series and quite incredibly only on one occasion have no points been scored at all. This was in the 0-0 draw in March 1939. Their highest score in the series is 28 whilst we have had several in the 30's and a top win of 49 points.

They have had a good start to the current season having accounted for Cheltenham and Northampton in their opening games. They were certainly glad to see the back of last season after their 3rd round massacre, 43-4, by Leicester in the John Player Cup. After having beaten The Tigers to win the John Player Cup in 1983, the 1985 result shattered them and the remainder of the season became rather an anti-climax. So with a clean sheet start to this season they will be striving full ahead to make sure that doesn't happen again. Referee Clive Norling was very inpressed with their expertise in the new tackle law when he officiated in a pre-season friendly in which they were involved. Let's hope then that given the sort of weather we had in Wales last Saturday, rather than we experienced in Bangor, we will be treated to the sort of high entertainment rugby that we have been accustomed to when the teams meet. Welcome yet again Bristol may you enjoy your visit.

A common denominator of both clubs in the personality of G.V. (Geevers) Wynne Jones will be sadly missed due to his death in the summer. 'Geevers' was a magnificent raconteur and any story you could tell, he'd have come to top it. We all will miss this great personality.

Finally I'm sure you will all join with me in wishing National Ground manager Bill Hardiman a long and enjoyable retirement. He has always been a great help to the Cardiff Club and his world-wide renown is a credit to him. Thank you Bill, may your retirement be a long and happy one.

The Cardiff Rugby Club would like to express their appreciation to Ernst & Whinney Accountants for sponsorship of this evenings game. We hope they and their guest have an enjoyable time.

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Rugby Quiz - No. 1

The re-introduction of the knockout system into The Snelling Sevens saw us out in very quick time. Let's see what we know about 'The Snellings'

- 1. When was the competition first started?
- 2. Who has won the competition most times?
- 3. Has it been held anywhere but Cardiff and Newport?
- 4. Cardiff have the record for players winning the Bill Everson award. How many times and who are the players?
- 5. What was the highest scoring final?



KNOW THE LAWS

By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

THE NEW TACKLE LAW

This season a tackled player can do anything with the ball as long as it is IMMEDIATE. His only restriction is that once on the ground after a tackle he cannot hold onto the ball.

"A tackled player is permitted to pass or throw the ball, or push it along the ground provided he does so immediately, and is not in a forward direction."

After the tackle, both the tackled player and the tackler are 'out of the game' until they are back on their feet. If they stay on the ground they cannot play the ball or attempt to tackle any player who has picked up the ball.

Therefore players should realise how important it is to their team that they regain

their feet as quickly as possible after a tackle.

At the recent W.R.U. Coaches and Referees Conference held in Cardiff it was decided that if the ball was within 'close proximity' of the tackled players on the ground, then the next player to play the ball had to be standing on his feet. 'Close proximity' was defined as an arm's length from the players on the ground.

If the ball is more than an arm's length from the tackled players then other

players are allowed to fall on the ball to secure possession.

It will be very interesting to watch how this is refereed this season, for it is important that referees agree on a common interpretation so that all players will know exactly where they are with the new laws.

I am sure that the problem of consistency of interpretation will still be around this season.

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PAST PLAYERS CORNER

D. E. DANNY DAVIES

Danny Davies is now probably our oldest living player having achieved the

magnificent age of 90 last Friday.

Born in Cardiff he made his Blue and Black debut in April 1921 against Newport. After playing for Penarth during his 192 game career with the Club he played against the 1924 All Blacks and was appointed captain in season 1925-26. He aspired to a Welsh trial but failed to gain a coveted cap. A further disappointment was the fact that although he was originally selected for the 1924 British Lions tour to South Africa he could not go due to work commitments.

He was elected to the Cardiff Committee in 1927 and served in practically every administrative position in the Club. He also served on the WRU for many years and became its President in 1961-62. As if to compensate for his Lions disappointment in 1924 he became Assistant Manager of that famous touring side's visit to South Africa

in 1955.

After his very illustrious career he managed to write a book about Cardiff records

over its first hundred years which is a must for any statistical buffs.

At his very advanced age he now lives in an Old Peoples Home at Llanishen and considering he had a leg amputated last year, he is enjoying reasonable health and is enjoying life. He still manages a trip to the Club for a jar most Friday nights and is always willing to give anybody the benefit of his vast store of information in his phenomenal

Well done Dan, long may you continue to do so.

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CARDIFF SUPPORTERS CLUB

If so contact any of their officials in the Club Shop after any home game.



QUIDNUNC'S COLUMN

WELCOME BACK this new season to the column that allegedly tells you the details of the Cardiff players that either you do not wish to know or alternatively that they do not always wish you to know. Rather than repeat last season's sometimes slanderous and occasionally true gossip — Quidnunc, you may recall from your dictionary is a newsmonger, a muckspreader, a would-be knowall — we decided to let the lads tell you something about themselves and to show them how one of their most fanatical followers, Derek Stears, visualises them on a neighbouring page. And where better to start than with the new skipper. . . .

ALAN JOHN PHILLIPS

PERSONAL DETAILS

Birthplace: Pile (no joke necessary).

Birthday: August 21 (there is a reluctance to admit which year but I can reveal that is was 1955, though Alan's playing age and general mobility around the park gives lie to this.)

Height/Weight: 5ft 10in and (down to) 14 stone: statistics from previous international match programmes would apparently prove that Mr. Phillips has variously gained and lost between two and four inches in the past five years. And that's not even round the middle.

Schools: Pile Junior and Kenfig Comprehensive (where he was a centre).

Previous Clubs: Cornelly Youth.

Married: Yes.

Children: Two. Ben, who was four last week, and Natalie.

Employment: Family cleaning business: "You name it, we clean it: offices, windows, anything."

Car: Sierra.

Superstitions: None, touch wood.

Career: Captain of Welsh Youth 1972, played first game for Cardiff as replacement wing. First full cap against England, 1979. Fifteen in all. British Lion in South Africa 1980. Record Club try scorer as hooker.

Club Nickname: Thumper.

Hobbies: Do-it-yourself, gardening, fishing "when I have time."

PERSONAL FAVOURITES

Rugby Player: Terry Holmes, "because he's flipping hard, that's why. A complete player."

Referee: "If there is such a thing, Clive Norling, I suppose. He has a real feeling for the game. I respect him. Players don't muck around with Clive." Biggest Influence: "Back to the early days.
Alan John my uncle and my schoolteacher
Rex Chess and Ralph Evans of Maesteg."

Other Sport: Cricket.

Other Sportsman: Ian Botham. "He's fabulous, his own man."

Film: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest.

Actor: Richard Burton. "That marvellous, marvellous voice."

Actress: Candice Bergen. "That marvellous, marvellous...."

Comedian: Pablo Rees. Or the late Tommy Cooper. "They have a lot in common."

TV Programme: Miami Vice.

Pop Star: Paul Collins.

Holiday Resort: "I've only been away on rugby tours. Italy as a country — and I like South Africa."

Food: "Any Italian dish. I like the food, too. In Italian restaurants, preferably."

Drink: Draught Bass.

Politician: "No such thing. Don't trust any of them."

Rugby Ground: St. Helen's because "we always do well there." Abroad, Ellis Park, Johannesburg.

MEMORIES

Best: Too many: "you just remember the last good game." But, "beating Australia. And beating Pontypool in the semi-final at Newport last year."

Worst: Losing the final last year. "Though I don't remember it at all. I had a clump on the head and don't remember even scoring. First I saw of it was on TV." And being dropped by Wales: "I was told in front of 30-odd others in our own tea-rooms."

Players: Terry Holmes and Gerald Davies.

Ambition "To get back in the Welsh side, to win the cup again and to be happy and healthy with the family."

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- 12. A. DONOVAN
- 11. A. HADLEY
- 1.0. G. DAVIES
- 9. T. HOLMES J. WHITEFOOT
- A. PHILLIPS (Captain)
- I. EIDMAN
- H. STONE
- R. NORSTER
- O. GOLDING
- J. SCOTT
- 7. T. CROTHERS
- 16. S. CANNON
- 17. I. O'BRIEN

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- J. HORTON 10.
- R. HARDING 9. P. STIFF 1.
- 2. K. BOGIRA
- D. HICKEY 3.
- M. SKUSE 4.
- P. ADAMS 5.
- P. POLLEDRI (captain)
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Referee: Mr. D. O. HUGHES

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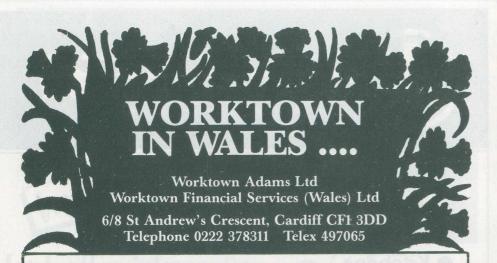
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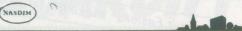
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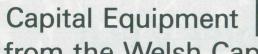
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FIRST XV FIXTURES										
	1985 SEPTEMBER Mon. 2 Wed. 4 Sat. 7 Wed. 11 Sat. 14	Cross Keys Glamorgan Wanderers Bangor Bristol Neath	A A H	DECEN Sat. Sat. Sat. Thur. Sat.	7 14 21 26 28	Swansea London Welsh W.R.U. Cup 2nd Round Pontypridd Bridgend	H H			
	Wed. 18 Sat. 21 Sat. 28	Penarth Coventry Aberavon	A H	1986 JANU, Wed. Sat.	ARY 1 4	Bath Moseley	H			
	OCTOBER Wed. 2 Sat. 5	Pontypridd Newport	A A	Sat. Sat. Sat.	11 18 25	Aberavon London Welsh W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round	A			
	Wed. 9 Sat. 12 Wed. 16 Sat. 19	Bridgend Fijis Pontypool Wasps	H H A H	FEBRU Sat. Sat. Wed.	8 22	Bristol W.R.U. Cup 4th Round South Glam. Institute	A			
	Wed. 23 Sat. 26 Wed. 30	Bath Harlequins Newbridge	A A H	MARC Wed. Sat. Sat.	H 5 8	Llanelli Pontypool Ebbw Vale	H H			
	NOVEMBER Sat. 2 Wed. 6	Leicester Oxford University	A H	Sat. Sat. Sat.	22 29	Newport (S-Final Sch.) Barbarians	H			
	Fri. 8 Sat. 16 Sat. 23 Wed. 27 Sat. 30	Ebbw Vale W.R.U. Cup 1st Round Llanelli Maesteg South Wales Police	A H H	Sat. Sat. Sat. Sat. Sat.	5 12 19 26	Bedford Swansea Neath W.R.U. Cup Final	H A A			

ATHLETIC XV FIXTURES

1985 SEPTEMBER			Sat. Sat.	21 28	Neath Athletic Bridgend Sports	A H	
Wed. 4 Sat. 7 Wed. 11	Bedwas Neath Athletic Bristol United	H	1986 JANUARY				
Sat. 14 Wed. 18	Bath United Llandaff	A A H	Sat. Sat. Sat.	4 11 25	Moseley United Bridgend Sports, Llanharen	H A	
Sat. 21 Wed. 25 Sat. 28	Coventry Extras Old Illtydians Pontypool United	H A		UARY 8	Bristol United	Н	
OCTOBER			Sat. Wed.	15 19	Barry Pontypool United	A	
Wed. 2 Sat. 5 Wed. 16	Cardiff & District Newport United	H H H	Sat. Fri.	22 28	St. Peters Bryncoch	H	
Sat. 19	Pontypool Athletic Rumney	A	MARCH				
Wed. 23 Wed. 30	Pyle Pontypridd Athletic	H	Wed. Sat.	5 8	Abercynon Pontypool Athletic	A	
NOVEMBER			Sat. Wed.	15 19	Ebbw Vale Athletic Pontypridd Athletic	H	
Sat. 2	Leicester Extras	H	Sat.	22	Newport United	A	
Wed. 6 Fri. 8	Newport Saracens Ebbw Vale Athletic	A	Wed.	26	Maesteg Celtic	A	
Sat. 16	Caerleon	A	APRII				
Wed. 23	Abercarn	H	Sat.	5	Blackwood Bedwas	A	
Sat. 30 DECEMBER	Berry Hill	A	Wed. Sat.	9	Swansea Athletic	H	
Sat. 7	Swansea Athletic	A	Tues. Sat. Wed.	15 19 30	Resolven Talywain Cardiff H.S.O.B.	A H	

1973 - when Llanelli beat Newbridge 52-6 at Cardiff.

Six, Barry John 1969, John Davies 1972, Stuart Lane 1975, Chris Camilleri 1976, Gwynfor Williams 1981 Newport 10, Cardiff 9, Bridgend 5, Llanelli 4, Neath 2, Ebbw Vale and Swansea 1. Yes, Swansea in 1956, 1957, 1962 and 1965.

1954. This year's tournament was the 32nd.

Rugby Quiz No. 1 - Answers

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