



Cardiff v. Bristol

WEDNESDAY, 18th FEBRUARY, 1987 KICK-OFF 7.15 p.m.

Cardiff v Bristol at The Arms Park. The very sentence has a magic ring about it in terms of rugby parlance. The pity of the situation however, is the fact that we have had to push it forward from last Saturday due to the West Countrymen's involvement in the fourth round of the John Player Cup. At one time both our own and the English Cup dates used to coincide. Alas however, for some reason or another they are now out of synchronisation and it has caused quite an upset to half a dozen or so Anglo-Welsh fixtures.

Furthermore, perhaps it's only the tip of the iceberg we can see at the moment because it is almost certain that The R.F.U.'s Proposed Club Competition Structure is to become a reality. Starting as soon as September 1987, when the new proposed National Division 3 v the North and South Area Leagues will commence. The big guns of English Rugby i.e. those at present in the John Smith Merit Tables A and B will be redesignated National Divisions 1 and 2 and they will commence operation in September 1989. As written in the proposals in order to make the structure fair and reasonable, each club within a League will play all the others and it is hoped that eleven Saturday's in the season will eventually be earmarked for the specific purpose of playing league fixtures. Also those eleven Saturday's should steer clear of The John Player rounds and the Divisional and County Championship games. With International Saturday's thrown in, English clubs are going to be pushed to fit in journeys to the Principality convenient to the Welsh clubs. It will be a right old scramble to establish any sort of fixture pattern, so once more the poor old fixture secretaries will again be scratching at heads which have already been very nearly torn to pieces, so the best of luck to them.

Although we are now confined to one game a year with all our English opponents except Bristol, let's hope we can find some answer to this new problem which will give us a status quo situation. Our own association with Bristol goes back to their foundation when the Bristol side as it's known today, came to play Cardiff in October 1888 in it's first ever fixture. We then played them to celebrate the opening of their present Memorial Ground in September 1921. Then, we again played a celebration game to mark the 25th anniversary of the opening of the ground in October 1946. At present the Bristol Club are in the process of dotting the i's and crossing the t's of their final plans to celebrate their centenary during next season 1987-88. Furthermore the Bristol Club have kindly asked us to repeat the process of their foundation by launching them into their second centenary. This we are very happy and honoured to do, so next season's games takes place on Saturday September 5th. In speaking of their centenary celebrations, the West Countrymen had planned that two of our great stalwarts, Danny Davis and G. V. Wynne (Jeevers) Jones would have featured in order to portray the strong links that exist between our clubs. Alas neither Danny or Jeevers lived to see the occasion but the Bristol Club held them both in high esteem.

And so to tonight. Bristol of present are really coming on strong. Last Saturday they disposed of Richmond away in the fourth round of the John Player Cup by 18 points to 3. They now look forward to a home advantage quarter final tie on the same day that we take on Newport in The Schweppes Cup. Just prior to that Cup win they also had a very good victory over old rivals Gloucester. Coach Mike Rafter, a great back row technician in his own playing days, must therefore be more than pleased the

way his side are reaching a peak just at the right time. In full back John Webb they appear to have found a real match winner but unfortunately he is not included in their line up this evening.

The history of the series leaves us in no doubt as to the excellent quality of the encounters between us. Game after game prove feasts of rugby and a bonanza of points. The match at Bristol earlier this season was no exception when after another fine game they ran out very worthy winners by 27 points to 14. This put an end to a run of five consecutive victories by us and put the West Countrymen in line for a rare double. I say rare because Bristol have only won in Cardiff on four occasions in a total of 80 visits. Their last win in Cardiff was in February 1972 and they last achieved the double as far back as season 1930-31. So a win here tonight would really give Mike Rafter and captain Nigel Pomphrey cause to think that the side was really firing on all cylinders just at the right time. For the record the series statistics at the moment stand at played 161, with 123 wins to us, 30 to Bristol and 8 drawn games. Points wise we have scored 2300 to Bristols 1044.

To Bristol then, welcome again to The Arms Park and what better wishes could we have for you than that you begin your centenary celebrations as the holders of the John Player Cup. Good luck to you.

Now nearly finally, wasn't it great to hear the crowd singing to Les Spence last Saturday on his 80th birthday. What a great gesture for a great personality.

And finally, finally isn't it nice to see a bit of humour even in the more unseemly side of the game. I refer to the recent local incident when a retaliatory punch from a small outside half floored the original miscreant to such an extent that he had to be stretchered off. The retaliatorist was sent off by the referee who then ran after the stretcher and pronounced the same verdict on its prostrate occupant. Great isn't it, just the stuff that 'The Art of Course Rugby' is all about

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MATCHES RECALLED

J.B.G. THOMAS continues his season's series of Matches Recalled by spotlighting Bristol's first win in Cardiff . . .

Taffsiders Roasted

January 7, 1922: CARDIFF 3 points BRISTOL 12 points

WHEN CARDIFF lost for the first time to Bristol at The Arms Park in 1922 the team was given a real roasting by 'Observer', the rugby writer of the Western Mail. He did not spare the players or selectors and kept calling the team the 'Taffsiders', a title that has never been used during my association with Welsh rugby.

Matches were first played at Cardiff against Bristol in 1888 and the record without defeat was closely guarded, while Cardiff had lost only four times at Bristol. This was changed in

January 1922 by Bristol's historical and deserved victory.

It was much to their credit as they had several players on duty at Twickenham for the England trial match. Cardiff lacked a few regular players but no one expected them to play as badly as they did and suffer the shock of defeat. The truth is that on the day Cardiff never looked like winning.

The 'Western Mail' critic wrote that Cardiff played well below form, "It was the worst exhibition since the War!" The only players who appear to have done themselves justice were Dr. Tom Wallace at full-back, Clem Lewis at outside-half, and Willie Cornish (brother to

Arthur) and Phil Rowlands in the pack.

'Observer' said there was, "a cry for new blood in the Cardiff ranks," although the club had already beaten Bridgend, Pontypool and Penarth in a long season of 49 matches that included fixtures against Treorchy and Mountain Ash, as well as the Glamorgan League. The match against Newport on April 1st was abandoned through snow and replayed on May 1st.

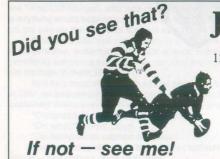
For Bristol, Reg Pickles at full-back was outstanding and counter-attacked cleverly, proving that an attacking player in his position is nothing new. Cardiff's main weaknesses were bad tackling and poor passing. Behind the scrum they lacked cohesion and would have been in great trouble but for the resolute defence of Tom Wallace.

Bristol took the lead after five minutes when Wring dropped a smart goal which proved the only score of the first half — worth four points then. Cardiff pressed hard in the second half, and when Dean raced up to tackle two Bristol defenders the ball went loose. Willie Cornish was up to gather and scored in the corner but the conversion attempt failed.

Then Bristol scored their first try. Spear dashed clear and punted over the head of Wallace and got to the ball as it rolled over the line for a try. The kick failed. Now they were running and passing 'brilliantly' and Cardiff were hard pressed in defence.

Spear raced clear again and when finally challenged sent the ball inside to Chantrill who ran over unopposed. Pickles completed a fine afternoon's display with a splendid conversion.

As if to prove their superiority, this win meant Bristol had achieved their first double over Cardiff, and they returned home full of joy. The Arms Park bogy had been overcome.



J. Warren Hailes

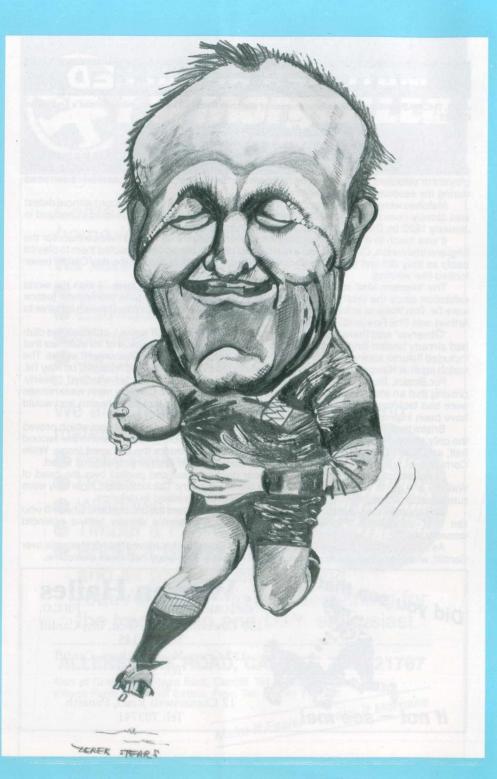
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QUIDNUNC'S COLUMN

WHEN, on that fateful Saturday of March 20 in 1982, Scotland took Wales apart to the sad, if remarkable, tune of 34 points to 18 at the National Stadium, there was one Welshman with a relieved smile on his face. For Lloyd Hugh Williams, an enormous weight was lifted from the shoulders. The unfortunate Lloyd had, 20 years before and 25 years ago this month, captained the only Welsh side to have been beaten in Cardiff by the Scots between 1939 and 1980. "And the newspapers never let anyone forget it," he recalls ruefully. "Every time the Scots came to Wales, they would print a photograph of me as the last losing skipper. Gareth Davies, who was captain in 1982, did not have the same problem: Scotland won again two years later"

The subject of this evening's symposium, however, should not be remembered merely for that. He could, indeed, have found a place in the history books as the only Cardiff player to have killed one of his colleagues. A little horseplay on tour in a Cornish hotel room saw our hero push C. D. Williams unceremoniously through a bedroom window and then hold on to him by the coat lapels in space and one floor up. C. D. was duly hauled back in — though certain team-mates believe to this day that Lloyd should have let go. Others are more cynical: "He'd only have dropped on his head with no damage." they claim somewhat uncharitably. C. D. himself clearly forgave his tormentor. He later made Lloyd Williams his vice-captain.

Younger readers may not appreciate fully the contribution made by Lloyd Williams to the Cardiff Rugby Football Club. Having first played for Cardiff schoolboys under 15 at the age of 12 — and remaining in the side for three years — he was in the late 1940s in the first ever Cardiff club youth side when the W.R.U. asked clubs to organise teams at a 'junior' level. He made his first 'senior' appearance in season 1952-53, was awarded his Rags cap in 1953-54, his Cardiff cap in 1956-57 and went on in all to make 310 first team appearances before hanging up his boots in 1964.

Forgive me if I delve deeper into the statistics. Lloyd Williams captained the club in two seasons between 1960 and 1962 and has been a committee man since 1965, including the chairmanship in 1973-74.

And he also played as scrum-half for Wales thirteen times. One or two of those matches have particular interest — quite apart from that Scottish defeat. In March 1958, when Wales beat Ireland in Dublin, Lloyd was only one of six Cardiff players in the side, the others being Alun Priday (gaining his first cap), Howard Nicholls (also his first cap), Cliff Morgan, J. D. Evans and W. R. Evans. Yet, the following year, Lloyd was the lone Cardiff player to represent Wales in the home international championships.

There was, of course, a Williams tradition to follow: brother Bleddyn had played for his country with tremendous distinction. But there was also a Williams tradition in the Cardiff club—and I make no apologies for referring to it again for the younger element. Although by season 1961-62, Bleddyn had retired, four of the Taffs Well family brothers played in the same First XV on four occasions—Tony, Cenydd, Elwyn and Lloyd. This has to be a record at senior level.

In those early Taffs Well days, you would scarcely have recognised the tall, smooth and amiable Llold that you meet today. He was nicknamed Scruff — and deserved the soubriquet. Rarely clean, he was a by-word at school — and in the family — for his untidiness. Even later, he took the view that the best way to clean shoes was to rub them on the trouser legs. The untidiness did not show on the field.

Nor, presumably, did it show in the R.A.F., for whom Lloyd played during national service, reaching the exalted rank of AC1. It was during this service that he learned a harsh lesson of rugby life. After one particular R.A.F. game — such worthies as Alun Priday, Gwyn Rowlands and Rhys Williams were in the same side — he was bellowed at by the C.O. "Williams." "Sir." "What happened to you in the game? Did you have a meal before it?" "Yes, sir." "You don't eat again before a match." "No, sir."

And Lloyd never did. Even as a seasoned international, he would never eat between an early breakfast and the game itself. "I felt desperately ill before my first international at Murrayfield in 1957," he tells friends, "but Rees Stephens (who was playing in his 28th international) told me he felt the same and that re-assured me." And Cliff Morgan, who was playing outside Lloyd to make a Cardiff half-back partnership, warned that everything would happen so fast that he would scarcely know he'd been on the field. And it did. "I seemed to be on my way up the tunnel at the end as soon as the game had started." recalls Lloyd.

Stories about Lloyd are not easy to come by. A quiet person by rugby standards, he works as a company representative, is married to Lyn and spends much time encouraging nine-year-old daughter Rachael in her promising swimming activities — or relaxing and trying to master the game of golf (without real success) from his caravan in West Wales.

And he's modest. So much so that when he answered the door to brother Bleddyn on that March evening in 1961, he assumed that he had come with tickets for the French match in Paris. After all, Onllwyn Brace had captained Wales from the No. 9 position in the previous international against Ireland.

"Congratulations," said Bleddyn simply.

"On what?" asked Llovd.

"On being made captain of Wales."

The fairy story, alas, ends there. Wales lost in France despite tries from Pask and Bebb. But he was a good player — and helluva good club man.

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Rugby Quiz - No. 19

Let's have a look at the Cardiff/Bristol series this evening.

- 1. John Pullin won 42 caps for England. How many players have won more?
- 2. In the late 1950's early 60's we played a series of five floodlit games against Bristol. What was the record of the series?
- 3. Why were our home games in that series rather unusual?
- **4.** Alan Morley is Bristol's world record try scoring wing. How many times did he play for England?
- 5. Have Bristol ever won The John Player Cup?

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- C. NORMAN
- R. CARDUS
- 12. D. WILLIAMS
- 11. A. HADLEY
- 10. G. JOHN
- 9. C. HUTCHINGS
- J. WHITEFOOT
- 2. A. PHILLIPS (Captain)
- S. BLACKMORE
- 4. M. PARRY
- 5. H. STONE
- O. GOLDING
- 8. J. SCOTT
- 7. G. ROBERTS
- 16. N. O'BRIEN
- 17. I. GREENSLADE

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

Forwards



Replacements Referee: Mr. KEN PARFITT

Bristol

D. THOMAS H. DUGGAN B. R. KNIBBS J. WATSON D. D. WOODMAN E. G. THOMAS F. P. JEFFERY G. G. PHILLIPS K. BOGIRA D. HICKEY J. N. POMFREY (Capt.) M. SKUSE

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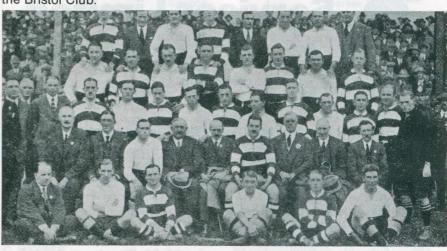
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PAST PLAYERS CORNER

Now here's a great shot out of the archives to show our strong links with the Bristol Club.



The follow-on concerning the Turnbull brothers will appear in the next programme.

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Rugby Quiz No. 19 - Answers

- 1. Only one, Tony Neary with 43.
- 2. Played 5. Bristol won, 3 Cardiff 1, with 1 drawn.
- 3. They were played under floodlights at Ninian Park.
- 5. Yes, in 1983 when they beat Liecester 28-22. They have also been beaten finalists on a further two occasions.

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STATISTICAL CARDIFF

			ason			Career		
Minter Firms: II	App.	Tr.	Goals	Pts.	App.	Tr.	Goals	Pts
G. JOHN	23	3	65	172	42	5	93	251
G. CORDLE	23	17		68	96(1)	73	OVET	292
M. RING	21	13	3	59	128	62	72	421
A. HADLEY	27	14	Cinco	56	158	99	SHO	396
M. RAYER	28	3	16	52	59(1)	11	16	84
D. EVANS	8	1	16	41	33(1)	6	52	148
G. ROBERTS	24	10	Single S	40	75	24	SELECTION OF	96
G. DAVIES	10	7	his b	28	10	7	d beou	28
R. CARDUS	17	7		28	17	7	Auton	28
C. NORMAN	4(1)	6	_	24	4(1)	6	_	24
T. CROTHERS	18	5	_	20	90(1)	23	-	92
A. DONOVAN	24	4	_	16	119	17	TENTA IN	68
A. PHILLIPS	18	4	_	16	378	141	<u> </u>	564
R. LAKIN	22	4		16	244(3)	59	-	236
C. WEBBER	6	1	4	13	90(7)	17	103	334
N. O'BRIEN	11(2)	3		12	37(11)	12		48
P. RING	4	3		12	4	3	The same	12
J. SCOTT	13	2	-	8	230(2)	35		140
G. PRITCHARD	9(5)	2		8	9(5)	2		8
R. NORSTER	19	1	-	4	230	13	-	52
J. SOUTO	11(2)	1	o el sente	4	41(10)	4	_	16
M. PARRY	19	1	-	4	19	1	_	4
I. EIDMAN	9	1	_	4	199	3		12
K. EDWARDS	11	1		4	150	13		52
D. WRIGHT	4	1	_	4	5(1)	1	_	4
H. STONE	7	1	112/11	4	85(1)	11		44
S. BLACKMORE	17	1	B-88	4	54	2	W -	8
N. HUMPHREYS	2	1	7-64	4	7(1)	4	_	16
J. BURNELL	2	1	NE SE	4	2	1	_	4
J. HOWELLS	1	-	2	4	4(2)	3	2	16
J. WHITEFOOT	22	-	_		230	7	_	28
C. COLLINS	15	_	ALL CONTRACTOR	V LITTE	62(2)	1		4
P. CRANE	8	0-	-	N-0	_ 13	_	_	
O. GOLDING	7	_		-	144(2)	47	_	168
D. GIBBON	6(2)	_	_	_	7(3)	with the same	_	

Also played: 5 - T. Charles; 4 - I. Greenslade; 3 - M. Rowley, C. Jones; 2 - S. Cannon, R. Bilton, M. Hadley(+1); 1-D. Conway, A. Mogridge, R. Rees, C. Hutchings.

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By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

QUESTION: The ball is put into a scrummage and the side who

lose the ball detach their five rear players while the ball is in the scrum. Is the scrummage over?

ANSWER: No. The requirement is for five players to form a

scrummage. Once the ball has been struck that requirement has been satisfied but the front rows

must continue to bind until the ball emerges.

QUESTION: A player who has been ankle tapped and brought to

ground but not held, releases the ball. May he tackle

a player who picks up the ball?

ANSWER: Yes, he has not been tackled. If he releases the ball

he must get to his feet before he again plays it.

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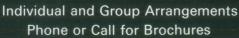
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Cardiff Rugby Club 1986-87

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Mon.	1	St. Peters	A 27-12	Sat.	27	Bridgend	H !	9-9
Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Sat. Wed.	3 6 10 13 20 24	Glamorgan Wanderers East District Bristol Neath Coventry Pontypridd	H 22-13 H 30-9 A 14-27 A 7-24 H 22-4 A 39-12	1987 JANU. Thur. Sat. Sat. Fri.	ARY 1 3 10 16	Bath Moseley Aberavon City of Derry	H 3	2-21 8-13 0-12 Post.
Sat.	27	Aberavon	A 22-26	Sat.	24	Llanharan (Cup)	H 1	8-14
OCTO		Name of the last o	H 28-21	Sat.	31	Llanelli	A F	Post.
Sat. Wed.	4 8	Newport Bridgend	A 18-29	FEBR		1,455 Service faciliti	115	
Sat.	11	Northampton	H 35-4	Wed. Sat.	14	Maesteg Sale		4-30 4-14
Sat. Wed.	18 22	Wasps Pontypool	A 16-25 H 17-11	Wed.	18	Bristol		
Sat.	25	Harlequins	H 26-19	Sat.	21	Ebbw Vale		
Wed.	29	Bath	A 9-28	Sat.	28	Newport (Cup)		
NOVE	MBER			MARC				
Sat.	1	Leicester	H 16-10	Fri.	6	London Welsh		
Wed.	5	Oxford University	H 35-24	Sat.	14	Pontypool		
Sat.	8	Ebbw Vale	A 30-24	Wed.	18	Penarth		
Sat.	15	Treorchy (Cup)	A 14-7	Sat.	28	Newport (S.F. W.R.U. Cup)	Α	
Sat.	22	Llanelli	H 16-16	APRIL				
Wed.	26	Newbridge	A 18-15	Wed.	1	S. Glam. Institute	H	
Sat.	29	Bangor (N.I.)	H 21-14	Sat.	4	Bedford		
DECE	MBER			Sat.	11	Swansea	H	
Sat.	10	Swansea	A 14-19	Sat.	18	Barbarians	H	
Sat.	13	London Welsh	A 12-25	Sat.	25	Neath	H	

ATHLETIC XV FIXTURES

1986 SEPTE	MBER				DECE Sat.	MBER 6	Swansea Athletic	Н	20-11
Wed.	3	Glamorgan Wanderers II		35-20	Wed.	10	Cardiff & District		22-7
Sat.	6	Kidwelly		36-16 23-27	Sat.	13	Risca Neath Athletic	H	7-11 10-25
Wed. Sat.	10	Bristol United Maesteg Celtic		20-16	Sat.	27	Bridgend Sports		17-12
Wed.	17	Garndiffaith		25-9	1987				
Sat.	20	Coventry Extras	A		JANU	ARY			
Wed. Sat.	24 27	Old Illtydians Abercynon		18-9 35-20	Sat.	3	Moseley United	A	
Sat.	21	Abercynon	- 11	00-20	Sat.	10	Blackwood Bath United	A	
ОСТО				40.00	Sat.	31	Pontypool United	H	
Sat. Wed.	4	Newport United Bridgend Sports		43-30 28-29	FEBR	UARY			
Sat.	11	Neath Athletic	A		Sat.	7	Bridgend Ravens	Н	
Wed.	15	Resolven			Wed.	11	Pencoed	H	13-6
Sat. Wed.	18	St. Peters Pontypool Athletic	H		Sat.	14	Bristol United Ebbw Vale Athletic		0-10
Sat.	25	Tondu	A		MARC		EDDW Valo / laneur	-1200	
Wed.	29	Pyle	A	12-23	Wed.	11	Pontypridd Athletic	Н	
NOVE	MBER				Sat.	14	Pontypool Athletic		
Sat.	1	Leicester Extras	A	4-27	Tue. Wed.	17	Abercynon Coltic		
Wed.	5	Newport Saracens	A		Sat.	25 28	Maesteg Celtic Newport United		
Sat. Wed.	8	Ebbw Vale Athletic Pontypridd Athletic	H		APRIL				
Sat.	15	Pontypool United	A		Sat.	4	Caerleon	Н	
Wed.	19	Bedwas	H		Wed.	8	Bedwas		
Sat.	22	Bridgend Ravens	A		Sat. Wed.	11	Swansea Athletic Cardiff H.S.O.B.		
Wed. Sat.	26 29	Berry Hill Abercarn	H		Mon.	20	Blackwood		
out.	20	ADDIOMILI							

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