



CARDIFF ARMS PARK

CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB

SEASON 1972 - 1973

CARDIFF

v

BARBARIANS

SATURDAY, 21st APRIL, 1973

KICK OFF 3 P.M.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

PRICE 5 PENCE

Cardiff v. Barbarians

The sun is shining and has been for days, it looks as though it will last until Saturday and bring us what is known in the Club as Barbarians weather. This is no modern phenomena. Since 1890, the sun has blessed this fixture on the majority of the 88 times the game has been played. Even the official history of the Barbarians mentions the fact. "Even in the days when the Cardiff Arms Park stood for mud and misery so far as International teams were concerned, the weather also did its share in keeping the sequence of games unbroken." (ie Cardiff v. Barbarians).

Because of the ease of communications across the world, and the subsequent increased frequency of hours at club, country and British Lions level, the validity and desirability of separate Barbarians tours overseas became questioned. Then, after some heavy defeats in the U.K. against established Club combinations, and a couple against highly organised and co-ordinated Touring Sides, there was some head-shaking amongst the sages that sit and ponder such things, as they pronounced that never again could a scratch combination hope to succeed against powerful well-coached club sides. They sounded what seemed to me to be, the death knell of this great and famous Touring Club, that means as much to Cardiff at Easter as Santa does to kids at Christmas. Their point of view was substantiated by that spectacular victory of Cardiff last Easter when we won 43 pts - 10 pts. against a side full of International players.

However, the pessimists had reckoned without the fact even a loose combination of highly talented players, playing a brand of rugby that gives full scope to their skills can overcome the most unyielding and unimaginative of sides. Thus we saw the miracle of the Barbarians game against the All Blacks, which, widely acclaimed as the greatest game of our time put the Barbarians image higher than it ever has been and destroyed any mutterings about their future.

It only remains for the Barbarians to continue to put into practice the obvious truisms of that famous victory for us to be regaled by the sight of all that is best in Rugby. We know that we are better when we run the ball, so it should be some game.

Incidentally to those whose joy lies in the fascination of facts and figures. We have played the Barbarians 88 times winning 56 and losing 28.

MERVYN JOHN

Today we bring a belated profile of this years vice Captain Mervyn John. Mervyn who lives in Porthcawl, with his wife and son, hails originally from the Aber Valley rugby hotbed of Senghenydd.

After leaving Caerphilly Grammar School, he qualified in History at Cardiff University, he played Rugby for both these august educational institutions and joined Cardiff from Senghenydd under Howard Norris's captaincy in 1967. His non-stop foraging and tackling soon won him acclaim and since those earlier days he has become an indispensable part of the Cardiff team.

Let no-one be fooled by Mervyn's quiet, even demure personality. When he does speak, it is to make an intelligent and well-considered commentary on a range of subjects, primarily Rugby Football, and often with a wicked shaft of wit spicing his remarks. It would be a brave con-man who would sit opposite this Finance Co. manager and try some fraudulent frolics.

Probably due to his size, 6 foot and weighing 13 stone 9lb, he has never quite made the dizzy heights of the International Scene, but his guzz and anticipation has made him indispensable on the Cardiff Scene. A great Club-man who is very contemptuous of the dilettantes that occasionally plague every side. Mervyn has the respect of the players on and off the field. A cynic might remark that his hands aren't all that good. I've seen the odd pass go astray, but it could also mean that I've never seen him throw a punch.

Mervyn has played for the British Banks, and has qualified for his Glamorgan County Cap, and quotes last years Cardiff Barbarians match as the greatest he has played in. I am not too sure of the sincerity of his comments when he quotes Lyn Baxter being sent off in Rhodesia as the funniest thing that happened during a game he played in, nor does his ambitions to play for Cardiff as long as Howard Norris ring completely true. Although personally speaking I would love to see it. He feels the top honours will always elude him — Barbarians please note.

CARDIFF ATHLETIC

The Rags have recently completed their annual Tour to Pembrokeshire, where the results on and off the field were extraordinary. They beat Milford Haven 62-15 and St. Davids 74-12pts. The record so far reads: P 37 W 32 L 5 For 1119 Against 385. (You've still got a bit to go lads.)

CARDIFF JUNIORS

Another successful season under the wing of Keith Rowlands and John Davies will terminate with a tour of Belgium at Easter, versus Brussels Combined High Schools and a Belgium Youth XV. They have had three lads capped this season. Wayne Peckham (Flank), Tony De Bono (Wing) and Gordon Pritchard (Centre).

The total record reads P 20 W 16 D 0 L 4 For 643 Against 130 an average match score of 32 for, 6 against.

D.J.H.

Know the Laws

by FRED CROSTER

It seems incredible that we are almost at the end of another season. Not just another season but one which has brought excitement, success and disappointment, more than the normal. Much of all that has been written elsewhere. What the end of the season does bring as far as these notes are concerned is our bi-annual quiz on the Laws. I was so pleased over the Christmas period to be able to buy those pints for members who came up with all correct answers.

Have a go again. The pint is still on offer.

1. Two experimental laws which have been in use this season and last were, at the last International Board meeting, confirmed and now written into the Laws. Can you say what they are?
2. Can you name the main decisions made at the same meeting regarding line-outs to now come into operation?
3. Do you know the first teams who will be involved in the use of these changes?
4. A defending player carries the ball over his goal line, and kicks to touch; the kick is charged down by an attacking player. The defender then touches down for a minor. What should the referee's decision be?
5. An attacking player knocks-on in the field of play, the ball touches a defender, then goes into in-goal to be then grounded by that defender. What decision should be given?
6. In a scrummage, ruck or maul, play moves and the ball is on or over the goal line. What affect would this have upon that scrum, ruck or maul?
7. What is the decision if the ball in a player's possession or a player carrying it touches the referee in in-goal?
8. The ball is kicked by an attacker, touches the goal post, rebounds, is then caught by a defender in his in-goal, who then claims a 'Mark'. Would this be allowed?
9. In order to prevent an attacking player from receiving a pass, an opponent intercepts by kicking the ball on. What should the referee's decision be?
10. There is a new law coming into operation relating to scrum halves. What is it? Not too difficult are they? The answers in Monday's programme. Who'll be the first to claim a pint?

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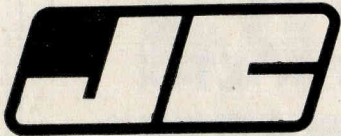
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12. K. POOLE
11. P. L. JONES
10. K. JAMES
9. Gareth EDWARDS
1. R. BEARD
2. G. DAVIES
3. G. WALLACE (Capt.)
4. I. ROBINSON
5. L. BAXTER
6. R. LANE
8. C. SMITH
7. M. JOHN

Referee: J. C. KELLEHER (Llantwit Major)

Full Back

Right Wing

Right Centre

Left Centre

Left Wing

Outside Half

Inside Half

Forwards

Barbarians

- R. A. CODD (Rosslyn Park) 15.
- D. GILL (Gala) 14.
- P. S. PREECE (Coventry) 13.
- G. W. EVANS (Coventry) 12.
- D. SHEDDEN (West of Scotland) 11.
- M. P. COOPER (Moseley) 10.
- S. J. SMITH (Sale) 9.
- G. SHAW (Neath) 1.
- J. D. GRAY (Coventry) 2.
- R. L. CHALLIS (London Scottish) 3.
- M. G. MOLLOY (London Irish) 4.
- R. M. UTTLEY (Gosforth) 5.
- T. P. DAVID (Llanelli) 6.
- J. F. SLATTERY (Blackrock Coll.) 7.
- A. G. RIPLEY (Rosslyn Park) 8.



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FIRST XV FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Venue	Results
1972			
Sept. 2	La Rochelle	.. H	26-20
6	Ebbw Vale	.. A	12-10
9	Blackheath	.. A	20-6
13	Bristol	.. H	13-7
16	Coventry	.. H	18-19
20	Pontypool	.. A	19-7
23	Neath	.. H	6-14
27	Bridgend	.. A	6-6
30	Aberavon	.. A	16-3
Oct. 4	Penarth	.. A	26-4
7	Newport	.. A	18-14
11	Cdf. Col/Education	H	32-12
14	Northampton	.. A	4-15
18	Ebbw Vale	.. H	26-0
21	Cambridge Univ.	A	36-10
28	Pontypool	.. H	37-10
Nov. 4	New Zealand	.. H	4-20
8	Newport	.. H	24-3
11	Auvergne	A	0-36
18	Wasps	.. H	26-6
22	Oxford	.. H	C
25	Llanelli	.. H	18-12
Dec. 1	Swansea	.. A	C

6	Gloucester	.. H	C
9	Harlequins	.. A	47-8
16	London Welsh	.. A	13-20
23	Maesteg	.. H	77-9
26	Pontypridd	.. H	29-0
27	Watsonians	.. H	30-4
30	Leicester	.. A	29-13
Jan. 13	Coventry	.. A	6-13
19	London Welsh	.. H	27-6
26	Aberavon	.. H	9-3
Feb. 9	Bristol	.. A	10-9
17	Newport	.. H	19-10
23	Llanelli	.. A	C
Mar. 3	Newport	.. A	6-7
9	Bective Rangers	.. H	31-8
17	Swansea	.. H	12-8
28	Bridgend	.. H	7-9
31	Newbridge	.. A	23-7
Apr. 7	Gloucester	.. A	3-3
14	Neath	.. A	21-7
21	Barbarians	.. H
23	Harlequins	.. H
28	W. R. U. Cup Final	H
29	La Rochelle	.. A
30	Cognac	.. A
May 5	Snelling Sevens	.. H

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