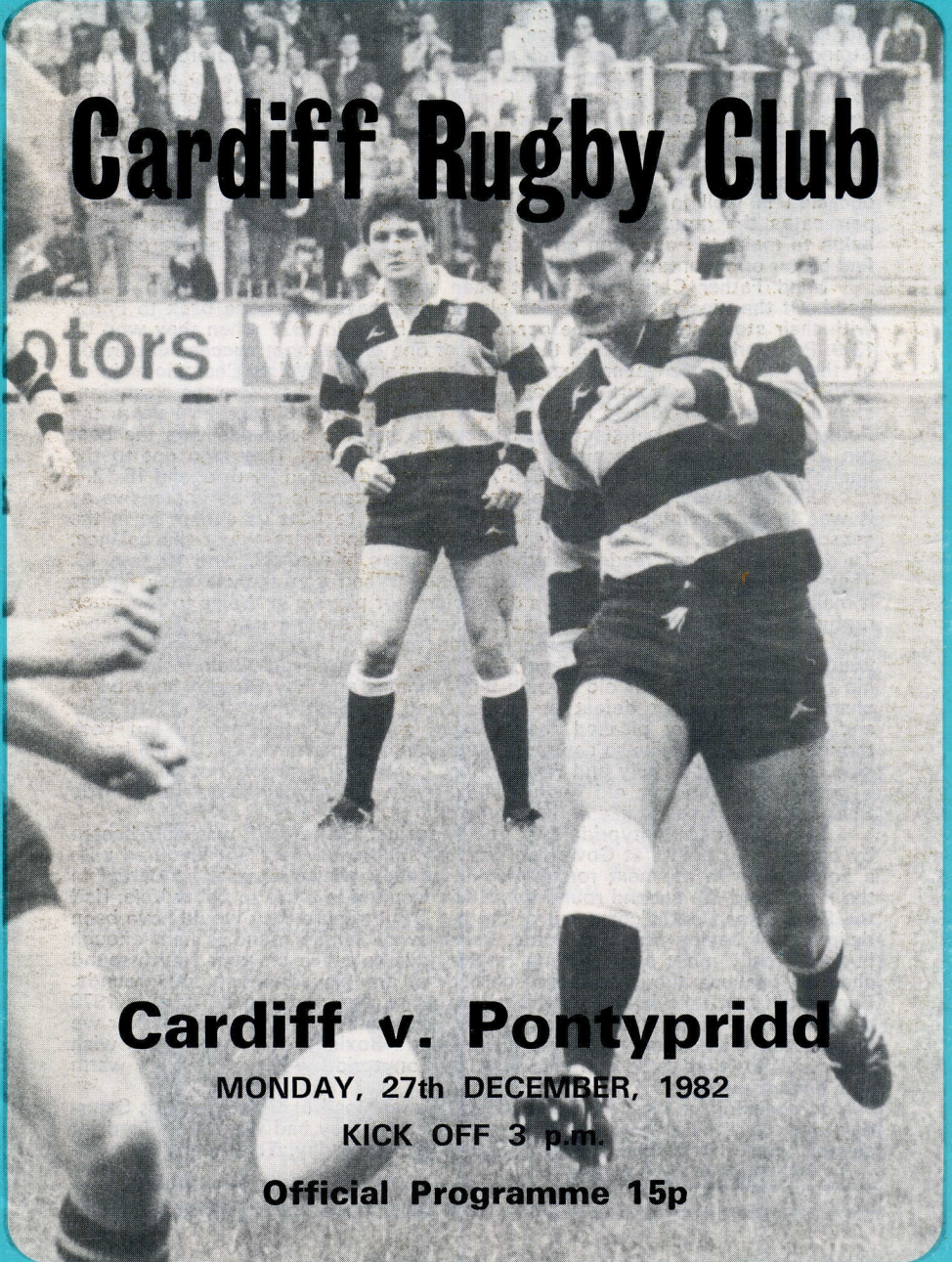


Cardiff Rugby Club



Cardiff v. Pontypridd

MONDAY, 27th DECEMBER, 1982

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

Cardiff v. Pontypridd

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It's Boxing Day again and that means a very welcomed visit from Pontypridd to help us celebrate the Christmas festivities. The present Boxing Day series of games began in 1972 and apart from our centenary season, 1976-77, we have met on that day since, so today's fixture brings the total to 10. Strangely enough, however, and although we are forever grateful to Ponty for coming to Cardiff when obviously most clubs would like to be playing at home, they actually played in Cardiff on Boxing Day 1883 some 99 long years ago. So it looks as if the fixture secretaries of even those far long gone days were also thinking on the same lines as those of the present day. It's a fixture that's turned up trumps too because we have not had to postpone one because of bad weather and the rugby that's been served up on each occasion is well in keeping with the seasonal festive goodwill that usually permeates the ground. The loyal following that Pontypridd can muster also helps to make the occasion go with a swing as well. So all in all we couldn't find better opponents to grace the day.

Mind Father Christmas hasn't been very kind to the men from Sardis Road. Of the nine previous games played they have only gone back to Ponty with their stocking full on one occasion that being in 1977 when they won by 13-9. Pontypridd were then in the midst of one of the most successful periods of their history, however, they won the unofficial Welsh Championship in 1975-76 and finished fourth the following season. Then they won the championship again in 1977-78 and retained it in 1978-79. With 3 wins in 4 years the Ponty club had the satisfaction of knowing that the sequence was the best run in the championship since the second world war. They also got to the final of the Schweppes Cup in 1978-79 but were defeated by Bridgend 18-12.

Like ourselves, however, their record this season is not as impressive as it was in those vintage years. They did manage to beat us earlier on in the season by 15pts. to 9 so today we will be looking to re-adjust the balance. To date their record reads, including cup games, played 29, won 16, lost 13. They have scored 528pts. with 362 against. When you analyse such figures it makes you wonder whether we do subject our players in Wales to too much rugby. If Ponty play as many games during the second half of the season, they will have clocked up some 60 odd games. They are a comparatively young side this season, however, and now that Cenydd Thomas has shed his coaching mantle our old friends Billy Thomas and Ray Duggan have taken charge. In our earlier defeat at Sardis Road on September 29th, both Billy and Ray were very pleased their players scored a good victory but both thought they would like to see more consistency in performance. On the bonus side, however, with Billy and Ray around, Ponty will certainly not be short of a good yarn from our old hooker and Ray in his hayday could have made Shaking Stevens sound like Arthur Mullard.

Last Saturday Pontypridd's 62 points against Garndiffaith was only beaten by our own 70 points at Gowerton but they, unlike us were not favoured with a home draw in the next round. Having already beaten Llandaff in Cardiff in the first round the second round home win resulted in a trip to Ebbw Vale. Had the Sardis Road outfit come out of the hat first I'm sure they would have been delighted at having Ebbw at home. Being away in this round is hard enough but you really must start looking to the gods to smile on your fourth round chances because the semi-finals, of course, are played on neutral grounds. Pontypridd can take heart if the fact that when they reached the final in 1979 they disposed of us on the Arms Park in January's third round game after we had beaten them comfortably on the previous Boxing Day. Anyway we wish them luck for that game and also to all at Pontypridd we extend a very warm and festive welcome.

In speaking of the Cup we were well entertained at Gowerton last Saturday week and it's a great credit to that club that they had worked so hard for several weeks to make everything right for the big day. They were very dis-

appointed at their own display but were full of praise for the speed, thrust and straight running of the Cardiff side. In fact, I did overhear one remark addressed to groundsman Albert Francis that we should reduce the width of our own ground because the narrowness of the Gowerton pitch made the Cardiff backs run as straight as arrows. While we are on this point, it's a great credit to Albert and his ground staff that the Rags games have still been played on the Park in spite of the monsoon weather. Some small inconvenience has been caused by kick off times but this is due to the fact that if we do have to switch to Sophia Gardens we obviously have to have an early time because there are no lights there. It's very nice to see so many spectators turning out for Rags games too but their support is more than compensated by the splendid rugby they see. I'll bring you up to date with their results in the Moseley programme. Congratulations to our Youth side who beat Llanelli in their third round cup encounter. This was a particularly satisfying win because it was at Llanelli and after the young Scarlets had already previously beaten us at Cardiff. The side wasn't at its strongest on the day due to international trial calls so the cup win proved ample redress.

The Cardiff Rugby Club wishes to extend its most sincere thanks to Welsh Brewers for sponsorship of today's game. And finally on behalf of the players and committee, may we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

OFFSIDE IN GENERAL PLAY

- 1) Q. An attacking player kicks the ball which is charged down by an opponent and another attacking player, within 10 metres of the opponent then plays the ball. What is the correct decision?
 - A. Play on. The opponent was not "waiting to play the ball", and the second attacking player is therefore onside.
- 2) Q. In open play with an offside player within 10 metres of an opponent — he is expected to retire 10 metres. Where would you expect a forward in the line-out to retire to when his scrum half kicks over his head?
 - A. This now open play, and he should not be penalised provided he retires without delay. He is then put onside (a), he retires behind his scrum half, or (b), the scrum half or another of his team who was behind the has run in front of him.
- 3) Q. A full back waits to catch a high ball and an opponent encroaches the 10 metre circle before being put on side. Where is the penalty awarded?
 - A. Penalty kick at THE PLACE OF INFRINGEMENT. The place of infringement in this case is 10 metres from the catcher on a line parallel to the touchline towards the offenders goal-line. This is not refereed consistently and correctly for many referees give the penalty kick at the place where the ball is caught instead of at the place of infringement.

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Next Home fixture

Cardiff v. Moseley

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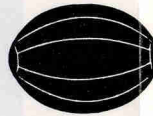
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- 1. I. EIDMAN
- 3. A. PHILLIPS
- 3. J. WHITEFOOT
- 4. M. ROGERS
- 5. R. NORSTER
- 6. O. GOLDING
- 8. J. P. SCOTT (Captain)
- 7. R. LAKIN

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



Replacements

Referee: LES PEARD

Today's match ball donated by PEACOCKS STORES, Cardiff.

Pontypridd

- J. PRITCHARD 15.
- A. CARTWRIGHT 14.
- M. EDWARDS 13.
- G. LLEWELLYN 12.
- M. OWEN 11.
- M. HODGEKINSON 10.
- S. CANNON 9.
- N. WILDING 1.
- M. ALEXANDRE (Captain) 2.
- R. LOTT 3.
- A. PHILLIPS 4.
- S. STUART 5.
- R. COLLINS 6.
- G. JONES 8.
- M. SHELLARD 7.
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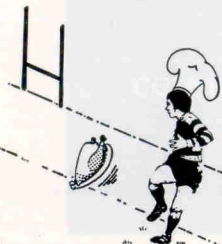
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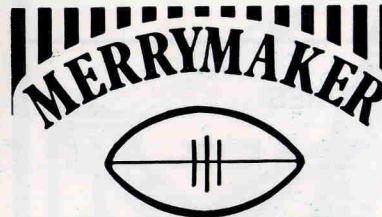
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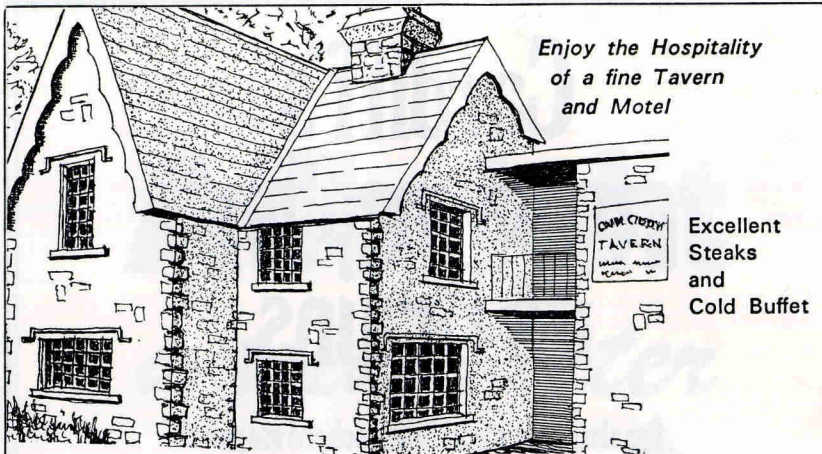
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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1982

SEPTEMBER

Wed. 1	Glamorgan Wand.	H	9-15
Sat. 4	Munster	A	6-22
Wed. 8	Bristol	A	9-22
Sat. 11	Neath	A	16-9
Wed. 15	Penarth	H	70-0
Sat. 18	Coventry	H	25-25
Sat. 25	Aberavon	A	20-16
Wed. 29	Pontypridd	A	9-15

OCTOBER

Sat. 7	Newport	H	13-3
Wed. 6	Bridgend	A	16-21
Sat. 9	Northampton	A	40-9
Wed. 13	Maesteg	A	24-31
Sat. 16	Newbridge	H	10-12
Sat. 23	Maori XV	H	9-17
Wed. 27	Oxford University	A	17-9
Sat. 30	Moseley	A	33-19

NOVEMBER

Tues. 2	Ebbw Vale	A	10-12
Sat. 6	Leicester	H	32-9
Wed. 10	Pontypool	H	12-16
Sat. 20	Cilfynydd (Cup)	H	66-9
Sat. 27	Llanelli	H	24-13

DECEMBER

Sat. 4	Swansea	A	13-18
Sat. 11	London Welsh	A	38-12
Sat. 18	Gowerton (Cup)	A	70-6

Wed. 22	Bridgend	H	.....
Mon. 27	Pontypridd	H	.....

1983

JANUARY

Sat. 1	Moseley	H	.....
Sat. 8	Aberavon	H	.....
Sat. 15	Ebbw Vale	H	.....
Sat. 22	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round		
Sat. 29	Llanelli	A	.....

FEBRUARY

Sat. 5	London Welsh	H	.....
Sat. 12	Bristol	H	.....
Fri. 18	Heriots F.P.	A	.....
Sat. 26	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round		

MARCH

Fri. 4	Bective Rangers	H	.....
Sat. 12	Pontypool	A	.....
Wed. 23			
Sat. 26	Newport	A	.....

APRIL

Sat. 2	Barbarians	H	.....
Mon. 4	Harlequins	H
Sat. 9	Swansea	H
Sat. 16	Neath	H
Sat. 23	Bath	A
Sat. 30	W.R.U. Cup Final		

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