

CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB



CARDIFF v COVENTRY

SATURDAY, 16th SEPTEMBER, 1978

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 10p

Cardiff v. Coventry

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The sad day has arrived for the Cardiff Rugby Football Club when two of its most illustrious players have decided to retire from the game. Today happens to be the first home match occasion since the announcements became public. The men who have made themselves into household names and are instantly recognisable simply as Gareth and Gerald will never grace the field again in the famous Cambridge Blue and Black of Cardiff.

Without making resort to the superlatives and platitudes of the media, I would simply like to say, on behalf of a decade plus of players, committee and supporters of our club, a heartfelt thank you for having been such magnificent ambassadors for the Cardiff Club both on and off the field. We have all felt very proud to enjoy the success that you have both achieved and are very mindful of the enormous contribution you have made to Cardiff, Wales and the British Lions during your fabulous careers.

The pity of the situation is that the circumstances of these retirements did not afford us the opportunity of staging a farewell match. I'm sure the fans would have turned up in their thousands to pay suitable tribute to the esteem in which both men are held. Gerald and Gareth, we all wish you sincere good luck for your futures; may all your plans come to fruition and may you thoroughly enjoy the leisure time which perhaps you may now have at your disposal.

I have heard of two immediate reactions to these retirements. One is the fact that Pontypool are having a celebration party to mark Gerald's departure and two, all the salmon in the River Towy have decided on a mass exodus now that Gareth has become a full time fisherman.

Regardless of such disappointments, however, Rugby goes on. What better way for it to go than the occasion of a Cardiff v. Coventry match at the Arms Park. Of 91 games played between the sides Cardiff have won 58, lost 28 with 5 ending in draws. The points tally during the series has amounted to 1,232 for Cardiff and 745 against. Formed in 1874, the Coundon Road club have always formed the nucleus of the Warwickshire side in the old style County Championship. This has now been replaced by the Inter-Divisional Tournament, with Coventry playing in the Midlands section. Midlands contested the final against the North in last year's tournament and Coventry provided three players in P. Knee, J. Shippies and I. Darnell.

They have also provided many names in their national side and great players like wing Peter Jackson, with 20 caps, and prop Phil Judd with 22 come easily to mind. Their most capped player however is still on the scene and a great favourite he is with the Welsh. I speak of course of David Duckham who, with 36 caps, is only beaten by John Pullen of Bristol with 42.

Coventry had an indifferent first half to last season but by the end of the year, they only lost 2 of their last 13 games and reached the semi-final stage of the John Player Cup. They have to go back to 1972 for their last, shall we say rather fortunate, victory at Cardiff. (Shades of David Duckham running behind his own touch judge for the "cunning" try).

Traditionally Cardiff-Coventry games have always been good spectacles of open running Rugby, so let's hope for a continuation of that situation for today's encounter. At this stage it is also appropriate to congratulate Barry Nelmes on his appointment as Club captain and also to Gareth Davies who becomes vice-captain — probably our youngest ever.

So to the Coventry party, we bid a warm welcome to the Arms Park, and particularly so to Alf Wyman who hasn't missed a Coventry game at Cardiff, formerly as a player and latterly as an official, for over 50 years.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

More of the changes which the I.B. introduced, to come into immediate effect. As said previously, nothing really earth shattering, but nevertheless important and it is equally important that all be kept informed.

Law 23(a)—Touch: A new paragraph has been written in to replace para (2). It is:

"(1) The ball is in touch:

** when it is not being carried by a player and it touches a touch line or the ground, or a person or object beyond it, or:*

** when it is being carried by a player and it or the player carrying it touches a touchline or the ground beyond it."*

This has been brought in to be more specific than hitherto. It means, in effect, that what might be termed a 'boomerang' ball is now allowed and play can continue.

The first clause used to state: *"*when it is and it touches or CROSSES a touch line."* CROSSES is now OUT.

Also OUT is the exception to the above. That used to be:

"If a player in the field of play catches the ball immediately after it has crossed the touch line it is not in touch provided the player does not go into touch."

Similarly OUT is para (2) which says:

"If the ball crosses the touch line and then comes back, it is in touch at the place where it first crossed the line."

A bit complicated? Not really. Often has it been said, "who'd be a referee?". Hermas Evans, of the I.B., who readily supplies all relevant information, agrees but counters with: "Who'd be a law maker?"

Can you blame him?

NEXT HOME FIXTURES

Wed., 20th September:	CARDIFF v. PENARTH	7.15 p.m.
Sat., 7th October:	CARDIFF v. NEWPORT	3 p.m.
Sat., 21st October:	CARDIFF v. NEW ZEALAND	3 p.m.

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17th February, 1979

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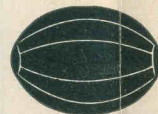
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Football Club.

Cardiff

- 15. P. REES
- 14. D. PREECE
- 13. M. MURPHY
- 12. P. DANIELS
- 11. C. CAMILLERI
- 10. Gareth DAVIES
- 9. T. HOLMES
- 1. B. NELMES (Captain)
- 2. M. WATKINS
- 3. D. LLEWELLYN
- 4. H. de GOEDE
- 5. R. NORSTER
- 6. T. CHARLES
- 8. J. SCOTT
- 7. S. LANE

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

J. DAVIES
P. RAWLINS



ALCAN METAL
CENTRES

Replacements

Referee: F. H. SMITH (Cwmbran)

Coventry

- P.A. ROSSBOROUGH 15.
- P.F. KNEE 14.
- D.J. DUCKHAM 13.
- G.W. EVANS 12.
- S. MAISEY 11.
- A.R. COWMAN 10.
- C. GRIMSHAW 9.
- T. DINGLEY 1.
- R. HOBSON 2.
- F. MELVIN 3.
- B.F. NINNES 4.
- I.R. DARNELL (Captain) 5.
- R. CARDWELL 6.
- G. ROBBINS 8.
- J. SHIPSIDES 7.

P. EVANS
R.J. FARDOE

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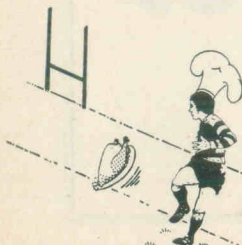
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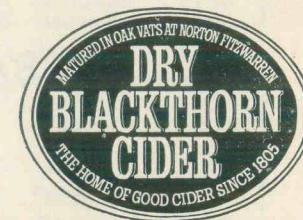
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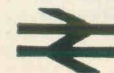
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1978		
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30	Moseley	£2.60
Oct. 14	Northampton	£3.00
25	Bridgend	£1.40
28	Harlequins	£3.00
Dec. 2	Swansea	£1.50
9	L'nd'n Welsh	£3.00
30	Coventry	£2.60
1979		
Feb. 28	Llanelli	£1.70
Mar. 10	Pontypool	£1.30
Apr. 7	Gloucester	£1.60



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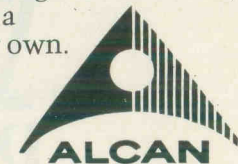
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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1978			
SEPTEMBER			
Fri. 1			
Sat. 2	East District	H 38-17	
Wed. 6	Glamorgan Wands.	H 55-13	
Sat. 9	Neath	A 13-11	
Wed. 13	Bristol	A 42-14	
Sat. 16	Coventry	H.....	
Wed. 20	Penarth	H.....	
Sat. 23	Aberavon	A.....	
Wed. 27	Pontypridd	A.....	
Sat. 30	Moseley	A.....	
OCTOBER			
Sat. 7	Newport	H.....	
Sat. 14	Northampton	A.....	
Sat. 21	New Zealand (All pay)	H.....	
Wed. 25	Bridgend	A.....	
Sat. 28	Harlequins (12a.m.)	A.....	
NOVEMBER			
Wed. 1	Pontypool	H.....	
Sat. 4	Maesteg	H.....	
Sat. 11	Ebbw Vale	A.....	
Sat. 18	W.R.U. Cup 1st Round		
Sat. 25	Llanelli	H.....	
Wed. 29	Oxford University	H.....	
DECEMBER			
Sat. 2	Swansea	A.....	
Sat. 9	London Welsh	A.....	
Sat. 16	W.R.U. Cup 2nd Round		
Sat. 23	Bridgend	H.....	
Tues. 26	Pontypridd	H.....	
Sat. 30	Coventry	A.....	
1979			
JANUARY			
Mon. 1	Bath	H.....	
Sat. 6	Moseley	H.....	
Sat. 13	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round		
Fri. 19	Heriots F.P.	A.....	
Sat. 27	Aberavon	H.....	
FEBRUARY			
Sat. 10	Bristol	H.....	
Sat. 17			
Sat. 24	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round		
Wed. 28	Llanelli	A.....	
MARCH			
Sat. 3	Ebbw Vale	H.....	
Sat. 10	Pontypool	A.....	
Fri. 16	London Welsh	H.....	
Sat. 17			
Sat. 24	Newport	A.....	
Sat. 31	Swansea	H.....	
APRIL			
Sat. 7	Gloucester	A.....	
Sat. 14	Barbarians	H.....	
Mon. 16	Harlequins	H.....	
Sat. 21	Neath	H.....	
Sat. 28			

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