

CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB



CARDIFF v PONTYPOOL

WEDNESDAY, 1st NOVEMBER, 1978

KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Official Programme 10p

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And so another lost opportunity of inflicting a second defeat on the might of New Zealand Rugby has come and gone. We should have no complaints about the result, however, because on the day the better side won. Perhaps if we had taken advantage of our early pressure during the first quarter of an hour and put some points on the board, it may have been a different story. The All Blacks weathered the storm however, exerted their own pressure, used the ball well and took advantage of our mistakes to achieve a good win. Since their victory they have gone on from strength to strength and the character and determination now being shown by them suggests that they are going to be a very difficult side to beat.

In fact in retrospect perhaps we can take heart from the fact that our margin of defeat of ten points was less than that of the strong West Wales XV. This was reflected during our excellent game only four days later, against Bridgend when the Brewery Field side just managed to hold on to a two point lead to win by 12-10. We outscored them by two tries to one and had the conversion of the second try not hit the upright the game would have been drawn. Then of course last Saturday we got back well on the track with a good win over the Harlequins in London. The only disappointment during this game was the concussion suffered by Gareth Davies which will probably rule him out of tonight's encounter.

Incidentally, the pre-match presentation to All Black Bryan Williams marked his 100th appearance for his country but not necessarily against other countries as some people have thought. In fact he has won 34 caps so his other 66 games were played against opposition other than international while on tour. Although 100 appearances for your country is a magnificent achievement, just think of Willie John McBride or Mike Gibson. Willie John for instance has played sixty-three times for Ireland, seventeen tests for the British Lions beside some sixty odd non-test games during his five overseas tours with the Lions. This should take some beating. Has anybody got any ideas?

But now back to our domestic scene and tonight we are delighted to extend the warm hand of friendship to our old friends from Pontypool. Mind you, perhaps domesticity is hardly the word to describe a situation in which the world renowned "Pooler Pack" will be in action. The games played between the sides over the past several seasons have been real heart stoppers. Last season for instance, the game played on the Arms Park during December was one of several classics we saw during the 1977/78 campaign. It resulted in a 7-7 draw after a spectacle during which all the skills and thrills of Welsh Rugby were displayed. Then later in that season we had "Gerald's Match". This was the cup match during which Gerald Davies scored his four breattaking tries to give us a third round victory in the W.R.U. Cup by 16 points to 11, a result Pontypool will long remember. Let's hope therefore that tonight's game will be as exciting as those previous encounters.

The Pontypool backs are coming into their own these days and during last season scored 123 tries of the 178 registered by the club. Wing Geoff Davies collected 34 which is a post-war record, while Caerphilly school-boy Gareth Davies, another wing, scored nine times during ten games after his debut at Easter. Peter Lewis was also well among the points and totalled 330 during the year. Up to the present during this season he has collected 143 points from 12 games to make him the leading Welsh scorer.

It goes without saying that Pontypool can produce forwards, for any position in the scrum, at the drop of a hat. Anyone who goes in at the raw end of Ray Prosser's forward making machine comes out at the mature end as a forward who can hold his own in any company. It was only a week ago that we heard of the retirement from International Rugby of a forward who epitomises the whole Ray Prosser philosophy on what a good forward should be. I refer of course to the great Terry Cobner. "Cob" has captained Pontypool for

a record ten seasons and indeed, the side is not quite the same without him. His contribution not only to his club but to Wales and the British Lions was immense. Wales will have great difficulty in finding a suitable replacement for him. Perhaps the action "Cob" will be most remembered and respected for on the international scene, however, was the way he took over the leadership of Phil Bennett's 1977 Lions pack and built them up into one of the most formidable units ever to represent the British Isles. In doing so he displayed his great qualities of ability, leadership and competitiveness. Yes, Terry Cobner will be a very difficult man to replace on the international circuit. His avowed intention is now to win something for Pontypool, this should serve as fair warning to all Welsh clubs.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

Back to the All Blacks. Yes, we must. Two points of law which caused comment and much discussion around me.

Firstly, right under the press and committee boxes—ball in the air, well over the touch line, then swing back to be caught in the field of play. Up went the referee touch judge's flag, 'beep' went referee Quittenton's whistle and a line-out was awarded.

Sadly, as in these notes I never intend to criticise the man in the middle, but their very value would be undermined if I let such things pass, they were both wrong. And did say so afterwards.

Remember not long ago I wrote of the 'boomerang ball', quoting exactly the same situation, emphasising that play should continue? It just goes to show that even with referees running the line and top men in control, mistakes can be made.

The other one, which made an interesting talking point, was in the same area of the field, when Eddie Dunn dropped for goal. The ball hit our Gareth Davies, rebounded from him, to be gathered by the All Blacks skipper, Graham Mourie, who went off like a hare to be then recalled for offside.

Quite correct. Although the ball had been last touched by Gareth there was no way in which that could have put Mourie onside.

There was no attempt to play or gather the ball. It was all too quick; the ball had merely hit him on its way.

You would be amazed at the number of household Rugby names who turned around for clarification on this one.

NEXT HOME FIXTURES

Sat., 4th November:	CARDIFF v. MAESTEG	3 p.m.
Sat., 18th November:	CARDIFF v. WHITLAND (WRU Cup—1st Round) (All Pay)	3 p.m.
Sat., 25th November:	CARDIFF v. LLANELLI	3 p.m.

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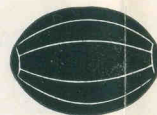
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Cardiff

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

J. DAVIES
A. PHILLIPS

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



ALCAN METAL CENTRES

Replacements

Referee: K. C. PARFITT (Port Talbot)

Pontypool

- P. LEWIS 15.
- G. DAVIES 14.
- G. JOHN 13.
- N. PROBERT 12.
- G. WHITE 11.
- M. PARRY 10.
- T. LEE 9.
- A. G. FAULKNER 1.
- R. W. WINDSOR 2.
- G. PRICE 3.
- R. FLOYD 4.
- S. SUTTON 5.
- B. GREGORY 6.
- J. SQUIRES 8.
- T. J. COBNER (Captain) 7.

S. JONES
I. TAYLOR

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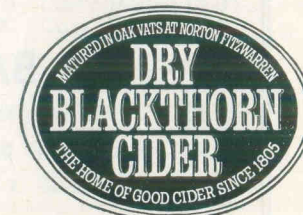
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DATE	VENUE	Cost per member
1978		
Dec. 2	Swansea	£1.50
9	L'nd'n Welsh	£3.00
30	Coventry	£2.60
1979		
Feb. 28	Llanelli	£1.70
Mar. 10	Pontypool	£1.30
Apr. 7	Gloucester	£1.60



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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1978 SEPTEMBER

Fri.	1		
Sat.	2	East District	H 38-17
Wed.	6	Glamorgan Wands.	A 55-13
Sat.	9	Neath	A 13-11
Wed.	13	Bristol	A 42-14
Sat.	16	Coventry	H 76-9
Wed.	20	Penarth	H 62-0
Sat.	23	Aberavon	A 14-13
Wed.	27	Pontypridd	A 9-23
Sat.	30	Moseley	A 9-3

OCTOBER

Sat.	7	Newport	H 7-0
Sat.	14	Northampton	A 10-3
Sat.	21	New Zealand (All pay)	H 7-17
Wed.	25	Bridgend	A 10-12
Sat.	28	Harlequins	A 36-12

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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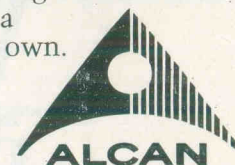
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