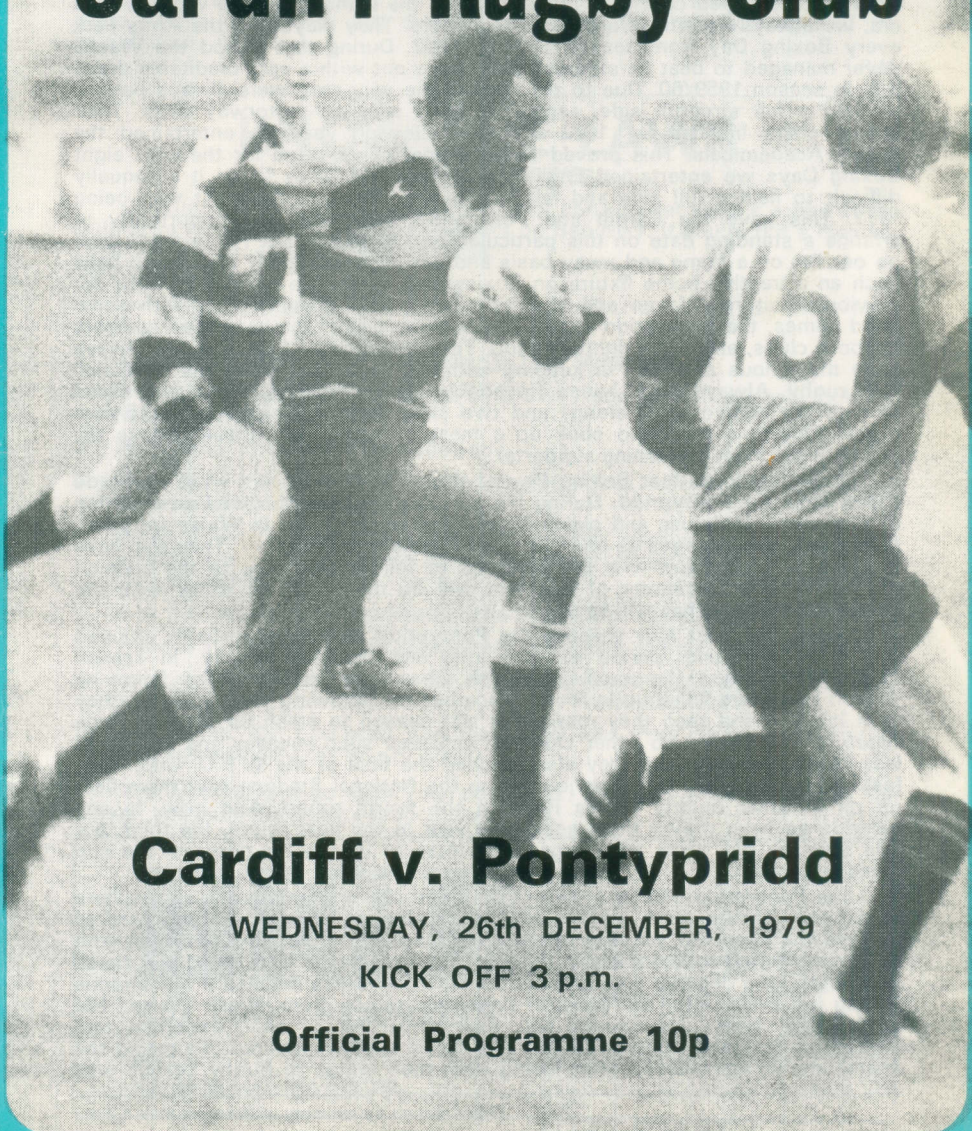




Cardiff Rugby Club



Cardiff v. Pontypridd

WEDNESDAY, 26th DECEMBER, 1979

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 10p

Cardiff v. Pontypridd

WEDNESDAY, 26th DECEMBER, 1979 KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Today in expressing a most warm and festive welcome to Pontypridd perhaps we can spare an extra special thought to all 30 players who will be participating in this afternoon's game. While the rest of us can feast ourselves in the traditional yuletide merrymaking, with all its accompanying over-indulgence, the 15 players on each side today will be filled with the "Goodwill to all men" spirit. You can rest assured, however, that this situation will be confined to the duration of the game and afterwards the very cordial relationship that has existed between our clubs will be renewed afresh.

The history of their fixture on this particular day began in season 1972/73. Prior to that, if you cast your minds back to the immediate post World War 2 era, we always had the Wasps as our visitors. They played on the Arms Park every Boxing Day from season 1946 to 1962. During that period the Wasps never managed to beat us although they came out with a very creditable draw, 3-3, in season 1959/60. Due to the time of the year they were always pushed to field a full strength side, especially as it was pre-motorway days. Their annual visits finished in 1962 and the following year we entertained the Welsh Academicals. This proved to be a one off visit and for the next eight Boxing Days we entertained English club Liverpool. They found it as equally difficult to field a full side and fell by the wayside with their last visit being 1971. This gave the Cardiff and Pontypridd secretaries the opportunity to arrange a standing date on this particular day. It meant that Ponty were back on our list on a home and away basis and we were extremely pleased to have such an attractive home fixture on Boxing Day. With due respect to both our previous visitors, Wasps and Liverpool, who both presented us with some good games, the Pontypridd fixture has become one of the season's highlights for both clubs, and quite rightly so too. The atmosphere of the day has always been marvellous and well in keeping with the very best traditions of Welsh club rugby. Always a full house (invariably loaded with hip flasks and cigars to help the festive spirit along) and two sides with a desire to play 15 man rugby. This is a recipe to cook up a feast of rugby that should please the palate of the most discerning supporter.

Today sees the last Boxing Day of the 1970 decade, and what a decade it has been for Pontypridd. During the period they have achieved an ambition of their own clubhouse and player facilities as good as any in Wales and more so the side has emerged as one of the top teams in the country. They also have a legion of supporters who are prepared to follow their side to the ends of the earth. True testimony of this fact will be most evident today with the amount of support they will have.

During the past four seasons the Pontypridd club have probably enjoyed the most successful period of their long and colourful history. In season 1975/76 they won the unofficial Welsh Championship table. The following season saw them finish up in fourth place but the following year, 1977/78, they won it again and then they retained it last season to finish up winning three times in four years. No other club has achieved such success and to add to last year's achievements they also reached the final of the W.R.U. Cup. They lost this to Bridgend but their journey to the National Stadium saw them beat us on a rather muddy Sardis Road in the fourth round. And now, lo and behold, we have drawn them again this year in the next round, the third, but this time we get home advantage. Still, more of that in the notes of the cup game programme.

The Pontypridd club is a very closely knit one and enjoys the atmosphere of a happy family. Both players and administrators have all worked hard to achieve the deserved success of the past seasons but perhaps two men who have contributed substantially in this success are skipper Tom David and coach Joe Smith who deserve special mention. Tom David has instilled a tremendous feeling of pride into his players since his return from West Wales. His partnership with Joe Smith and their imparting of skill, expertise and enjoyment into the Pontypridd game is to be greatly admired. To retain the championship last season after losing both their wings to Rugby League was

Cover picture by courtesy of Western Mail & Echo

something they can look back on with immense satisfaction.

For the statistically minded today sees the 43rd game to be played between our clubs. Of the previous 42 we have won 30, lost 10 and drawn two. Points for stands at 539 and against 237. Prior to season 1975/76 this record stood at played 33, Cardiff won 26, lost five with two drawn. Since their first championship winning season of 1975/76, however, nine games have been played and of those Ponty have five to our four. Those five wins also include last season's cup win against us. Today's game heralds the ninth in the Boxing Day series and of the previous eight we have won six and Ponty two. Let's hope for Father Christmas to bring us some fine weather then but, whatever the elements do turn out to be, we are extremely pleased to welcome Pontypridd to the Arms Park this afternoon.

Some home front news now. The Rags game against Lampeter last Saturday was cancelled due to their ground being flooded. The Youth crash on however and they accounted for Newport Saracens Youth by 28-0. This game was a cup match and the win puts them into the last eight of the competition.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

Christmas time. Quiz time! Why not and, don't forget there's a pint in the clubhouse for the first all correct answers on Saturday. If you're not a member I'll be hanging around outside for a while. Here goes then.

1. Law changes this season. 'Fair Catch' — Mark. How does this differ from last season?
2. 'Knock-On'. There was a subtle change here. What was it?
3. 'Pile-Up'. Watched closely as we all know. Three main things refs look for. Name a couple.
4. Injury time. What is the time allowed?
5. One 'Big' change implemented in South Africa but not in the Home Countries. What is it?
6. When a player wants to change clubs who applies for the necessary permit? The club he's going to or the player? How many games can he play on permit?
7. If he then wants to be transferred who makes that application?
8. There is an offside line common for scrums, rucks and mauls. What is it?
9. In a line-out, when jumping for the ball or peeling off, players can only move.: Fill in the Blanks.
10. In a scrum, the ball goes into the tunnel and then comes back out. In certain cases play can go on. Why?

That's it. Have a go with your port, pork, pies and what have you. The answer will be in Saturday's programme.

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BY

SNAKPAK CARDIFF

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NEXT HOME FIXTURES

Saturday, 29th December: CARDIFF v. COVENTRY 3 p.m.

Tuesday, 1st January: CARDIFF v. BATH 3 p.m.

Sat., 12th January: CARDIFF v. PONTYPRIDD (Cup) 3 p.m.

Wed., 23rd January: CARDIFF v. S. WALES POLICE 7.15 p.m.

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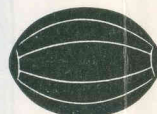
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Cardiff

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 15. Glyn DAVIES/C. WEBBER | Full Back |
| 14. D. THOMAS | Right Wing |
| 13. M. MURPHY/P. DANIELS | Right Centre |
| 12. D. BURCHER/N. HUTCHINGS | Left Centre |
| 11. A. YEANDLE | Left Wing |
| 10. Gareth DAVIES | Outside Half |
| 9. T. HOLMES/T. LEE | Inside Half |
| 1. B. NEWMAN/B. NELMES | Forwards |
| 2. A. PHILIPS/M. WATKINS | |
| 3. I. EIDMAN | |
| 4. P. SOUTO/C. SMITH | |
| 5. R. NORSTER | |
| 6. B. LEASE/T. CHARLES | |
| 8. J. SCOTT/B. LAKIN | |
| 7. S. LANE/O. GOLDING | |



Replacements

Referee: K. C. PARFITT

Pontypridd

- | | |
|------------------------|-----|
| A. N. OTHER | 15. |
| A. ROSE | 14. |
| C. RILEY | 13. |
| J. POOLE | 12. |
| K. SWAIN/T. HARRISON | 11. |
| J. HAZZARD | 10. |
| B. DYER | 9. |
| R. LOTT | 1. |
| D. YOUNG | 2. |
| J. NEWLAND | 3. |
| R. PENBERTHEY | 4. |
| J. LUFF/D. SHELLARD | 5. |
| W. PECKHAM/M. SHELLARD | 6. |
| B. COOKSLEY | 8. |
| T. DAVID (Captain) | 7. |



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REUNION OF CAPPED PLAYERS

Date to be decided

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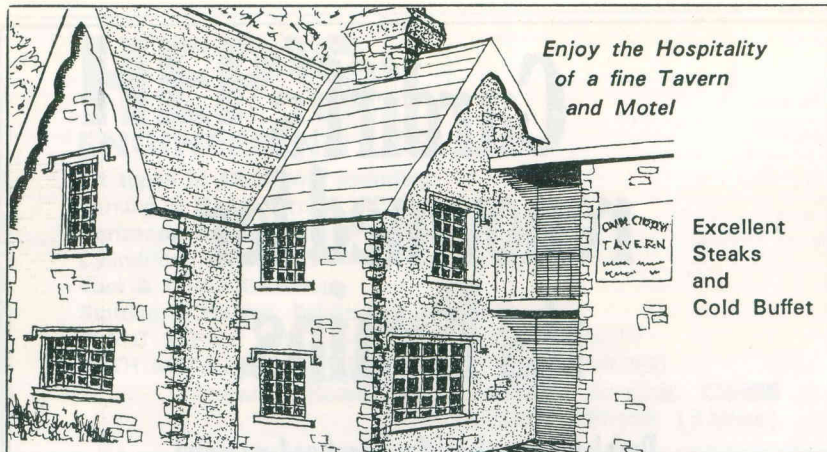
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Apr. 19	Neath	£2.00



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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1979		
SEPTEMBER		
Sat. 1	East District	H 66-8
Wed. 5	Glamorgan Wands.	A 26-9
Sat. 8	Neath	H 28-3
Wed. 12	Bristol	H 17-17
Sat. 15	Coventry	A 15-16
Wed. 19	Canada	H 19-8
Sat. 22	Aberavon	H 29-12
Wed. 26	Penarth	A 12-0
Sat. 29	Moseley	H 31-10
OCTOBER		
Wed. 3	Bridgend	H 9-17
Sat. 6		
Wed. 10	Pontypridd	A 13-10
Sat. 13	Northampton	H 45-4
Wed. 17	Newport	A 21-12
Sat. 20	Cambridge Univ.	H 37-12
Wed. 24	Pontypool	A 10-28
Sat. 27	Harlequins	A 43-19
Wed. 31	Don Pill Memorial Selected XV (All pay)	H 15-27
NOVEMBER		
Sat. 3	Munster	A 15-13
Wed. 7	Oxford University	H C
Sat. 10	Ebbw Vale	H 32-16
Sat. 17	Waunarlwydd (Cup)	H 43-3
Sat. 24	Llanelli	A 14-18
DECEMBER		
Sat. 1	Swansea	H 21-17
Wed. 5	Maesteg	A 13-19
Sat. 8	London Welsh	H 50-12
Sat. 15	Wrexham (Cup)	H 36-6
Sat. 22	Bridgend	A.....
Wed. 26	Pontypridd	H.....
Sat. 29	Coventry	H.....
1980		
JANUARY		
Tues. 1	Bath	H.....
Sat. 5	Moseley	A.....
Sat. 12	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round	
Fri. 18		
Wed. 23	S. Wales Police	H.....
Sat. 26	Aberavon	A.....
FEBRUARY		
Sat. 2	Ebbw Vale	A.....
Sat. 9	Bristol	A.....
Sat. 16	London Welsh	A.....
Sat. 23	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round	
Fri. 29	Heriots F.P.	H.....
MARCH		
Tues. 4	San Isidro (All pay)	H.....
Sat. 8	Pontypool	H.....
Sat. 15		
Sat. 22	Newport	H.....
Sat. 29	Llanelli	H.....
APRIL		
Sat. 5	Barbarians	H.....
Mon. 7	Harlequins	H.....
Wed. 9		
Sat. 12	Swansea	A.....
Wed. 16		
Sat. 19	Neath	A.....
Sat. 26	W.R.U. Cup Final	

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