

Cardiff Rugby Club

Cardiff v. Bath

TUESDAY, 1st JANUARY, 1980 KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 10p

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Today it gives us great pleasure to welcome our visitors from the South West, Bath, on this the first day of the new year and indeed that of the 1980s. Bath is world famous as the golden city which abounds in well preserved Roman remains and unique Georgian architecture which causes an age of elegance to live on. It is more infamously known, however, to many Welsh rugby clubs as the graveyard of their ambitions. The men of the Recreation Ground have a remarkably good record against Welsh clubs visiting Bath. Indeed on our last visit to their ground on February 14th, 1976 we came away with a 4 pts to 9 defeat. It was also the last occasion when our sides met and during the first year of Gerald Davies' captaincy. The defeat for us was rather unexpected, and ended a run of ten consecutive victories, but again it was typical of Bath's excellent home record against Welsh clubs. Last season, of course, we missed the pleasure of entertaining Bath on the first day of last year. If you remember, after we played Coventry away on December 30th, the arctic weather saw to it that we only managed two games between then and our finally played much postponed third round W.R.U. Cup tie against Pontypool on February 24th. At the time of writing these notes, the weather is such that if we don't have a great improvement we could well play water polo and not rugby. Let's hope for something better then.

Although the Bath club was founded in 1865, our meetings have been fairly confined and today sees only the 29th game in the series between us. The record of the previous 28 reads Cardiff won 23, lost 4 with 1 match ending as a draw. All four victories by Bath have been achieved on their own patch as was the drawn game. Their record in Cardiff therefore is rather dismal reading: played 11, lost 11. Their last appearance on the Arms Park was 15th April, 1975 when we won by 26 pts. to 13. Last year they had very good cause to feel pleased with their performance when they enjoyed their best season for many years. Of 44 games played, 31 were won, 10 lost and 3 drawn. They scored 853 points against 420 and in typical characteristic style they did well against Welsh opposition including wins over Pontypridd and Llanelli whilst playing with style and all-round competence. During the season their powerful international wing, the rugged Derek Wyatt, equalled the club's try scoring record of 29 in his first season with the club. Their biggest disappointment of the year, however, was their poor display in the first round of the John Player Cup which led to a heavy defeat by London Welsh, 28 pts. to 16. They can have another crack at this competition this year, however, having qualified by virtue of finishing third in the South and South West R.F.U. merit table. Perhaps they will show an improvement too, because to date this season they have a home record with inevitable victory over several Welsh clubs, namely Pontypool, Neath and Newbridge. Beside these they have also captured the scalps of sides of the calibre of Moseley, Bristol, Harlequins and London Scottish. So we will have to be on our guard in order to chalk up a further victory and also deprive Bath of their first ever victory at Cardiff.

A couple of interesting snippets of the Bath club are the facts that their most capped international player has probably the longest name of any in the home countries, and secondly, long before womens lib was ever thought of, they had a woman in the chair. The first of these, of course, is John MacGregor K. Kendall-Carpenter who won 23 caps for England between 1949 and 1954. A further intriguing point also is the fact that he was born in Cardiff, so I have been given to believe. The second of these is Mrs. Mollie Gerrard, who has been a marvellous servant to the Bath club. After serving on their committee for many years she finally won the accolade of taking the chair. It was a very unusual but well deserved honour and to this day she remains a great friend of our own club. To Bath then we say welcome, we hope you enjoy your visit and the weather treats us better this year than last.

On the home front congratulations must surely be in order to captain

Gareth Davies and his men on the wonderful rugby served up on the Park during December. The Swansea match was a superb start and both the matches against Aberavon and Pontypridd were real Christmas crackers. The standard of the rugby produced was top class and again depicted the strength of Welsh club rugby. A sad and sickening tragedy has struck the Aberavon club within a week of their visit to the Arms Park, however, in the tragic deaths of Barrie Lewis and his wife. On behalf of all at the Cardiff club we extend our deepest sympathy to his relations, his club and his friends.

This week will see the commencement on the work which will bring our floodlights up to a much higher standard. The present illumination is in the region of about 100 lux but on completion it will be improved some fourfold to bring it up to 400 lux.

The Rags game against Bridgend Sports Club on Saturday, 22nd December was abandoned some quarter of an hour before full time with the score standing at 9-9. This was a Silver Ball game and from what I can gather, for matches abandoned after half-time, the score at the time of abandonment stands so that's bad news for the Rags Silver Ball aspirations. The Youth XV continue their incredible run of success, however, and their latest victories were against Newport Youth on 22nd December by 39-0 and then they beat Llandaff Youth on Boxing Day by 25-0. This puts them with 22 wins from 22 games with a staggering 786 points for and still only 38 against.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

As it's New Year's Day, we'll keep it simple. Let's hope it's an uncomplicated year.

Offside! Will we ever really be able to forget what is one of the hardy annuals in law explanations? More specifically offside when in front of a player of your own side who kicks the ball.

Time and time again this season have I seen and, no doubt you must have also, players caught in this situation who, when the ball has been played by an opponent, go for him and the ball, to be then blown up and penalised. "You must be wrong ref.," I have heard many of you supporters shout, "he has been played on." It is fair to assume that some of the players must think the same otherwise they would not be caught out.

Of course, it IS offside.

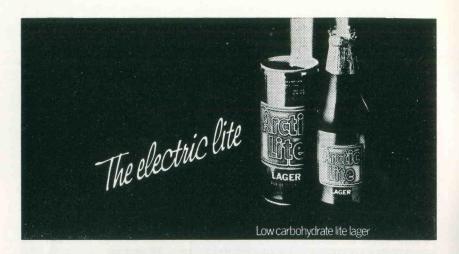
No matter what the opposing player may do, if you are in an offside position, it is imperative NOT to remain within that 10 metre zone. If 10 metres away when he catches it, OK. If not, then every effort must be made to retire that 10 metres. Once that has been complied with, all is well.

It's as simple as that.



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BY SNAKPAK CARDIFF



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- 10. Gareth DAVIES/D. BARRY
- 1. B. NEWMAN
- 2. A. PHILLIPS/M. WATKINS

- 8. J. SCOTT/B. LAKIN

Bath

J. S. WATERMAN 16.

D. TRICK 15.

M. C. PEESE 14.

J. A. PALMER 12.

D. M. WYATT 11.

J. P. HORTON (Captain) 10.

D. MURPHY

J. M. MEDDICK 1.

F. A. MASON

R. LEE 3.

H. THOMAS

7.

8.

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Full Back

Right Wing

Right Centre

Left Centre

Left Wing

Outside Half

Inside Half

Forwards

Replacements

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ARMS PARK - Date to be decided

REUNION OF CAPPED PLAYERS

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NEXT HOME FIXTURES

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

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

Fri., 29th February: CARDIFF v. HERIOTS F.P. 7.15 p.m.

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Feb.	9	Bristol	£2.50	
Feb.		London Welsh vickenham trip)		
Apr.	12	Swansea	£2.20	

Apr. 19 Neath £2.00



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FIRST XV FIXTURES

SEPTE	MDE	P			
Sat. Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat.	1 5 8 12 15 19 22	East District Glamorgan Wands. Neath Bristol Coventry Canada Aberavon Penarth Moseley	HAHHAHHAH	17-17 15-16 19-8	
OCTOE Wed. Sat.	BER 3 6	Bridgend	Н	9-17	
Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Wed.	10 13 17 20	Pontypridd Northampton Newport Cambridge Univ. Pontypool Harlequins Don Pill Memorial Selected XV (All p	AAH	21-12 37-12 10-28 43-19 15-27	
NOVEN Sat. Wed. Sat. Sat. Sat. DECEM	3 7 10 17 24	Munster Oxford University Ebbw Vale Waunarlwydd (Cup) Llanelli	AHHHA	15-13 C 32-16 43-3 14-18	
Sat.	1 5 8	Swansea Maesteg London Welsh Wrexham (Cup)	HAHH	13-19	

Sat. 22 Wed. 26 Sat. 29	Aberavon Pontypridd Coventry	H 36-8 H 19-3 H
1980 JANUARY Tues. 1 Sat. 5 Sat. 12 Fri. 18	Bath Moseley Pontypridd (Cup)	H A H
Wed. 23 Sat. 26	S. Wales Police Aberavon	H
FEBRUARY Sat. 2 Sat. 9 Sat. 16 Sat. 23 Fri. 29	Ebbw Vale Bristol London Welsh W.R.U. Cup 4th Ro	A A Aund H
MARCH Tues. 4 Sat. 8 Sat. 15 Sat. 22 Sat. 29	San Isidro(All pay) Pontypool Newport Llanelli	H H
APRIL Sat. 5 Mon. 7 Wed. 9	Barbarians Harlequins	H H
Sat. 12 Wed. 16 Sat. 19	Swansea Neath	A
Sat. 26	W.R.U. Cup Final	

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