

Cardiff Rugby Club

Cardiff v Bristol

SATURDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER, 1980 KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

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It may be alright for the ducks, washing your face and teetotallers, but the amount of rain that fell on us last Friday and Saturday was ridiculous. Well over two inches descended from the clouds but I suppose the old adage that there is always some one worse off than yourself is quite true. I was rather amazed to read that the most intense rainfall in Britain recorded to modern standards was 2 inches in 12 minutes at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire on 28 June, 1970. That must have made our last weekend's supposed monsoon seem like a slight summer drizzle. We managed to get through our first round cup game at Tonyrefail albeit very wet in spite of the incredible amount of work done by the home committee. Others weren't so lucky, however, and amongst them were our original opponents for today Llanelli. Because of the paupercy of our Saturday fixtures of late, we were all no doubt very much looking forward to the visit of our old friends from West Wales but they have had to re-arrange their first round tie for today. This obviously causes a headache for fixture secretary Brian Mark to find an alternative date which will be mutually satisfactory to both clubs. It is reasonably certain that we can rule out a Saturday so we will more than likely have to settle for a Wednesday. Still it's an ill wind and again Brian Mark was soon on the ball when

Still it's an ill wind and again Brian Mark was soon on the ball when he ascertained that Bristol were scheduled to visit our nearest rivals Glamorgan Wanderers this very day. The Wanderers, of course, were another side who failed to play last Saturday and must now spend this afternoon locked in mortal combat for cup survival against Pontypool. Hence our approach to Bristol who are always very welcome visitors to the Arms Park.

If we cast our minds back just a few months we who saw the game at the Memorial Ground will remember the pounding we took from the Bristol side. They got the attacking bit between their teeth very early in the game and without our international half backs, Terry Holmes and Gareth Davies, we were never able to stem their attacks or indeed stamp any kind of authority on the game. Further complications arose when our captain John Scott was injured and we came away defeated heavily by 28-8. The Westcountry men were very pleased with their victory that night because it equalled the highest score they had ever recorded against us when they had beaten us at the Arms Park in September 1930 by 28pts to 14. Victories at Cardiff for the Bristol club are extremely rare, however, and they have only gone away with the spoils on 5 occasions since fixtures began in 1888. These occurred in 1922, 1928, 1930, 1972 and 1979. The last of this sequence is debatable also, because they were leading by 10pts. to 3 when due to the ground freezing the referee abandoned the game some ten minutes into the second half when we had the advantage of a gale force wind and many thought we would have won the game. That can only be speculation, however, and the score at abandonment was 10-3 to Bristol so I think we must be benevolent enough to credit them with a victory. The full statistics for the previous 152 games played shows 115 victories to us, 29 to Bristol with 8 drawn. The point tally shows 2064 to Cardiff with 897 to Bristol.

Over the past few seasons Bristol have been fielding a lot of young players mixed with the experience of players such as Mike Rafter and Alan Morley and they have been doing very well. Last season they won the Western Merit Table hands down and this season they have also been playing well enough to warrant the selection of as many as eight players to the Gloucestershire side. Last Saturday for instance while the county side were beating Bucks, Bristol with eight reserves beat London Welsh by 10-0. Now perhaps this is where the sting in the tail comes as far as today's game is concerend. Gloucestershire play Warwickshire at Bristol today so the Bristol side at Cardiff today will be shorn of many a star. As we always maintain, however, anybody wearing the Bristol colours should be of a standard good enough to give even the best a worthy game. So today we must be doubly thankful to Bristol for filling in at such short notice and having enough faith in their reserve strength to know

they will put up a good show. Thank you Bristol, we hope you enjoy your visit.

On the home front the name of Glyn Davies has to be added to the list of injured players but on the credit side several other injury victims are training again. The Rags have only played one game since the Oxford programme and that was against Ebbw Vale Athletic which they won handsomely. The Youth side also still go on from success to success. Last Saturday they beat New Dock Stars, away 23-0 in the first round of the Welsh Youth Cup to maintain their unbeaten tag for this season as well as last. Their record is now quite incredible and I intend to devote more space to them in the next programme for the Pontypool game of December 3rd.

Finally a happy welcome to Steve Evans on his home debut since joining

us from Pontypool.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

The All Blacks are now basking in their sunshine and glory. Their deeds, unspoiled by major incidents, will provide talking points throughout our own wet winter. The Hosie happening has received much publicity. One important aspect thereof which has not been mentioned is worth a word in passing. Higginson! Raking! Trampling! His boot went on to a player on his own side. The law states that an offence is committed if an opponent is involved. Hence, it follows that no actual breach of law took place. It's all over; but could have been so different.

On then, to the Arms Park and the try which Reid scored when Ackerman made such an attempt to stop the move when tackling Wilson that he had to leave the field concussed. You'll all recall that tremendous move: Loveridge breaking near the 22, Reid outside him; Loveridge passed inside to Mourie, the next pass was again to the scrumhalf; then that long pass in-field; Robertson, via Osborne put Wilson away to be brought down by Ackerman near the line. Reid, after covering eighty yards scored with his two props the next two All Black players to arrive!

Marvellous stuff. But! Should it have been allowed? No! According to Welsh referees, who received a directive from the W.R.U. on this actual point some time earlier. Wilson held the ball out to make it available. As our own Terry Holmes got back in desperate defence, Wilson pulled it back to his chest to stop Terry getting it and then enabled Reid to obtain possession.

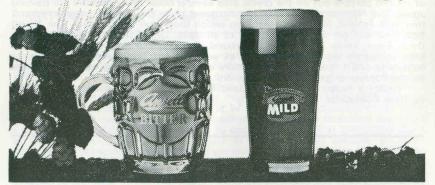
Law 19 states that a player lying with, on or near the ball MUST immediately play the ball or roll away from it or get up. This applied to Wilson, who, because the ball had not touched the ground had not been legally tackled. Pulling it back to deny Terry meant that the offence was committed and he should have been penalised. Of course, the result was not affected; what if it had been at a critical stage as with Roger Quittendon two years previously? That's the luck of the game as far as referees are concerned.



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- 3. I. EIDMAN
- 4. M. ROGERS
- T. MOGRIDGE
- 6. B. LAKIN
- 8. J. SCOTT (Captain)
- 7. B. LEASE
 - T. LEE
 - B. NEWMAN

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

Forwards



Replacements

Bristol

- G. KOUZARIS A
 - J. LANE B
- A. THOMAS C
 - A. REES D
- M. CAVEN E C. JOHN F
- R. HARDING G
 - M. FRY H
- J. TASKER I
- J. DOUBLEDAY
- N. POMPHREY
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NEXT HOME FIXTURES

| Wed., 3rd December: CARDIFF v. PONTYPOOL | 7.15 p.m. |
|--|-----------|
| Friday, 26th December: CARDIFF v. PONTYPRIDD | 3 p.m. |
| Saturday, 27th December: CARDIFF v. NEWBRIDGE | 3 p.m. |
| Thursday, 1st January, 1980: CARDIFF v. BRIDGEND | 3 p.m. |

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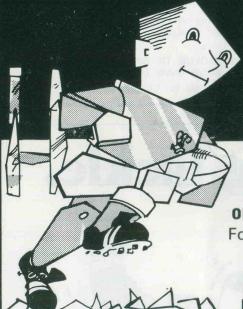
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FIRST XV FIXTURES

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|---------|---|--|--|----------|---|--|--|
| | 1980 |) | | | | | |
| | SEP | TEM | BER | | | | |
| | Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat Wed. Fri. Wed. Sat. | 3 6 10 13 17 19 24 27 | Nice Bristol Neath Penarth Coventry | HHAAHHHA | 25-15 68-25 8-28 14-20 34-0 35-9 22-3 0-18 | | |
| OCTOBER | | | | | | | |
| | Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Sat. Sat. | 1 8 11 18 25 | Bridgend Newport Pontypridd Northampton N. Zealand (All Pay) Harlequins | AHAAHA | 12-18 21-19 3-11 13-7 9-16 31-12 | | |
| | NOV Wed. Sat. Sat. Sat. Fri. | 5 8 15 22 28 | BER Oxford University Ebbw Vale Tonyrefall (Cup) Llanelli Moseley | HAAH. | 25-13 10-10 15-0 | | |
| | DEC Wed. Sat. Sat. Sat. | 3 6 13 20 | Pontypool Swansea | A. | | | |
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| Fri. Sat. | 26 27 | Pontypridd Newbridge | H |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| 1981 JAN | | RY | |
| Thurs. Sat. Sat. Fri. Sat. Sat. | 1 3 10 16 24 31 | Bridgend Moseley Schweppes Cup 3rd London Welsh Aberavon Llanelli | H Round H A |
| FEBI | RUA | RY | |
| Fri. Wed. Sat. Sat. | 6 11 14 28 | Heriots F.P. Neath Bristol Schweppes Cup 4th | A H H Round |
| MAF | RCH | | |
| Sat. Sat. Sat. | 14 21 28 | Pontypool Ebbw Vale Newport (Schweppes Cup Se | A H A |
| APR | IL | | |
| Sat. Tues. Sat. Wed. Sat. Mon. | 4 7 11 15 18 20 | Bedford Bath Schweppes Cup Fin Swansea Barbarians Harlequins | H A al H H |

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