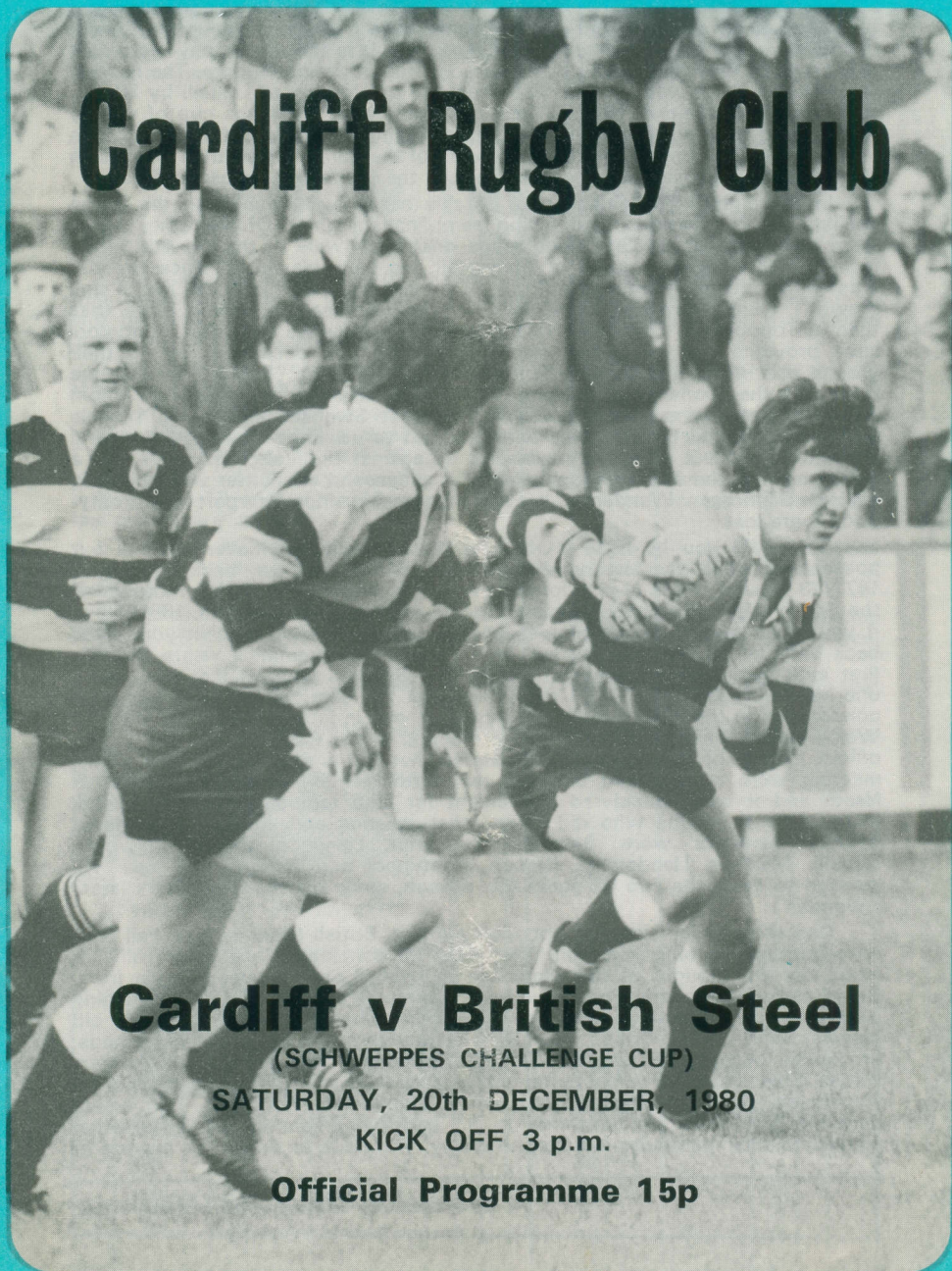


Cardiff Rugby Club



Cardiff v British Steel

(SCHWEPPE'S CHALLENGE CUP)

SATURDAY, 20th DECEMBER, 1980

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

Cardiff v. British Steel

(SCHWEPPE'S CHALLENGE CUP)

SATURDAY, 20th DECEMBER, 1980 KICK OFF 3p.m.

We are off again on our ninth attempt to win the most coveted honour in Welsh rugby, the Schweppes Challenge Cup. It is the one trophy we would unashamedly love to have on display in our Hubert Johnson room. The nearest we have got to it was in 1972/73, when we lost heavily to Llanelli by 30 pts. to 7, and then again in 1976/77, our centenary year, when the cup of victory was dashed from our lips when Newport's Keith Poole tackled Gareth Edwards in full cry for the line in the dying minutes of the game, which then finished in the narrowest possible one point victory to the Black and Ambers, 16-15.

In the eight competitions prior to this season we have been the losing finalists on 2 occasions, and losing semi-finalists on 3. Of the other 3, we were eliminated at the 3rd round stage once and twice at the 4th. In all, including this season's game at Tonyrefail, we have played 38 since the cup was re-introduced in season 1971/72. Of these we have won 29, lost 8 and drawn 1 which, however, gave us a victory because we scored more tries than our opponents Pontypool. Of the first class clubs we have met, Pontypool have provided the opposition on no fewer than 4 occasions, all on their ground and on each occasion it's meant curtains for the "Pooler" because we have won the spoils on all 4 visits. Then come Swansea and Aberavon whom we have met 3 times each, winning 2 against Swansea and losing 1 while Aberavon have beaten us twice with one win to us. Ebbw Vale and Bridgend come next, with 2 each, both wins for us against the Vale, but a win and a defeat against the Mid Glamorgan side. A successful encounter was achieved against Glamorgan Wanderers but both games against Newport and Pontypridd were lost.

So would you be right in thinking that the cup has never been in our possession? Well, the history of the W.R.U. shows that way back, starting in 1877/78 season, there was a forerunner to the present competition known as the South Wales Challenge Cup and Cardiff won it on March 12th, 1881. Now, if you are a regular reader of these notes you don't have to cast your mind back very far to last Wednesday. In the Llanelli programme I wrote that the first ever game played between us and the Scarlets was on that day nearly one hundred years ago. I also mentioned that the date had an extra historical connotation in the annals of Welsh Rugby. It was in fact, the very day that the Welsh Rugby Union was formed at a meeting in the Castle Hotel, Neath. The official history of that August body states that the timing and location of the meeting were no accident because the Cardiff-Llanelli game was played at Neath and it was considered convenient for club representatives to attend. Incidentally the clubs who did attend that meeting and are now considered founder members were Swansea, Lampeter, Llandeilo, Cardiff, Newport, Llanelli, Merthyr, Llandovery, Brecon, Pontypool and Bangor. So can we manage to carry the cup off again this season, some one hundred years later? I wonder.

One thing is for sure our opponents today, British Steel, will be hell bent on stopping us doing just that. They may be considered one of the smaller clubs but the thought of cup glory has motivated many a smaller side from David status to Goliath. They have been tuning up for their big day in training sessions with Aberavon who are now being coached by one of their old players, Omri Jones. British Steel will be readily responsive to his methods, of course, because he was the Steelmen's coach a few years back. Perhaps British Steel could have no better motivation than to visualize all the Cardiff players as, Sir Keith Joseph's, or new chairman Ian McGregor. This would certainly give them the incentive to hit back very hard at the devastation caused to their particular industry. Anyway, win, lose or draw, the players of

Cover picture by courtesy of Western Mail & Echo

British Steel are very much looking forward to their visit so we on our part bid them a very warm and first time welcome, with the hope that they all thoroughly enjoy themselves. Unfortunately I am unable to give you more details of our opponents today, because it appears that these facts are delayed in the post and the printing deadline has arrived.

As this is our last home game before Christmas, it only remains for me on behalf of the players and committee, to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous 1981.

Don't forget to come early on Boxing day. Stands will be reserved for members until 2.30 p.m. Thereafter the available seats will be sold to the public, so once again, come early for what should be a great game of rugby.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

It's Cup time again, with of course, a long way to go yet. Supporters are well aware by now of the means whereby results are decided, I won't go into that but, in answer to a number of previous queries a little explanation of the Cup Draw set-up might be welcomed.

It starts with Preliminary Rounds, run by the District Committees. Byes at this stage are by their discretion.

For the 1st round proper, on the basis of their performance over the previous five years, twelve 'Snelling' clubs are selected for automatic seeding: Clubs who reached the last 16 in the Competition are exempt to the 1st round proper where they join the 12 seeded clubs, that makes 64 clubs as follows: the 12 seeds, the 16 exempt and those who successfully negotiate the preliminary rounds.

The First round is conducted on the basis of 16 groups. The 12 seeds are kept in separate groups with 4 of the exempt clubs forming the basis of the other 4 groups.

The competition is then conducted in such a way that the 12 seeded clubs and 4 of the exempt cannot meet until the 3rd round proper should they reach that far.

The whole object is to create and maintain interest and who can deny that has been achieved.

It is only in recent years that fixed dates have been made and this season these are:

2nd Round — today, 20th December.

3rd Round — 10th January, 1981.

4th Round — 28th February, 1981.

Semi-finals — 14th March, 1981.

Final — 11th April, 1981.

Fingers and all else crossed.

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BY

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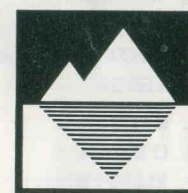
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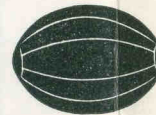
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Cardiff

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| 15. R. WILLIAMS | Full Back |
| 14. S. EVANS | Right Wing |
| 13. D. BURCHER | Right Centre |
| 12. D. BARRY | Left Centre |
| 11. A. YEANDLE | Left Wing |
| 10. W. G. DAVIES | Outside Half |
| 9. T. LEE | Inside Half |
| 1. J. WHITEFOOT | Forwards |
| 2. A. PHILLIPS | |
| 3. I. EIDMAN | |
| 4. K. EDWARDS | |
| 5. A. MOGRIDGE | |
| 6. B. LAKIN | |
| 8. J. SCOTT (Captain) | |
| 7. B. LEASE | |
| L. MAY | |
| J. O'BRIEN | |
| P. ELLIOTT | |
| M. WATKINS | |
| S. STEWART | |
| M. HADLEY | |

Referee:

Today's match ball donated by D. WATERS, Leigh Social Club, Senghenydd



Replacements

British Steel

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| D. PHILLIPS | 15. |
| A. DAVIES | 14. |
| W. EDWARDS | 13. |
| A. WILLIAMS | 12. |
| R. EMMETT | 11. |
| J. REES | 10. |
| K. LANE | 9. |
| P. GEORGE | 1. |
| K. O'LEARY | 2. |
| H. EVANS | 3. |
| G. PEEBLES | 4. |
| P. COCKINGS | 5. |
| R. SCOURFIELD (Captain) | 6. |
| A. HAYES | 8. |
| M. THOMAS | 7. |
| P. HUGHES | |
| A. REES | |
| G. CARPENTER | |
| G. ANTOLIN | |
| S. JONES | |
| M. COLES | |



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NEXT HOME FIXTURES

Friday, 26th December: **CARDIFF v. PONTYPRIDD** 3 p.m.

Saturday, 27th December: **CARDIFF v. NEWBRIDGE** 3 p.m.

Thursday, 1st January, 1981: **CARDIFF v. BRIDGEND** 3 p.m.

Saturday, 3rd January, 1981: **CARDIFF v. MOSELEY** 3 p.m.

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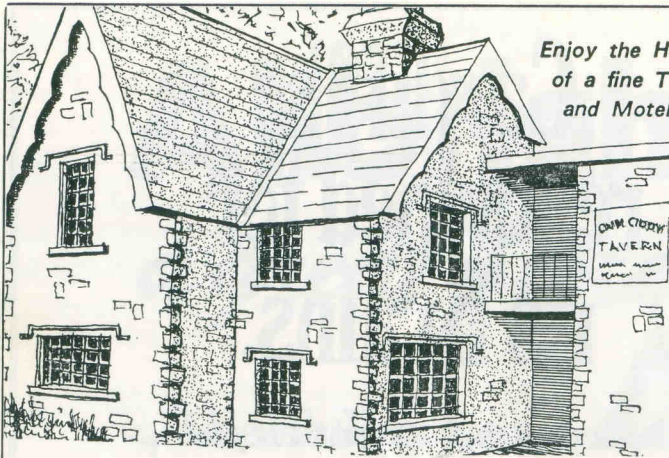
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Sat. 13 London Welsh

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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1980 SEPTEMBER

Wed.	3	Glamorgan Wands.	H	25-15
Sat.	6	Nice	H	68-25
Wed.	10	Bristol	A	8-28
Sat.	13	Neath	A	14-20
Wed.	17	Penarth	H	34-0
Fri.	19	Coventry	H	35-9
Wed.	24	Maesteg	H	22-3
Sat.	27	Aberavon	A	0-18

OCTOBER

Wed.	1	Bridgend	A	12-18
Sat.	4	Newport	H	21-19
Wed.	8	Pontypridd	A	3-11
Sat.	11	Northampton	A	13-7
Sat.	18	N. Zealand (All Pay)	H	9-16
Sat.	25	Harlequins	A	31-12

NOVEMBER

Wed.	5	Oxford University	H	25-13
Sat.	8	Ebbw Vale	A	10-10
Sat.	15	Tonyrefail (Cup)	A	15-0
Sat.	22	Bristol	H	26-7
Fri.	28	Moseley	A	7-11

DECEMBER

Wed.	3	Pontypool	H	32-15
Sat.	6	Swansea	A	23-18
Sat.	13	London Welsh	A	22-12
Wed.,	17	Llanelli	H	22-6
Sat.	20	British Steel (Cup)	H	.....

Fri.	26	Pontypridd	H	.....
Sat.	27	Newbridge	H	.....

1981 JANUARY

Thurs.	1	Bridgend	H	.....
Sat.	3	Moseley	H	.....
Sat.	10	Schweppes Cup 3rd Round		
Fri.	16	London Welsh	H	.....
Sat.	24	Aberavon	H	.....
Sat.	31	Llanelli	A	.....

FEBRUARY

Fri.	6	Heriots F.P.	A	.....
Wed.	11	Neath	H	.....
Sat.	14	Bristol	H	.....
Sat.	28	Schweppes Cup 4th Round		

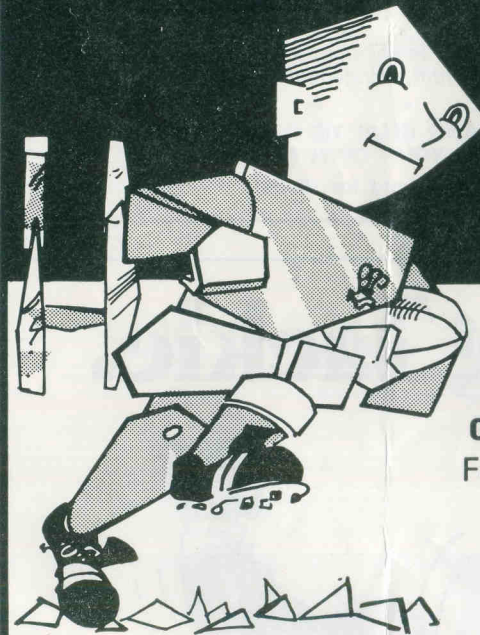
MARCH

Sat.	14	Pontypool	A	.....
Sat.	21	Ebbw Vale	H	.....
Sat.	28	Newport	A	.....
		(Schweppes Cup Semi-final)		

APRIL

Sat.	4	Bedford	H	.....
Tues.	7	Bath	A	.....
Sat.	11	Schweppes Cup Final		
Wed.	15	Swansea	H
Sat.	18	Barbarians	H
Mon.	20	Harlequins	H

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