

Cardiff Rugby Club

Cardiff v Cross Keys (SCHWEPPES CHALLENGE CUP)

SATURDAY, 28th FEBRUARY, 1981

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

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(SCHWEPPES CHALLENGE CUP)

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Well, if it's got to snow perhaps the best time for it to come is as it did, last Saturday, straight after Wales' narrow but not very convincing win over Ireland. It at least gives us a week to see it thaw and let the ground dry out before the following Saturday. Just think of the utter confusion that could be caused if bad weather were to upset this afternoon's fixtures of the fourth round of the Schweppes Cup. As it is the games are sandwiched between two international matches and only a fortnight before the semi finals are due on March 14th. Hopefully then you will be reading these notes this afternoon, which naturally will mean no interference due to bad weather because postponements and the ensuing scramble for the poor harassed

fixture secretaries to agree fixture dates is not as easy as it seems.

Today then, we take pleasure in offering a warm and sincere welcome to the men from Pandy Park, Cross Keys on this their first visit to the Arms Park since December, 1966. Now, Cross Keys are one of a very few clubs who can boast of having beaten us more than we have beaten them. The record shows that we have played 18 games, of which, we have won 8, lost 9 and 1 game has been drawn. We have scored 147 points against 137. The record also shows another 2 games played under the heading of scratch/ charity and, of these we have won one each so they can still say that their record in the series is better than ours. The Keys were formed in 1885 but we first played them in 1920 and of 10 games played between then and 1930 they won 8 to our 1 with the remaining game drawn. The trend after that, however, was completely reversed and of the other 8 games_that have been played prior to today, we have won 7 and lost 1. The last 5 of these games were played in the old Floodlight Alliance Competition which lasted some 6 years from 1962 to 1968. Perhaps the match older Cross Keys supporters may remember was played during September 1946 at Pandy Park, when we scraped home by 4 pts. to 3. Cardiff's 4 points came from a drop goal by Bill Tamplin but many were the opposition fans who thought that Bill's kick didn't really comply with the definition of what constitutes a drop kick, in fact they thought it was a punt.

So to today, it's the Cup that gives us the opportunity of renewing our acquaintances with Cross Keys. It is the first time we have ever met then in the nine seasons since the competition has been running and they join a list of 27 other clubs in the 40 games we have played prior to today. Of these 27 clubs, we have met 18 of them on only a single occasion and South Glamorgan Institute, Hendy, Tonyrefail, Llanelli, Ebbw Vale, and Bridgend twice, Swansea and Aberavon three times and last but certainly not least Pontypool, on no fewer than four occasions, all on their own patch and all won by us. Our record in these 40 games shows 32 wins and 8 defeats having scored 916 points against 331. Mind you those defeats have been suffered by any club who failed to win the Cup having lost one game each year

so Cross Keys share that dubious statistic with us.

Cross Keys, of course, are delighted today to be in the last eight for the first time ever. To be so they achieved a very creditable win against Ebbw Vale at Eugene Cross Park which was no mean feat. Obviously like all other seven teams they also would have very much liked to have been drawn at home today but as it happens their ill luck was our good fortune. To date the Keys have been having a reasonable season but of late have gone off the boil slightly since their fine cup win at Ebbw Vale. Still Cup form is a one off situation and it's on the day performance that matters. No doubt, Derek Church, who has returned to Pandy Park after a spell with us, and Nick Rose who is an ex-player of our club will have briefed all their colleagues on the Arms Park set up and they will be all out to acquire a place in the last four. It's at this stage where the big money in gate receipts

starts to come in. In fact, our ground has already been designated as one of the semi finals venues to take place on 14th March so that's another

Saturday to enjoy a game on the Park.

So then to Cross Keys we say welcome to the Arms Park and in so doing congratulate you on the rebuilding programme you have undertaken at Pandy Park. A complex consisting of dressing rooms, a clubhouse with three bars, games room and community room is being erected at a cost of £325,000. It takes a lot more than the faint hearted to even contemplate such a scheme in this day and age so once again we wish Cross Keys the very best of luck in early completion of their project and hope their initiative is rewarded in the form of good patronage. Cross Keys we hope you have an enjoyable day at the Arms Park.

On the home front it's many congratulations to Alan Priday who has been appointed to the Manager's position for our forthcoming tour to Zimbabwe and also to Mervyn John, who has been appointed Assistant Manager. The party will leave Cardiff on May 27th for a 5 match tour and

return to this country on the 15th June, and very nice too.

The Rags had a good win at Penygraig yesterday week and ran out 19-17 victors after a very good game of rugby. The Youth were due to play last Sunday but the heavy snow put paid to that so their record still stands at played 31 won 31 with 874 points for and only 130 against. Mark Ring the captain must be one of the highest individual scorers in Wales with a massive 256 points to his credit.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

Relief all round last Saturday, was there not, especially as far as conceding penalty kicks was concerned. 14 to us, only 11 against. And how important that can be. Shows the value of having referees in attendance at the squad sessions.

To the Cup! Many wonder what happens to the money. Why not? Well, up to and including the fourth round and that means this Saturday, after expenses have been deducted, 40% goes to the clubs participating, 20% to the Competition Reserve Fund. I'll tell you what happens in the semi and the final when those hurdles are reached. That's optimism for you.

A little on the rules.

Touch judges for the quarter finals and thereon will be appointed by the W.R.U.

If, after full time it's a draw, it will be decided on: tries! If they're equal, then Goals! If still equal then extra time of 10 minutes each way and the winners declared according to above. If still a tie, the away team will be given the decision except in semi-finals when a coin will be tossed. (I shudder at that). In the final, it will be an actual draw with the Cup held by each club for six months.

Let's hope none of that happens.

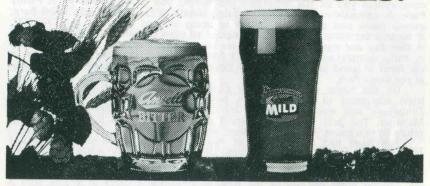


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- 2. M. WATKINS
- 3. J. DIXON
- 4. K. EDWARDS
- B. NORSTER
- 6. B. LAKIN
- 8. J. SCOTT (Captain)
- 7. B. LEASE
 - G. WILLIAMS
 - K. SWAIN
 - D. BARRY
 - A. PHILLIPS
 - T. MOGRIDGE
 - S. LANE

Referee: W. D. BEVAN

Cross Keys Full Back

- G. LLEWELLYN 15.
 - J. WALKEE 14.
 - P. DANIEL 13.
- A. WAINFOUR 12.
- L. JONES (Captain) 11.
- D. WILLIAMS/P. THOMAS 10. N. ROSE 9
 - P. EDWARDS 1.
 - D. LAMER 2.
 - R. MAIN 3.
 - J. COLLINS 4.
 - S. LLOYD 5.
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NEXT HOME FIXTURES

Saturday, 21st March: CARDIFF v. EBBW VALE

3 p.m.

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Wednesday, 15th April: CARDIFF v. SWANSEA

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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1980 SEP					
Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat Wed. Frl. Wed. Sat.	3 6 10 13 17 19 24 27	Nice Bristol	THAAHHA	25-15 68-25 8-28 14-20 34-0 35-9 22-3 0-18	
ОСТ	ОВЕ	R			
Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Sat. Sat.	1 8 11 18 25		AHAAHA		
NOVEMBER					
Wed. Sat. Sat. Sat. Frl.	5 8 15 22 28	Oxford University Ebbw Vale Tonyrefall (Cup) Bristol Moseley	HAAHA	25-13 10-10 15-0 26-7 7-11	
DEC	DECEMBER				
Wed. Sat. Sat. Wed. Sat.	3 6 13 17 20	Pontypool Swansea London Welsh Llanelli British Steel (Cup)	HAAHH	32-15 23-18 22-12 22-6 41-0	

Frl. Sat.	26 27	Pontypridd Newbridge	H 16-4 H 12-7
1981 JAN		RY	
Thurs. Sat. Sat. Frl. Sat. Sat.	1 3 10 16 24 31	Bridgend Moseley Tredegar (Cup) London Welsh Aberavon Llanelli	H 6-22 H 17-13 H 22-0 H 17-4 H 21-15 A 15-24
FEBI	RUA	RY	
Fri. Wed. Sat. Fri. Sat.	6 11 14 20 28	Heriots F.P. Neath Bristol Bective Rangers Cross Keys (Cup)	A 26-8 H 9-6 H 26-16 H 36-9 H
MAF	RCH		
Sat.	14	Pontypool	A
Sat. Sat.	21 28	(Schweppes Cup Se Ebbw Vale Newport	H
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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