

Cardiff Rugby Club

Cardiff v. Leicester

SATURDAY, 6th NOVEMBER, 1982 KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

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Well if the general form of Welsh rugby is not exactly setting the world alight at the moment the controversy surrounding it certainly is. The current Maoris tour is certainly proving to be rather an explosive affair as they try to get to grips with our scrummaging. Then there was the announcement of the Welsh squad from which the team to play the tourists next Saturday will be selected. It was a source of great disappointment to us that both Gareth Davies and Rhodri Lewis could not even find a place in the squad. Both players will obviously feel left out in the cold but its an ill wind and I'm sure that both Gareth and Rhodri will be very keen to get back into contention by the time the full Home Championship games commence next February.

What better way could they ask to begin that task than by pitting their wits against today's visitors Leicester. They have been one of the top outfits in English rugby over the past several years now and although last season their previous high standard slipped slightly they still provided Peter Wheeler, Paul Dodge, Clive Woodward, Les Cusworth and Dusty Hare to their national XV. The latter of this talented quintet, of course, has now become a points scoring legend and up to last season had amassed a phenomenal total of 4,000 plus. His record included a huge 396 points during last season and this in turn included 34 in one game against Birmingham which is another Leicester record. Peter Wheeler again is a club record breaker as he is the most capped of 34 players from the Leicester club to play for England having had the honour of donning the white jersey on 33 occasions to surpass the previous holder's total of 31.

The Leicester club were formed in 1880, are commonly known as the "Tigers" and play at their Aylestone Road, ground. We first played them in season 1889-90 and in all we have met on 72 occasions. Of these we have won 50, Leicester 14 with the remaining 8 being drawn. From the inaugural game onwards we met regularly on a home and away basis per season until 1928-29. We resumed fixtures after World War II and played fairly reguarly until 1956-57 but since then we have met on only 2 occasions in 1970-71 and 1972-73. Our only other encounter with them was 12 months ago last August when they were the guest side in the Snelling Sevens on the National Stadium. We met in the final of the tournament and it resulted in a victory for us by 20pts. to 4. Cardiff is anything but a happy hunting ground for The Tigers, however, because of the 14 games they have won in the series 13 of them have been on their own patch and their solitary victory in Cardiff came in season 1919-20 when they won by 16-3 on 28th February, 1920. So no - doubt they will be looking for a better result today than on their last trip to Wales a fortnight ago when they paid a visit to St. Helens, Swansea. They were unfortunate enough to find the All Whites really on song and were well beaten. Last Saturday, however, they had a good 50pts. win over Saracens to renew their confidence and set them in good stead for today. They bring their strongest combination with them today except for Clive Woodward who still has not resumed playing since his injury. So with both sides well equipped with capped players perhaps today's game will take on the shape of a mini international. To Leicester then welcome back to the Arms Park for the first time since January, 1971 and we in turn look forward to our visit to Aylestone Road next season.

English rugby is not without its troubles, however, and today's visitors are very much a part and parcel of the controversy. This season the R.F.U. have introduced another form of their long established County Championship. The 27 counties are now competing in 4 leagues with subsequent promotion and relegation according to position at the end of the season. The crunch comes inasmuch as all games are to be played on Saturdays whereas both London and Midlands have always played their county rugby in mid-week which left their Saturdays free for club involvement. Indeed Leicester, Moseley, Northampton, Bedford and Coventry feel so aggrieved about the situation that they have refused to allow their grounds to be used for county games. The big gate taking clubs also tried to go it alone by forming their own sponsored merit table but this has also fallen foul of their parent body - so

things are simmering a bit across the border too.

The Rags continue to spin a web of invincibility over all their opponents and their record now reads played 15 won 15 points for 424 angainst 134. Their last 3 games have resulted in good wins against Penygraig away 25-3. London New Zealand home 26-0 and last Saturday Moseley United home 26-9. They will probably have their work cut out today away to Leicester Extras but a win would give them the opportunity of facing the New Zealand touring side Poneke with a clean sheet of 16 straight wins. The crowd and the atmosphere present on the eve of the Maori game when they played London New Zealand was great to experience and no doubt it will be as good if not better next Friday evening when they face their second antipodean challengeand all for only 20p.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

"THE UNUSUAL MAY BE LEGAL"

The third try scored by Neath against South Glamorgan Institute recently has become a real talking point among players and referees. Was it legal?

The try scored by scrum half Carl Gnojek happened after Geraint John had kicked a penalty goal for the Institute. As the Institute players returned to their own half, Neath's wing Alun Edmunds raced upfield to the halfway line. Edmunds got hold of a ball - NOT the one which had been used for the penalty goal - placed the ball quickly on the halfway line and kicked ahead. Most of the Institute side were still making their way back after the kick, and were STILL in the Neath half.

Was it a try? The referee had no hesitation in awarding the score. Although it seems odd and most unusual, there is nothing in law to say it is not allow-

There is not anything in law which says you cannot use another ball for a kick off. The question of law only applies to the ball being thrown in at a quick throw in from touch.

Law 10, the kick off, note 5 states that the opposing team must stand on. or behind, the 10 metre line. However this law is subject to advantage, and the referee is given wide discretion as to what constitutes an advantage.

One has not heard the last of this, for this interpretation will now be studied closely by the Laws Sub-committee of the Welsh Society of Rugby Union Referees. I don't want to prejudge their deliberations, but I wonder whether they will advise us to apply commonsense as they did with another unusual situation, which happened recently.

A player behind his goal line drop kicked the ball to his own team colleague on the 22 metre line for a drop out after a minor. An opposing player took advantage of this, intercepted the ball, and "scored a try". Decision it's not a try. The referee should apply commonsense, and order another drop out. If a referee was to allow a try in this situation, then he must give offside for all other kicks which the opponents do not intercept.

This is where the reading of the game and the intention is so important

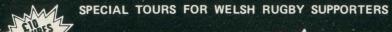
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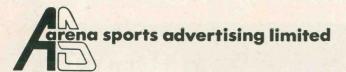
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Notice to Members and Season Ticket Holders

The Wales v. Maoris game did not come into the alphabetical distribution of tickets as they have been put on sale to the general public by the W.R.U. Normal distribution will resume for the Wales v. England game.

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8. T. CHARLES

Referee: KEN PARFITT

7. R. LEWIS

16. J. SOUTO

17. N. O'BRIEN

Full Back Right Wing Right Centre Left Centre

Left Wing

Outside Half Inside Half

Forwards



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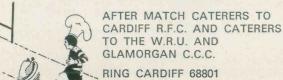
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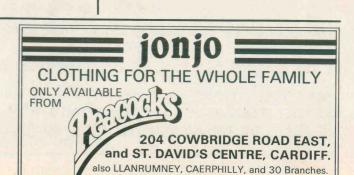
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1982					
SEPTE Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Sat. Wed.	1 4 8 11 15	Glamorgan Wand. Munster Bristol Neath Penarth Coventry	HAAAHHAA	9-15 6-22 9-22 16-9 70-0 25-25 20-16 9-15	
OCTO Sat. Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat. Wed. Sat.	BER 2 6 9 13 16 23 27 30	Newport Bridgend Northampton Maesteg Newbridge Maori XV Oxford University Moseley	H	17-9	
NOVE Tues. Sat. Wed. Sat. Sat.	2	Ebbw Vale Leicester Pontypool	A H. H. unc	1	
DECEI Sat. Sat. Sat.		Swansea London Welsh	A.	d	

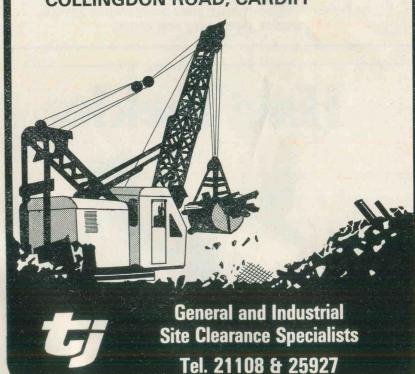
Wed. Mon.	22 27	Bridgend H Pontypridd H
1983 JANUA Sat. Sat. Sat. Sat. Sat. Sat.	ARY 1 8 15 22 29	Moseley H
FEBRU Sat. Sat. Fri. Sat.	5 12 18 26	London Welsh H Bristol H Heriots F.P. A W.R.U. Cup 4th Round
MARC Fri. Sat. Wed. Sat.	H 4 12 23 26	Bective Rangers H
APRIL Sat. Mon. Sat. Sat. Sat. Sat.	2 4 9 16 23 30	Barbarians H

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