

Cardiff Rugby Club

Cardiff v. Llanelli

SATURDAY, 27th NOVEMBER, 1982

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

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Look out everyone — the Red Peril is on the march. The Sospans are bubbling and threatening to boil over. They arrive here today for their 200th game against Cardiff with only one hole punched in the side of their pot, by Swansea 16pts. to 13pts. and a dent made by Bridgend 8pts. all. However, they have won everything else, the damage has been invisibly mended and the sospan stands burnished, bright and threatening to a Cardiff side that has lost more games than it has won.

Since their opening game against Nottingham (Nottingham?) they have played 17 games winning 15, losing 1 drawing 1. This, of course, includes their splendid win against the Maoris, and the team today will show few changes from that particular squad. One of the positions that remains unpredictable is that of fly-half where they choose between two excellent, but contrasting, players in Bernard Thomas and Martin Gravelle (Gravelle with an 'e' and no relation to the other Gravelle). An over-simplified comparison of their respective abilities would state that Bernard is a tactical player with a cultured kick and Martin is better suited to the running game. It will be intriguing to see who they will choose to meet the threat posed by Cardiff today. Their choice would be an indicator to the type of game they intend to play. If they are having problems of indecision I suggest they recall Carwyn James.

My secret sources of information down West tell me that the present resurgence of Llanelli as a power in the land is due in part to enlightened coaching by Gareth Jenkins and Alan Lewis; strong captaincy by Phil May; an extremely talented squad of young players; and the spectacular form of Ray Gravelle. Ray has had a second blossoming. Not content with collecting many caps for Wales as a crash-ball, hard-tackling centre he now intends to add to his collection in a new role as the thinking, deft-passing, anchor man of Llanelli and Wales threequarter line. His favourite ploy is to beat his opposite number by dexterous footwork or get outside him by speed and then fire a long pass that can miss out his co-centre, or the full back coming in, or both and go straight to the wing. I am told by a Western Mail reporter that in the early games he had problems controlling this power pass and he knocked down two touch-judges and dented the committee box in three places before he got it working perfectly, as he demonstrated against Bridgend when it created two clear tries for his wing.

A return to creativity in midfield would be the answer to a prayer for all Welsh rugby people and what a Christmas present Ray would give us if he succeeds in rekindling the true arts of centre play. As a matter of fact apart from his rugby he is a most likely 'Sion Corn' (Santa Claus to those with no knowledge of the language of heaven). He has a kindly face, and the colours of scarlet and white are most appropriate. All it requires is for Jeff Shurlock to fluff out and streak his hair and beard, and for Carol Lloyd to trim the neck, hem and cuffs of his jersey with something white and fluffy and he'd be there. All extremely unlikely I'm afraid. Generous to a fault are the people of Llanelli, but when it comes to Rugby Football they have never given any presents to Cardiff.

It is a strange fact that when we consider that Llanelli beat the Maoris, and the abundance of talent in their team from Mark Douglas, heir apparent to Terry Holmes, through Peter Hopkins, David Nicholls, Peter Morgan, Phil Lewis to the remarkable Kevin Thomas at full back, that they had no representative in the Welsh team that played the Maoris. It must be a long time since that happened and on current form unlikely to happen again for a while.

The Cardiff team is now shaking down into something resembling its true shape and form, and it is good to see skipper John Scott in his new slim-fit skin back in action together with Owen Golding and Paul Rees. The results over the last two months have borne no relationship to the strength

of the club, and whilst the Championship may be beyond us, we are getting it together at the right time to beat-off all Challengers for the Schweppes Cup.

Whispers from Llanelli tell me that if they beat Cardiff today the Championship is as good as theirs and that the Cup beckons. This is also a crucial game for Cardiff and the result today will be a true indicator of our hopes for the remainder of the season.

All in all it promises to be a cracking game and one befitting the 200th game between two great clubs.

CROESO I LLANELLI

For the statistically minded: Cardiff have played Llanelli 199 times. Winning 111, losing 72 with 16 games drawn. Last season we played Llanelli three times. Winning at Stradey 15pts. to 7pts., 15 pts.-10pts. at Cardiff, and 12pts. to 3 pts. in the W.R.U. Cup, again at the Arms Park.

Mr. IVOR JONES

May we in Cardiff offer our condolences to the family, friends, relatives an to the Llanelli Club on the knowledge of the death of Mr. Ivor Jones. He was a great rugby man.

D.J.H.

KNOW THE LAWS

By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

OFFSIDE IN GENERAL PLAY

Offside means that a player is in a position in which he is out of the game and liable to penalty. **In General Play, a player is offside because he is in front of the ball last played by another player of his team;** i.e., a player is in an offside position if the ball has been kicked, or touched, or is being carried by one of his team behind him.

But there is **NO** penalty for being in an offside position,, **UNLESS:**

- (a) the player plays the ball,
- (b) the player obstructs an opponent,
- (c) the player approaches or remains within 10 metres of an opponent waiting to play the ball, or the place where the ball pitches.

The **PENALTY** is **either** a penalty kick at the place of infringement **or**, at the option of the non offending team, a scrummage at the place where the ball was last played by the offending team. If the latter place is in-goal, the scrummage is 5 metres from the goal line on a line through the place.

- (Q.) An offside player cannot avoid being touched by the ball or by a player carrying it; i.e., he is "accidentally offside". What should be the referee's decision?
- (A.) Play should be allowed to continue unless the infringing team obtains an advantage, in which case a scrummage shall be awarded at that place. The non-infringing team shall put the ball in.
- (Q.) **Due to the speed of the game** an offside player finds himself unavoidably within 10 metres of an opponent waiting to play the ball. How should the referee react to this situation?
- (A.) The offside player **must retire immediately**, without delay, and without interfering with an opponent **or be penalised**.

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Marathon Ode to a Marathon Blow

As a prelude to the Coventry fiasco, Band Chairman Tom Kelly decided to compose a poetic version of the occasion so here are the results of his labours.

1. It was Saturday 18th of October in 1982
St. Albans Band went on the field
T'was just gone half past two
The band was not too large that day
It numbered only twenty-two
Off they went with a stirring march
By chance called "Sons of the Brave"
They weren't to know by Kick Off time
Each would have worked like a slave.
2. Three o'clock fast approaching
Alun Friday switched on to say
The Kick Off time would be delayed
Coventry's bus had broke down on the way
They were stuck in a place just outside Usk
And in order to save the day
Cardiff had sent an omnibus
Which got lost it would seem — sad to say.
3. Meanwhile the valiant band played on
Through March, and Waltz, and Blues
Not one carp, nor a single moan,
As they played and awaited some news
It came from Alun, the Cardiff Sec.
Who informed the dwindling throng
A fleet of cars, led by "Tony the Chair"
Had set off, and it wouldn't be long
'Ere they returned with the Coventry side
So for God's sake fellers hang on
For if you don't there will be so few
You'll be outnumbered by that band of 22.
4. Meanwhile the valiant band played on
Knowing now, they were into a fight
The Clubhouse clock showed ten past four
As they played "All through the night"
Billy Kelleher their honourable Sec.
To be in London — took flight
He packed his "Eupho", picked up Sue
Foot on the gas and up the M4 flew,
He had better luck than 'Tony the Chair'
For his brand new car got him safely there
and with Susie, his delightful, delicious mate
Arrived in London at twenty-to-eight
5. The voice of Alun once again, as 5 o'clock drew near
Announced in tones of great relief, that raised a hearty cheer,
Good news the Coventry side's arrived
The match will start at a quarter past five
By this time it is sad to say
A lot of folk had gone away
But out there on that Hallowed ground
The band played on their lungs still sound
The reeds vibrant, the brass so bold
But legs, about a hundred years old.
6. To loosen up, led by Scotty, the Cardiff lads came out,
Passing, running, jinking, and punting balls about
And there among those giants, garbed in black and blue
The gallant band of Red Coats stood, and blew, and blew, and blew
Amidst the shot, and shell they played and did not flinch or waver
Missing not a Minim, nor a Crotchet or a Quaver
A cheerful word from Scotty, that's the way it's always been
A symbol of true friendship, since Nineteen-Nineteen.
7. Meanwhile the valiant band played on
What a baptism for deputy Leo
'John the Baton' had gone on holiday that morn.
and we ask ourselves, — What did he know?
As he dined, as he swam, as he Danced thro' the day
Had he slightly diverted his route on the way,
And nobbled the coach with the Coventry team
So that somewhere near Usk, it ran out of steam
You may ask; My dear Watson, — why should he do this
I'll tell you dear chap, the band needs the practice
For next Sunday week, they'll be up with the lark
At a venue not far from Cardiff Arms Park
And they have to start playing at just after eight
At the start of the Marathon, and I'll tell you this mate
He may not be here, but on hol's far away
It's he who made sure we played nearly all day
Who sorted out music we did not repeat
And made sure of enough to perform such a feat.
So for me it's no longer a dark mystery
The marathon show was set up, cleverly
By the silver haired gent with cherubic face
Who made absolutely sure
He'd be nowhere near the place.

TOM KELLY (Band Chairman)

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Christmas Prize Draw

Have you had a dabble in the Club's CHRISTMAS PRIZE DRAW yet? Prizes include Poultry, hams, spirits etc., and the entry books are available behind the bars. The draw will take place on Tuesday, December 21st at the Club commencing at 7.30 p.m. and free light refreshments will be available.

Also on the night the monthly, quarterly and Christmas Draw of the 300 Club will be made.

Come along and make it an enjoyable and perhaps profitable evening.

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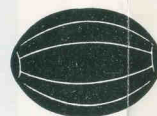
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3. I. EIDMAN
4. R. NORSTER
5. M. ROGERS
6. O. GOLDING
8. J. SCOTT (Captain)
7. R. LEWIS

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



Replacements

16. P. GOODFELLOW
17. L. O'BRIEN

Referee: CLIVE NORLING (W.R.U.)

Today's match ball donated by BRIAN CRITCHER, Fresh Fruit of Wales, Bessemer Rd., Cardiff.

Llanelli

- K. THOMAS 15.
- P. LEWIS 14.
- R. GRAVELL 13.
- P. MORGAN 12.
- P. HOPKINS 11.
- M. GRAVELLE 10.
- M. DOUGLAS 9.
- L. DELANEY 1.
- K. TOWNLEY 2.
- C. THOMAS 3.
- P. MAY (Captain) 4.
- R. CORNELIUS 5.
- A. DAVIES 6.
- P. DAVIES 8.
- D. PICKERING 7.
- B. THOMAS 16.
- R. SANDERS 17.



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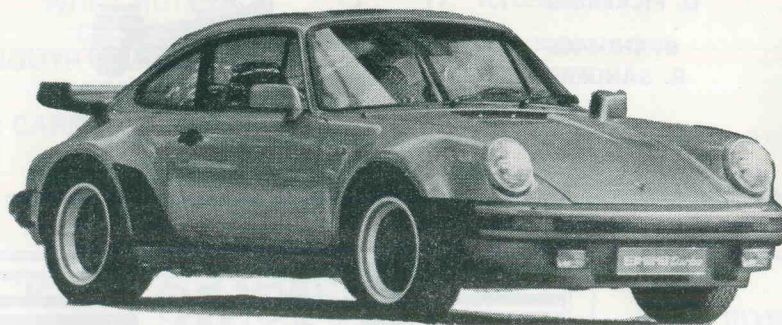
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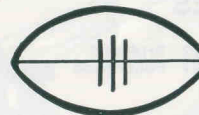
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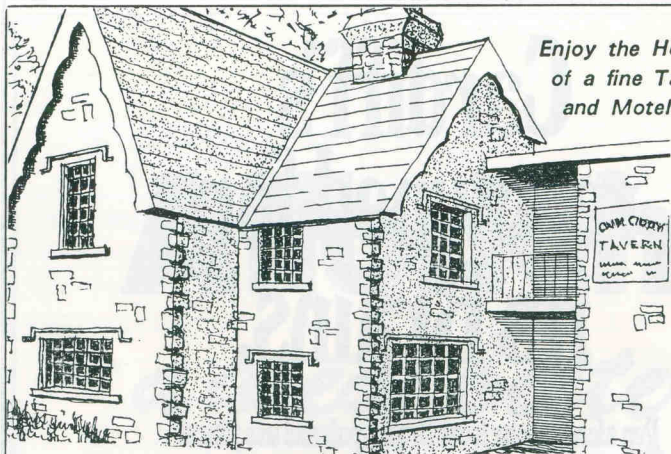
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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1982

SEPTEMBER

Wed. 1	Glamorgan Wand.	H	9-15
Sat. 4	Munster	A	6-22
Wed. 8	Bristol	A	9-22
Sat. 11	Neath	A	16-9
Wed. 15	Penarth	H	70-0
Sat. 18	Coventry	H	25-25
Sat. 25	Aberavon	A	20-16
Wed. 29	Pontypridd	A	9-15

OCTOBER

Sat. 2	Newport	H	13-3
Wed. 6	Bridgend	A	16-21
Sat. 9	Northampton	A	40-9
Wed. 13	Maesteg	A	24-31
Sat. 16	Newbridge	H	10-12
Sat. 23	Maori XV	H	9-17
Wed. 27	Oxford University	A	17-9
Sat. 30	Moseley	A	33-19

NOVEMBER

Tues. 2	Ebbw Vale	A	10-12
Sat. 6	Leicester	H	32-9
Wed. 10	Pontypool	H	12-16
Sat. 20	Cilfynydd (Cup)	H	66-9
Sat. 27	Llanelli	H	.....

DECEMBER

Sat. 4	Swansea	A	.....
Sat. 11	London Welsh	A	.....
Sat. 18	W.R.U. Cup 2nd Round		

Wed. 22	Bridgend	H	.....
Mon. 27	Pontypridd	H	.....

1983

JANUARY

Sat. 1	Moseley	H	.....
Sat. 8	Aberavon	H	.....
Sat. 15	Ebbw Vale	H	.....
Sat. 22	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round		
Sat. 29	Llanelli	A	.....

FEBRUARY

Sat. 5	London Welsh	H	.....
Sat. 12	Bristol	H	.....
Fri. 18	Herlots F.P.	A	.....
Sat. 26	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round		

MARCH

Fri. 4	Bective Rangers	H	.....
Sat. 12	Pontypool	A	.....
Wed. 23			
Sat. 26	Newport	A	.....

APRIL

Sat. 2	Barbarians	H	.....
Mon. 4	Harlequins	H
Sat. 9	Swansea	H
Sat. 16	Neath	H
Sat. 23	Bath	A
Sat. 30	W.R.U. Cup Final		

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