

CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB CENTENARY YEAR



CARDIFF v COVENTRY

SATURDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER, 1976

KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

Cardiff v. Coventry

SATURDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER, 1976

K.O. 3 p.m.

Any medical man will tell you that nervous tension is one of the results of contemporary living and is responsible for many of the neuroses that beset our society. Apart from the more obvious manifestations of the malaise, such as wife-beating, boozing, twitching and nose-picking, it has deeper, more subtle effects. It causes the odd mis-fire of the co-ordinated movements, resulting in such things as players missing easy goal-kicks, or the odd inexplicable bad pass, and when the pressure is really on, the occasional outbreak of fisticuffs. One of the causes of nervous tension in Rugby players is the defence of a ground record. We had ours exactly eleven days, and we should be grateful to the Wolfhounds for relieving us of it. Now to the relief of those who have to live with us, we will live and play with a serenity seldom known. It was a strange game. Never again will the Club run and pass with such enthusiasm and flair to such little effect. Rarely will we see a Representative side against us that doesn't pass a ball for the first half and yet scores twenty points by the end. We hope we don't meet such a magnificent defence too often this season, otherwise that nasty old nervous tension will be replaced by hysteria and despair.

Coventry without doubt are the top English Club of the post-war era, and it would take a truly exceptional series of contests between other clubs to match the drama of the Cardiff-Coventry games of the last thirty years and beyond. There have been great games at Coundon Road and the Arms Park, wherein many of the most brilliant of the players of the eras displayed their arts and performed at International tempo. Ivor Preece, David Duckham, Peter Jackson and legions of class forwards are names that bear witness to the quality of the players that Cardiff have had to contend with over the years. It has been a curious feature of the series over the years that both teams tend to plunder each others record to the extent of a win apiece, at home, each season. The last time that this sequence was broken was when Coventry beat us at home in 1972. We don't talk too much about that game since Mervyn John swears the fabulous Dai Duckham swerved outside the Coventry linesman en-route to the goal line. We have to go back six seasons to our last win at Coundon Road when we won 20-15. Last year followed tradition with us losing away 18-21 in a real nail-biter and then winning at the Arms Park 29-12.

Alf Wyman of Coventry is the guiding light behind the Anglo-Welsh Merit Table that starts this season and promises to do much for the game of the gate-taking clubs in both countries. We are not in this intriguing development because of our Centenary commitments, but will be watching with interest the progress of this competition.

The announcement over the weekend of the RU's own Table competition threatens to choke this particular brain child at birth, and even if it doesn't, there appears to be considerable opposition to it at high level.

An interesting side issue on the Coventry side is that they were very successfully coached by Malcolm Lewis of the W.R.U. who is now the right man of Ray Williams, the Coaching Adviser of the W.R.U., who has himself played for Coventry.

Over the years, since 1891 to be precise, we have been battling it out with the Midlanders, and to date we have won 54 of the 87 encounters, losing 28. They have all been cracking games and I have no doubt that today's game will be as bright as anything we shall see in our Centenary season. A great welcome to our long standing friends from Coventry.

D.J.H.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

Memories of the All Blacks Springbok tour will last a long time. Memories especially of some of the refereeing decisions, as with the 1974 Lions not all that long ago.

Not Africans-speaking skippers and referees, as for last Wednesday, but one aspect which was common in every game seen. Intentional Knock-on!

Not once did I see any referee penalise for this deliberate offence and in not one game did I see it not take place.

The players must have known. I cannot accept that the referee did not know, and yet, at critical stages not one, but many certain tries were saved by defending players getting amongst the ball givers and takers with the obvious intention of knocking the ball away to prevent it being caught. This offence is dealt with summarily and well over here and that must be the case wherever the game is played.

Talking this over with officials and players after the matches, it would appear that, maybe because their game is dominated by kicking, and the amount of running with the ball is negligible, the need for this to be strictly checked does not seem to be so important.

That is rubbish. The laws are there to be observed.

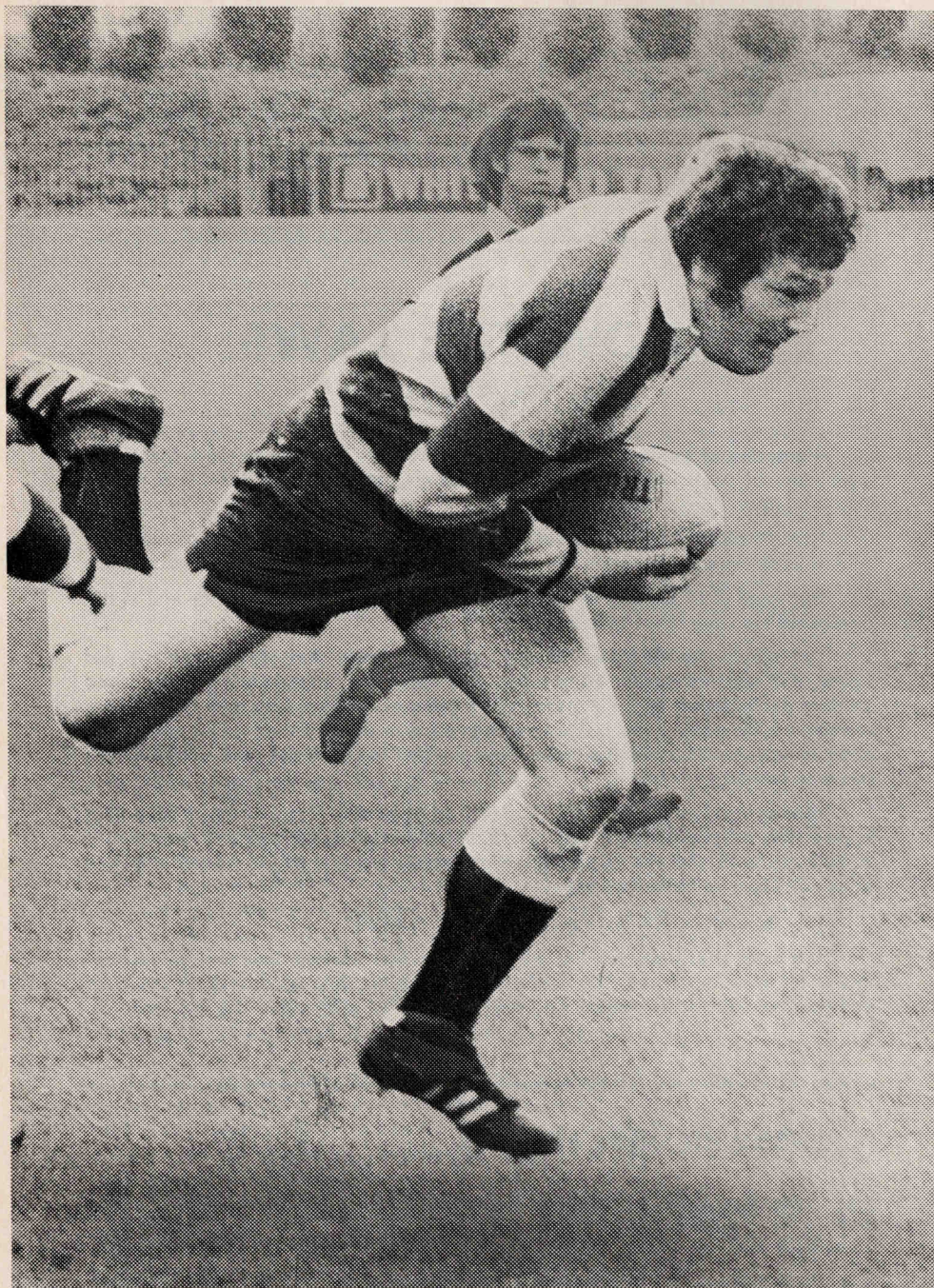
It did, to me, indicate that as the Springbok players lose out by lack of international competition, their referees also suffer through lack of experience and contact with other country's officials. Another problem to be overcome.

FORTHCOMING HOME FIXTURES

Sat., 25th September **CARDIFF v. OVERSEAS INTERNATIONAL XV**
(At the National Stadium) (K.O. 3 p.m.)

Sat., 2nd October **CARDIFF v. ARGENTINA** (K.O. 3 p.m.)

Wed., 13th October **CARDIFF v. BRISTOL** (K.O. 7.15 p.m.)



● Barry Nelmes, Vice-captain, Cardiff Rugby Club

PROFILE

BARRY NELMES

Vice-captain, Cardiff R.F.C.

This year's vice-captain of the Club is the genial West Countryman Barry Nelmes, our sole English international.

Hailing from Bristol, Barry met Rugby success at a very early age. He played for the English Schoolboys in 1963-64 against a Welsh team that included John Bevan and Barry Llewellyn. Before he was 18 years of age he had played his first game for Bristol against Aberavon — in the second row. By the time he was 19, he had played against the Springboks, Australia and the All Blacks, again in the second row. It took him a while to adapt himself to the front row when his limitations of height became apparent, but he successfully made the transfer, and has the remarkable record of having played for Gloucestershire in five County Championships, three on the winning side.

Barry gained his first cap against Australia after flying out as a late replacement, in the now notorious Test at Brisbane in 1975. This baptism of fire caused him to achieve his most gratifying moment in the game, when he played in the Cardiff v. Australia game last season on the winning side against the same prop.

Barry was born in Bristol, and attended Portway Comprehensive School, where Malcolm Leyshon of Aberavon was the P.E. master. As a matter of fact all his P.E. masters were Welsh. After leaving school he became an apprentice carpenter, before joining the happy band of the gentlemen of the road with C. A. Clemson Wholesale Tool Distributors of Pontypool. He covers the whole of South Wales for his company, operating from his home in Porthcawl, where he lives with his wife Gay and two sons Edward and Matthew.

He has been, very happily, with Cardiff since he joined us in 1973-74, when Gary Davies was captain, and as vice-captain his hopes for the Club are to be able to restore them to the very top of world Rugby, and to do well in the Cup and Championship.

As he so pointedly explains Rugby Football leaves little time for outside interests, even in the summer, when you tour with England to Australia and then with Gloucestershire to South Africa. However he still maintains that he would like to get a Welsh cap at squash, which ambition there is little hope of realising since he doesn't play squash and there is no squash court in Wales capable of taking his weight when he crashes to the floor when doing his famous forehand between legs, half-pike somersaulting smash. Barry quite likes things Welsh and since he has mastered the four part harmony of 'Calon Lan' he sees no reason why he shouldn't follow Gareth Edwards in the Gorsedd at next year's National Eisteddfod. It is a little known fact that he won the under 12's clog dance at the Llangollen Eisteddfod in 1956, and would have come first in 1957 if he hadn't used his old clogs and got a septic toe from the splinters.

D.J.H.

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RUGBY INTERNATIONAL

Saturday, 19 March, 1977

SCOTLAND

v.

WALES

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Oct. 9		Northampton	£2.30
20		Bridgend	£1.15
23		Harlequins	*£2.40
27		Neath	£1.15
Nov. 3		Pontypool	£1.00
Dec. 4		Swansea	£1.20
1977			
Feb. 15		Llanelli	£1.50
19		Ebbw Vale	£1.00
April 2		Gloucester	£1.50

Social Events

Dec. 10 Annual Dinner

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Cardiff 9 : Wolfhounds 20



- Cardiff centre Alex Finlayson is brought to his knees and forward Stuart Lane (right) is on hand to take the ball.



- Cardiff full back John Davies is robbed of a try as Wolfhound's wing J. Brady gets to the ball first.

Photographs by courtesy of Western Mail & South Wales Echo

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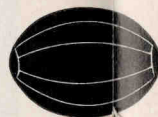
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Cardiff

15. J. DAVIES
14. Gerald DAVIES (Capt.)
13. A. FINLAYSON
12. M. MURPHY
11. D. THOMAS
10. Gareth DAVIES
9. G. EDWARDS
1. G. WALLACE
2. M. WATKINS
3. M. KNILL
4. P. RAWLINS
5. M. McJENNETT
6. T. WORGAN
8. B. DUDLEY-JONES
7. S. LANE

T. HOLMES
R. COOKSLEY

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



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Referee: C. G. P. THOMAS (Tonteg)

Coventry

- P. EVANS 15.
- S. MAISEY 14.
- P. PREECE 13.
- P. COULTHARD 12.
- P. KNEE 11.
- S. HAMILTON 10.
- C. GRIMSHAW (Capt.) 9.
- J. BRODERICK 1.
- N. BARKER-DAVIES 2.
- J. HAMER 3.
- C. MCCARTHY 4.
- B. NINNES 5.
- N. MALIK 6.
- J. SHIPSIDES 8.
- R. CARDWELL 7.

S. HALL
R. FARDOE

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CARDIFF

v.

OVERSEAS INTERNATIONAL XV

25th SEPTEMBER, 1976

The Rugby Committee would like to appeal to members and supporters to advertise and sell our centenary game to the fullest extent. Much hard work has gone into the organisation of such an event and nothing could be more satisfactory than seeing a full house on the day. Please ensure that friends and acquaintances, especially those out of town, know of the event and that it is at the National Stadium. A match of this type is unique in the history of any club and as such we hope to make it a prestigious occasion and a fitting celebration for the first hundred years of Cardiff Rugby Club.

Tickets are on sale at the Centenary Shop in the forecourt of the Clubhouse.

CARDIFF RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

NOTICE TO MEMBERS/SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

CARDIFF v ARGENTINA

SATURDAY, 2nd OCTOBER, 1976

Stand tickets for the above game will be on sale from the Cardiff Rugby Football Club Stewards Room (underneath W.R.U. North Stand) from **Monday, 13th September** up to and including **Saturday 18th September**, Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to midday. After this date sales will be made to the general public.

Prices: STAND £2 and £1.50 — **Season tickets must be shown**

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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1976			
SEPTEMBER			
Wed. 1	Llandaff	H 40-3	
Sat. 4	Sevens Tournament	H.....	
Wed. 8	Bristol	A 24-3	
Sat. 11	Wolfsounds XV	H 9-20	
Wed. 15	Penarth	A.....	
Sat. 18	Coventry	H.....	
Wed. 22			
Sat. 25	Overseas		
	International XV*	H.....	
Wed. 29	Aberavon	A.....	
OCTOBER			
Sat. 2	Argentina	H.....	
Sat. 9	Northampton	H.....	
Wed. 13	Bristol	A.....	
Sat. 16	Cambridge Un.(am)	H.....	
Wed. 20	Bridgend	A.....	
Sat. 23	Harlequins	A.....	
Wed. 27	Neath	A.....	
Sat. 30	Italy*	H.....	
NOVEMBER			
Wed. 3	Pontypool	A.....	
Sat. 6	Oxford University	H.....	
Sat. 13	Ebbw Vale	H.....	
Sat. 20	W.R.U. Cup		
Sat. 27	Llanelli	H.....	
DECEMBER			
Sat. 4	Swansea	A.....	
Wed. 8	Newport	H.....	
Sat. 11	Moseley	H.....	
	Sat. 18	W.R.U. Cup	
	Mon. 27	Crawshays XV	H.....
1977			
JANUARY			
Sat. 1	Pontypool	H.....	
Sat. 8	W.R.U. Cup		
Sat. 15			
Sat. 22	Neath	H.....	
Sat. 29	Aberavon	H.....	
FEBRUARY			
Sat. 5	Coventry	A.....	
Sat. 12	Pontypridd	H.....	
Wed. 15	Llanelli	A.....	
Sat. 19	Ebbw Vale	A.....	
Sat. 26	W.R.U. Cup		
MARCH			
Sat. 5	London Welsh	H.....	
Sat. 12	Scot. Co-optimists*	H.....	
Sat. 19			
Wed. 23	Bridgend	H.....	
Sat. 26	Newport	A.....	
APRIL			
Sat. 2	Gloucester	A.....	
Sat. 9	Barbarians	H.....	
Mon. 11	Harlequins	H.....	
Sat. 16			
Wed. 20	Swansea	H.....	
Sat. 23	Sydney*	H.....	
Sat. 30	W.R.U. Cup		
MAY/JUNE	World Tour		

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