

CARDIFF RUGBY CLUB



CARDIFF v NEATH

FRIDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER, 1977

KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Official Programme 10p

Cardiff v. Neath

FRIDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER, 1977

K.O. 7.15 p.m.

If you were born in Neath during or just after the First World War you would be excused for thinking during your earlier years and during your adolescence that there were only three Rugby teams worth talking about. They were Freethy's Ex-Schoolboys (or Invincibles), Neath County (Grammar) School and Neath. At some time or other they would be in that order of priority. It was indeed a privilege to witness the performances of the two first named teams. This was the running and passing game at its best, and although Freethy's team became extinct after its first defeat in five years (by Cardiff Supporters XV!), the traditions of Neath Grammar School are being carried on. Where else in the world would a crowd watch the Saturday morning game at the school ground (possibly against Gowerton with half-backs W. H. T. Davies and Haydn Tanner) and then later in the afternoon attend the Town Ground (The Gnoll) to watch the first class Club side. Or indeed, to watch the school game in the morning and suffice at that!

It was obvious to the youngsters of the day that the sole purpose of the forwards was to obtain the ball and give it to the backs who did the running, passing, jinking, sidestepping, dummying, swerving and scoring. This was the policy of the first (and best!) coaches I have known — Albert Freethy, and a school idol if ever there was one — W. E. (Billy) Allin.

Talk of Billy Allin to my contemporaries and they will acknowledge their good fortune at being taught by a man who endeared himself to all by his charm, tolerance, patience, good humour and outstanding ability. He forged a link between the Grammar School and the senior side, and Neath RFC, I am sure, would not hesitate to express its appreciation of the contribution made by the students to the outstanding record of the Neath Club. Not to be forgotten also is the contribution made by Les Smith in his administration of schoolboy Rugby.

Listening to my father in my young days I gained the impression from the many legendary stories of the Neath pack that Rugby was a game for forwards, and I recall his expressed appreciation of some of the great stalwarts — Tom Evans, D. H. Davies, T. C. Lloyd, Glyn Stephens, Ambrose Baker and Dai Hiddlestone, and I remember my admiration of Tom Hollingdale, Tom Arthur, Arthur Lemon, the Prosser brothers Glyn and D. R., the Thomas brothers D. L. and Harold. Later we enjoyed Courtney Meredith, Roy John, Rees Stephens and Cyril Challenor, Brian Sparks, Brian Thomas and many others.

My main enjoyment in Neath Rugby, however, stemmed from the back play. Father talked of Joe Davies, Ivor Jones and Glyn Gethin, Emrys Jones, and I can remember Glyn Daniel, Gwyn Moore, Gwyn Thomas, Vernon Friend (why weren't they capped for Wales?), Arthur Hickman, Dan Jones (59 tries in a season!), Howie Jones, Horace Edwards, Cyril Roberts. There are also many names in later years but a change of home brought a change of scene and a change of interest and loyalty but not a change of respect and admiration, but perhaps a little less knowledge of the playing strengths.

My son reminds me, however, that other names are taking their place in the records, and we move on through Viv Evans, Dave Morris, the Parker family, Glen Ball, Wilson Lauder, Martyn Davies and their newest British Lion Elgan Rees. In the midst of them all has been an outstanding contribution as a player and coach from Grahame Hodgson, and the new administration has brought to the forefront Allan Benjamin and Mick Thomas.

Meanwhile the support continues from the students through the efforts of Sam Edwards, Viv Griffiths and Ron Trimmell and a host of others.

Neath can be very proud of its sportsmen. Apart from the outstanding players, they can nominate famous referees Albert Freethy, Ivor David and Harold Phillips, and great administrators Capt. Walter E. Rees and Arthur Griffiths. I am sure I may be pardoned by slipping in the fact that Neath (and particularly Neath Grammar School) produced two Cricket Captains for England — Cyril F. Walters and A. R. 'Tony' Lewis. Incidentally, Cyril Walters was an outstanding wing three-quarter for Freethy's XV and later Swansea, and his brother Dr. Trevor was a brilliant outside-half for Freethy's XV.

Today we welcome the Neath Rugby team captained by Glyn Shaw, as strong and as respected as ever, and we look forward to a great game. Dare I hope to see the magic of three-quarter play again.

For the record details of past performances read:

	P	W	L	D	pts. for	pts. agst.
Cardiff v. Neath	160	95	48	17	1,557	879

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

Free Kick has had a fair explanation in the last two programmes. There is more but let things settle down and we'll be more explicit.

Another change made by the International Board was the abolition of the standing tackle. Did you know that such a thing existed? I could bet that many players themselves didn't. Anyway, it has gone. The definition now reads:

A tackle occurs when a player carrying the ball in the field of play is held by one or more opponents so that while he is so held the ball touches the ground.

Previously there were all sorts of conditions — while he is so held and so forth. Now it is somewhat simpler, almost back where it used to be in the old days. The other conditions still apply — the tackled player, if lying on the ground, must release the ball immediately without playing it in any other way and get up or move away from it. He must not play or interfere with the ball in any way until he has got up on his feet, also, it is illegal for any player: to prevent a tackled player from releasing the ball or getting up after he has released it or to pull the ball from that player's possession, while lying on the ground after a tackle to play the ball but, while still lying on the ground ANY player may tackle or attempt to tackle an opponent carrying the ball.

If a tackled player does not release the ball straight away and the referee is in doubt as to whose fault this is a scrum will be awarded.

BIG D

SALTED PEANUTS

BY

SNAKPAK CARDIFF

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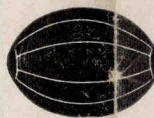
Mount Stuart House
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Cardiff

15. John DAVIES
14. D. THOMAS
13. P. ELLIOTT
12. P. EVANS
11. C. CAMILLERI
10. D. BARRY
9. T. HOLMES
1. D. LLEWELLYN
2. M. WATKINS
3. N. O'DONNELL
4. P. RAWLINS
5. C. SMITH
6. B. DUDLEY-JONES
8. R. LANE
7. S. LANE
- M. GOSLING
- A. PHILLIPS

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



Replacements

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

Neath

- W.DAVIES 15.
- M. JENKINS 14.
- J. POOLE 13.
- D. COLE 12.
- D. DAVIES 11.
- P. DAVIES 10.
- H. MORGAN 9.
- G. SHAW 1.
- M. RICHARDS 2.
- R. LEWIS 3.
- R. HUGHES 4.
- D. LEWIS 5.
- W. LAUDER 6.
- M. MESSENGER 8.
- D. DAVEY 7.
- P. MORGAN
- B. BRADLEY

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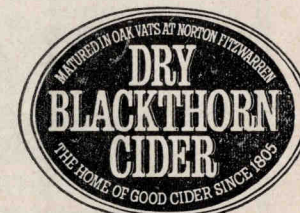
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DATE	VENUE	Cost per member
1977		
Sept. 17	Coventry	£2.50
21	Pontypool	£1.10
Oct. 22	Harlequins	£2.80
29	Moseley	£2.50
Nov. 5	Oxford Univ.	£2.50
26	Llanelli	£1.60
1978		
Jan. 7	Bedford	£2.80
21	Ebbw Vale	£1.10
28	Aberavon	£1.20
Feb. 11	Bristol	£1.40
Mar. 8	Bridgend	£1.20
Apr. 8	Swansea	£1.30
22	Neath	£1.20

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Sept. 23	Choral Evening or Film Show
Dec. 16	Annual Dinner



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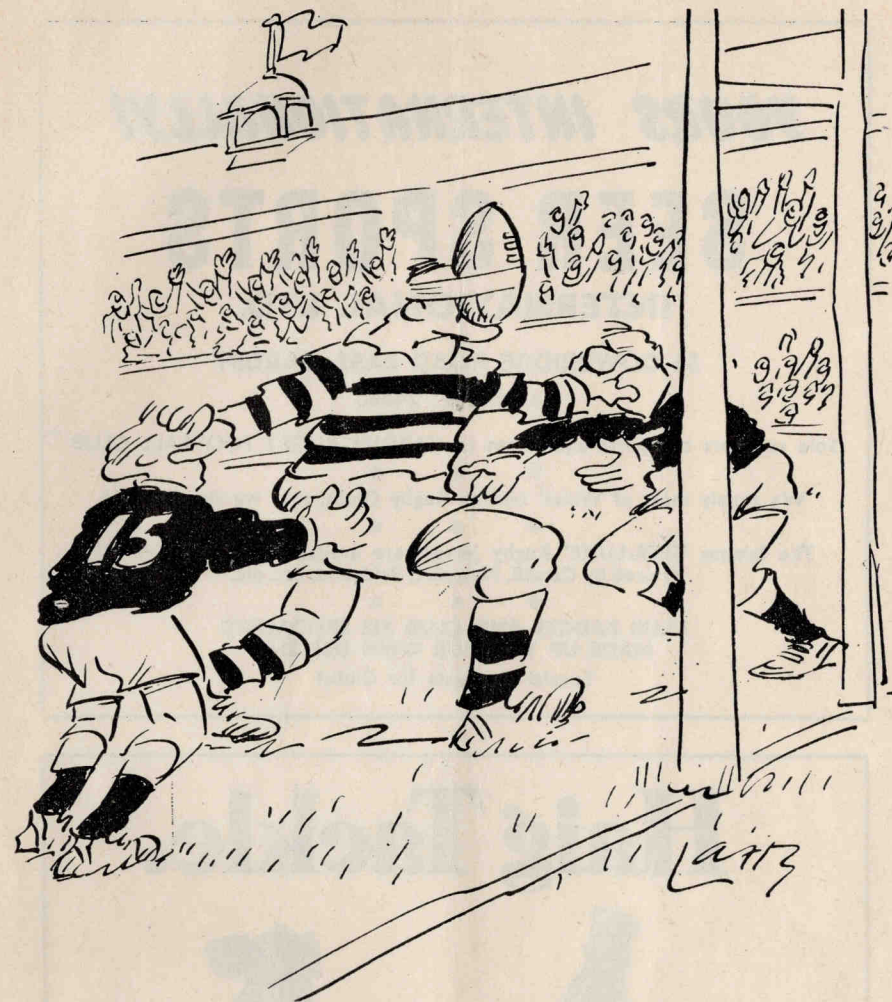
FIRST XV FIXTURES

1977		Mon. 26 Pontypridd	H.....
SEPTEMBER		Sat. 31 Coventry	H.....
Sat. 3	Maesteg	H	35-9
Wed. 7	Glamorgan Wands.	H	35-9
Fri. 9	Neath	H	.....
Wed. 14	Bristol	H	.....
Sat. 17	Coventry	A	.....
Wed. 21	Pontypool	A	.....
Sat. 24	Aberavon	H	.....
OCTOBER			
Sat. 1	Newport	A	.....
Wed. 5	Pontypridd	A	.....
Sat. 8	Northampton	H	.....
Wed. 12			
Sat. 15	Cambridge Univ.	A	.....
Wed. 19	Penarth	H	.....
Sat. 22	Harlequins	A	.....
Sat. 29	Moseley	A	.....
NOVEMBER			
Wed. 2	Pontypool	H	.....
Sat. 5	Oxford University	A	.....
Sat. 12	Ebbw Vale	H	.....
Sat. 19	W.R.U. Cup 1st Round		
Sat. 26	Llanelli	A	.....
DECEMBER			
Sat. 3	Swansea	H	.....
Sat. 10	London Welsh	H	.....
Sat. 17	W.R.U. Cup 2nd Round		
Sat. 24	Bridgend	H	.....

Mon. 26	Pontypridd	H.....
Sat. 31	Coventry	H.....
1978		
JANUARY		
Mon. 2	London Scottish	H.....
Sat. 7	Bedford	A.....
Sat. 14	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round	
Sat. 21	Ebbw Vale	A.....
Sat. 28	Aberavon	A.....
FEBRUARY		
Sat. 4	London Welsh	A.....
Wed. 8	Llanelli	H.....
Sat. 11	Bristol	A.....
Sat. 25	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round	
MARCH		
Wed. 8	Bridgend	A.....
Sat. 11	Orrell	H.....
Sat. 25	Barbarians	H.....
Mon. 27	Harlequins	H.....
APRIL		
Sat. 1	Gloucester	H.....
Wed. 5	Newport	H.....
Sat. 8	Swansea	A.....
Sat. 15	Camborne	A.....
Mon. 17	St. Ives	A.....
Sat. 22	Neath	A.....
Sat. 29	W.R.U. Cup Final	

NEXT HOME FIXTURES . . .

Wed., 14th September:	CARDIFF v. BRISTOL	7.15 p.m.
Sat., 24th September:	CARDIFF v. ABERAVON	3 p.m.
Sat., 8th October:	CARDIFF v. NORTHAMPTON	7.15 p.m.



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