

Manor Street, Port Talbot

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1978

SEMI - FINAL

CARDIFF

V.

SWANSEA

Kick-off 3 p.m.

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OFFICIAL

10p

PROGRAMME

CARDIFF AND THE CUP

Today, Cardiff come to Aberavon for the Semi-Final clash with their long standing friends Swansea. The situation is not a unique one, because during season 1972 - 73, Cardiff defeated Swansea in the Semi-Final of that year, also at Aberavon, by 12 points to 8.

Cardiff's path to today's Semi-Final has been achieved by victories over Garndiffaith away, Cwmavon home, Pontypool away, and Ebbw Vale away. On analysis of these victories, I think it is reasonable to say that we had a certain amount of good fortune in overcoming Garndiffaith in the first round by 3 penalty goals to nil.

If luck was with us in the first round, it certainly abandoned us in the draws for the third and fourth rounds. For the third round we drew Pontypool away and we were immediately written off as standing no chance against the "semi-lionised" Terry Cobner led "Pooler" 'pack. The result, 16 - 11 to Cardiff is now history, but what a way to write it. Gerald Davies scored four magnificent tries and we triumphed for the second year running on Pontypool territory.

Lady Luck again saw fit to give us an away draw in the fourth round, again in Gwent, to Ebbw Vale. This also proved to be a fine game of open rugby and we won 29 - 10 with a good performance from our young backs, expertly marshalled by Gareth and Gerald.

When the Semi-Final draw was made on television, I think I detected a momentary drop in the jaw of the Swansea Chairman, John Llewellyn. This was probably due to the fact that they have to go back to December, 1970 for their last victory over Cardiff.

We hope to extend this sequence today, and make us participants at the National Stadium on April 29th. I'm sure Swansea will have something to say about that. May the better team win (as long as it's us !)

P.N.
C.R.F.C.

WELCOME TO THE TEAMS

Aberavon Rugby Football Club welcome all our friends from Cardiff and Swansea to the Talbot Athletic Ground this afternoon.

A crucial game for both sides, with only 80 or so minutes to play before reaching the Final, or falling by the wayside. Over the Easter week-end, Cardiff fell to the Barbarians, whilst Swansea crushed them two days later. This has nothing to do with Cup rugby. So much can go adrift, a small misjudgement can lead to a killer score.

The two East/West clashes in the Semi-Final provide three possible games in the Final round—an all West confrontation, an all East meeting, or East v. West.

Whether you crossed the Tawe or the Taff on your way here, we wish you a pleasant and memorable afternoon at Aberavon.

We look forward to meeting today's winners in the Final on April 29th, always providing Newport allow us to go on.

BILL LEWIS,
Programme Editor

CARDIFF

GLYN DAVIES	15
GERALD DAVIES	14
(Captain)	
PAT DANIELS	13
MIKE MURPHY	12
DEREK PREECE	11
GARETH DAVIES	10
GARETH EDWARDS	9
BARRY NELMES	1
MIKE WATKINS	2
DAVID LLEWELLYN	3
CARL SMITH	4
PETER RAWLINGS	5
TERRY CHARLES	6
ROGER LANE	8
STUART LANE	7

Replacements—

- 16 Terry Ho'mes
- 17 Alan Phillips
- 18 Dave Barry
- 19 Robert Dudley-Jones
- 20 Gerry Wallace
- 21 David Thomas

Referee : Cenydd Thomas, Pontypridd

Touch Judges : Jeff Kelleher, Llantwit Major; D. Eurfyl Williams, Glanamman

SWANSEA

ROGER BLYTH
HUW REES
ALAN DONOVAN
ALAN MEREDITH
(Captain)
GARETH JENKINS
DAVID RICHARDS
HUW DAVIES
HYWEL HOPKINS
JEFF HERDMAN
PHIL LLEWELLYN
GEOFF WHEEL
BARRY CLEGG
TREVOR EVANS
RICHARD MORIARTY
MARK KEYWORTH

Replacements—

- 16 Alan Mages
- 17 Peter Thomas
- 18 Phil Jones
- 19 David James
- 20 Danny Jenkins
- 21 Gerwyn Jones

SWANSEA AND THE CUP

It was down at Burry Port that Swansea had their only real fright in the Welsh Cup. The ground was so confined, the Burry Port forwards ran around like bats out of hell, the match went into extra time, and the boot of Dennis Lewis, a former Swansea full-back, put the home side ahead.

By then the wind was gusting to gale force and the fervour of the screaming crowd lining the touch-line was rapidly reaching the same peak. Suddenly, a giant-killing act was on the cards and the genuine anxiety was mirrored on the faces of Swansea officials and committeemen perched on the staging that served as a stand.

In the end, all was well . . . Swansea survived. with no heart attacks, just sighs of relief that they had managed to clamber over the first hurdle. But it was the sort of match that makes the Welsh Cup, now sponsored by Schweppes, such a fascinating competition.

Swansea's next two ties were at home, where they accounted for two Gwent clubs, Pontypool United and Newbridge.

Next it was the quarter-final at Bedwas, and Swansea produced what was easily their best performance of the season, disciplined and dedicated in the most appalling conditions. It served to raise hopes of another final appearance among the St. Helen's faithful.

But first Swansea have to dispose of the Cup favourites, Cardiff, in today's Semi-Final. Their record of achievement in the last couple of weeks must give them hope, a record highlighted by Easter Monday's magnificent performance in beating the Barbarians.

So now Swansea, after the shakiest of starts on the Cup trail, are just one match away from the Final. Can they make it? Can they end a long, depressing run of defeats at the hands of Cardiff? We shall find out this afternoon.

RON GRIFFITHS,

Sports Editor, South Wales Evening Post

THIS IS A POLICE ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL SUPPORTERS

To ensure your safe and speedy return home, it is requested that all supporters travelling towards the EAST do so by way of the main road through TAIBACH and MARGAM, and join the M4 MOTORWAY at the new LONGLANDS ROUNDABOUT, MARGAM.

Supporters travelling to the WEST may use the TANYGROES access point to the MOTORWAY, but are reminded that there is an alternative access point at PENTYLA, which is to the west of the town.

Your co-operation in this matter will be appreciated.

WELSH RUGBY UNION

Schweppes W.R.U. Cup Final

SATURDAY, APRIL 29th, 1978

NATIONAL GROUND, CARDIFF ARMS PARK

Kick-off 3 p.m.

To : Secretary, Welsh Rugby Union, P.O. Box 22,
Cardiff.

Please supply me with the following tickets
for the Schweppes W.R.U. Cup Final to be played
at the National Ground, Cardiff Arms Park, on
Saturday, 29th April, 1978.

RESERVED GRANDSTAND

.....North Upper (Blocks A - K) at £2.50.....

.....North Lower (Blocks 1 - 7) at £2.50.....

.....South Upper at £2.50.....

.....South Lower (Blocks C - F) at £2.50.....

.....South Lower (Blocks A, B, G, H)
at £1.50.....

.....West Stand (Blocks L - P) at £1.50.....

SOUTH ENCLOSURE at £1.00.....

WEST ENCLOSURE at £1.00.....

TOTAL £

for which I enclose my remittance of £.....
and a stamped addressed envelope.

I agree to accept alternative tickets should my
original choice be not available.

Please note that admission to the East Terrace will
be by payment at the turnstiles on match day at
50p.

If you do not wish to deface this programme, you
may apply by means of an ordinary letter.