



Cardiff Rugby Club

Cardiff v Bective Rangers

FRIDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 1981

KICK OFF 7.15 p.m.

Official Programme 15p

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Tomorrow sees the climax to what must have been the most controversial week Welsh rugby has experienced for many a long day. No one can accuse our national selectors of being in any way conservative after the announcement of tomorrow's team to meet our Celtic friends from across the Irish Sea. The massive job of surgery that they have done on the side caused one way to reflect on the old T.V. medical epic 'Your Life In Their Hands'. I'm sure, however, that the players who have been dropped will be considering it more of a case of "Their Knife In Your Glands". Still the selectors are after all doing what they think best for the game in Wales so may they enjoy success tomorrow. It's going to be a tough job, however, and no doubt Fergus Slattery will be very keen to emulate his predecessor of season 1966-67 and lead his side to victory. The Irish victory on that far away day was the last occasion for a Home Country to win at Cardiff, so this very new look Welsh side has got a very long tradition to defend and we wish them all the very best of luck.

The occasion, no doubt, will see the city packed out with Irish supporters with and without tickets. It also affords us the opportunity of staging another home game. The Rags were originally scheduled to play Penygraig on The Park tonight but our old friends from Dublin, Bective Rangers, offered to come over and play so we had no alternative but to say yes and right pleased we are to welcome them to Cardiff again. In all we have played Bective on some 16 previous occasions of which, we have won 12 lost 1 and drawn 3. We have scored some 238 points to Bective's 117. The Bective club was formed in season 1881/82 and plays at the famous Donnybrook Ground in Dublin. The Cardiff-Bective association only started after World War II, however, when we travelled to play in Dublin during January, 1947 when a scoreless draw resulted. The second game was also played at Donnybrook some 7 years later in season 1953-54 and that game finished with Bective running out winners by 21 points to 8 to give them their single victory in the series between us. The last match played was only two years ago on the eve of the last occasion of Ireland's visit to play Wales on 2nd February, 1979.

The last seven games we have played have happened to coincide with Wales v. Ireland clashes, so the opportunity to enjoy the occasion to the full has been disrupted by the fact that international players are not available. Next season, however, this matter will be rectified because as I've previously stated, the Bective club was formed in season 1881/82, so next year sees the celebration of their centenary. As part of their celebrations we have been invited to play again at Donnybrook and, naturally, we have very readily agreed. That should be a great occasion with plenty to reminisce about, some of the great times our clubs have shared both in Dublin and Cardiff. One of the all time greats of our club, Cliff Morgan, was also responsible for forging more strong links between us when he played for Bective during seasons 1954-55 and 1955-56. Cliff really enjoyed his rugby there and being the great character he is, he was also very popular both on and off the field.

So, to tonight's game, where no doubt we can expect the usual competitive resistance from the men from Donnybrook. They certainly know what competition is all about because Ireland is a great nation for competitive rugby. For example, in Bective Rangers' province, Leinster, they play in the Senior Cup, Senior League, Provincial Town's Cup and the Metropolitan Cup which they won last season. On top of this there are the Inter-Provincial Competitions, and are the current champions having beaten the other three Provinces last season. So, all in all Bective players, as indeed all players in Ireland, are not short of competitive rugby, which no doubt will help them in their quest tonight to achieve their first win ever in Cardiff, and only their second win since fixtures began in 1946. In welcoming Bective to Cardiff Arms Park tonight we extend a specially warm hand of friendship to one

Cover picture by courtesy of Western Mail & Echo

of their leading and most popular officials and ex-player, Michael Cuddy. He has been a great and loyal servant of the Club and we for our part in Cardiff will be delighted to see him again. So, to Michael and all from Bective Rangers, we hope you enjoy your weekend in Cardiff, you are most welcomed guests.

Of the other sides the Youth are still undefeated and have now chalked up a massive 79 consecutive victories since 24th March, 1979. Their latest win was achieved last Saturday, when they won at Crynant by 16 pts. to 11 in the semi final of the W.Y.R.U. Cup. They now wait to hear the outcome of the other semi final between Newport and Trimsarren to see who their opponents will be in their second consecutive final. The Rags, since January 7th, have beaten Penygraig and Talywain away, Caerleon at home and last Saturday scored an exciting 20 pts. to 19 victory away to Bristol United. In between, however, they suffered defeats at the hands of Garndiffaith away and Neath Athletic home.

P.N.

KNOW THE LAWS

By FRED CROSTER

A bit of repetition this time and, straightway, I make no apologies for so doing.

This pile-up business, this penalising players after tackles take place, 'going over the top', being offside in a ruck situation, is all part and parcel of one major disturbance in the game at all levels. Not only with the players but also spectators, officials and referees themselves.

It used not to be. Why then so much now?

As many of you know, I take Sports Forums around the clubs and, with-out exception, this vexing question comes up as regularly as some referee's whistles blow. It shows the extent to which it does bother those involved in the game.

Without much popular press publicity and I am willing to bet that many supporters didn't even read about it except in these notes, it was only in the 1977-78 season that the Tackle Law-18 was changed, with an important clause deleted and, to me and many others that must be one significant factor in the trouble now occurring. The Law used to read:

"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, or if he is on his feet is unable to free himself without delay and he cannot play the ball except by releasing it".

The latter part has now gone and the Law 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 held the ball touches the ground".

That is it. That is why players hold on to the ball, that is why it is not released. An increasing school of thought and that includes me, feel that not only should that clause come back but that reversion to the old 'playing the ball with the foot after a tackle', would keep those hands out, encourage good rucking and do something to clean the mess up.

BIG D

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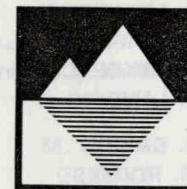
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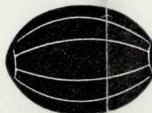
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- 2. M. WATKINS
- 3. J. DIXON
- 4. B. NORSTER
- 5. T. MOGRIDGE
- T 6. B. LEASE O. GOLDING
- T 8. B. LAKIN (Captain)
- 7. S. LANE

D. BARRY
M. ROGERS

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



Replacements

Referee: ALUN RICHARDS (W.R.U.)

Tonight's match ball donated by BANK OF IRELAND, 106 St. Mary Street, Cardiff.

Bective Rangers

- B. MURPHY 15. P. C.
- J. McLAWREE 14.
- I. FINNEGAN 13.
- T. LOUGHLIN 12.
- J. SEXTON 11.
- R. CULLEN 10.
- G. SEXTON 9.
- J. LAWLOR 1.
- K. McEVOY 2. T
- K. HORGAN/T. CAVANAGH 3.
- G. RIELLY 4.
- L. MAGEE 5.
- E. SHALOE 6.
- M. BERNIE 8.
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NEXT HOME FIXTURES

Saturday, 28th February: **CARDIFF v. CROSS KEYS**
(Schweppes Challenge Cup) 3 p.m.
Saturday, 21st March: **CARDIFF v. EBBW VALE** 3 p.m.
Saturday, 4th April: **CARDIFF v. BEDFORD** 3 p.m.

FRANCE v WALES

7th MARCH, 1981

A ballot for Field tickets for Members/Stand Season ticket holders will held on Monday, 16th February. Please submit a white postcard with your name, address and Membership/ Season ticket number, to reach us by 9.30 a.m. Monday, 16th February.

Notification of those successful will be sent through the post.

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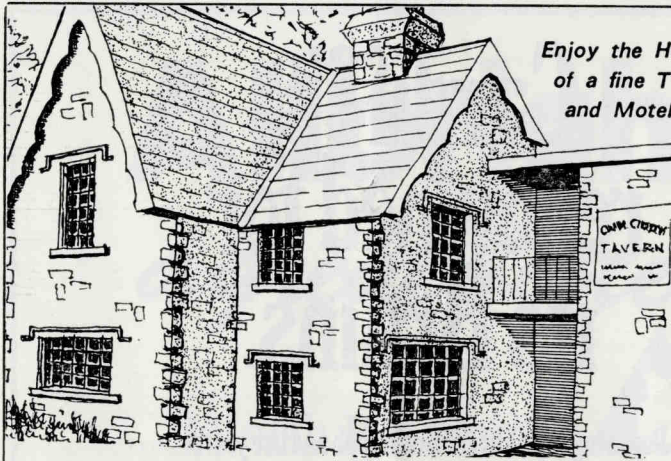
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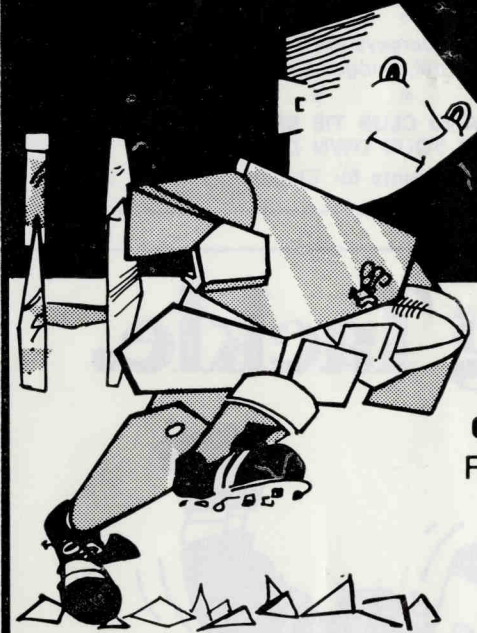
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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1980			
SEPTEMBER			
Wed.	3	Glamorgan Wands.	H 25-15
Sat.	6	Nice	H 68-25
Wed.	10	Bristol	A 8-28
Sat.	13	Neath	A 14-20
Wed.	17	Penarth	H 34-0
Fri.	19	Coventry	H 35-9
Wed.	24	Maesteg	H 22-3
Sat.	27	Aberavon	A 0-18
OCTOBER			
Wed.	1	Bridgend	A 12-18
Sat.	4	Newport	H 21-19
Wed.	8	Pontypridd	A 3-11
Sat.	11	Northampton	A 13-7
Sat.	18	N. Zealand (All Pay)	H 9-16
Sat.	25	Harlequins	A 31-12
NOVEMBER			
Wed.	5	Oxford University	H 25-13
Sat.	8	Ebbw Vale	A 10-10
Sat.	15	Tonyrefall (Cup)	A 15-0
Sat.	22	Bristol	H 26-7
Fri.	28	Moseley	A 7-11
DECEMBER			
Wed.	3	Pontypool	H 32-15
Sat.	6	Swansea	A 23-18
Sat.	13	London Welsh	A 22-12
Wed.	17	Llanelli	H 22-6
Sat.	20	British Steel (Cup)	H 41-0

Fri.	26	Pontypridd	H 16-4
Sat.	27	Newbridge	H 12-7
1981			
JANUARY			
Thurs.	1	Bridgend	H 6-22
Sat.	3	Moseley	H 17-13
Sat.	10	Tredegar (Cup)	H 22-0
Fri.	16	London Welsh	H 17-4
Sat.	24	Aberavon	H 21-15
Sat.	31	Llanelli	A 15-24
FEBRUARY			
Fri.	6	Heriots F.P.	A 26-8
Wed.	11	Neath	H 9-6
Sat.	14	Bristol	H 26-16
Fri.	20	Bective Rangers	H.....
Sat.	28	Cross Keys (Cup)	H.....
MARCH			
Sat.	14	Pontypool (Schweppes Cup Semi-final)	A.....
Sat.	21	Ebbw Vale	H.....
Sat.	28	Newport	A.....
APRIL			
Sat.	4	Bedford	H.....
Tues.	7	Bath	A.....
Sat.	11	Schweppes Cup Final	A.....
Wed.	15	Swansea	H.....
Sat.	18	Barbarians	H.....
Mon.	20	Harlequins	H.....

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