



Cardiff v. Northampton

SATURDAY, 8th OCTOBER, 1983 KICK OFF 3 p.m.

Welcome today to the "Saints" of Northampton on this their 26th visit to Cardiff Arms Park. In all we have played 55 games in the series which began in season 1925-26. Of those games we have won 32, lost 18 and drawn 5 scoring 651 points to Northampton's 473. Since that first game in 1925-26 we played 12 games up to 1937-38 season. But then from resumption of fixtures after the second World War we played twice a season on a home and away basis. That may sound reasonable enough but when you look at the fact that the game in Cardiff was always played on Easter Tuesday it puts a different complexion on the situation. They certainly must have bred them tough in Northampton in those times because we were the last of 3 teams they had played over the Easter holiday. This went on for some 10 years until 1958 but it got far too much to expect of the Englishmen and from 1958 onwards we have only met once a year, home one season away the next.

During this period we saw some of the best players to emerge from the famous English club. Ron Jacobs, for instance, remains their most capped player with 29 appearances for his country and is at this time President of the Rugby Football Union. Then there was the likes of Jeff Butterfield, a centre in the real classic mould, Don White a giant back row player, Frank Sykes a wing of great pace and strength and Phil Taylor another great back row operator who had enough intelligence even as an Englishman to open a business in Abertillery when he finished his playing career. As an administrator Phil also played his part and became Chairman of the Abertillery club. Dicky Jeeps was also another master of that era as a scrum half and amongst his off the field activities he was an expert practitioner in the art of pyrotechnics (squibs to us). Then came players like Roger Hosen and David "Piggy" Powell who kept the high standards going on the field and certainly so the hilarity off it. Many are the great after match activities players of both sides enjoyed in those far off days.

This season the 'Saints' have made a reasonably good start to the year. Under the captaincy of Jon Raphael and with England prop Gary Pearce in the ranks they have lost 2 games to Bristol and Moseley but have clocked up wins over Richmond, Rugby, Nottingham, London Scottish and Harlequins. Seeing the last mentioned of that lot defeated Swansea last Saturday and previously had accounted for Llanelli, Northampton can feel rather pleased with themselves with that win tucked under their belt. A victory in Cardiff is long overdue from their point of view as they last achieved it in 1969 when they won by 9 pts. to nil. Their only other post war win on the Arms Park was recorded on Easter Tuesday, 1957 by 3 pts. to nil. On their last visit here in 1981 they came fairly close to it with a final late rally which rocked us a bit but we finally ran out winners by 26 pts. to 22. Last season at Northampton, however, we got back in a winning groove and won by 40 pts. to 9. For today's game, however, they had to wrestle with the problems of who to play at scrum half. They had been well served prior to last Saturday's game by the very promising Steve Worrall. He was selected to play for the Combined Services, however, against the touring Canadians and another talented player Mal Evans took his chance with both hands to put up a very good performance in the 'Saints' victory over London Scottish. So it must have taken some lengthy deliberation before their ever wise selectors plumbed for the former of these players to appear on Cardiff Arms Park this afternoon. A win here today would really put their revival on the road because although last season was their worst of the post war era losing 25 of 41 games played, they finished it off in great style with 5 consecutive wins. Included in this run was victory over Leicester by 18 pts. to 9 and also a place in the third round of this season's John Player Cup which all helped to alleviate the gloom of a disappointing year. To Northampton players, administrators and any supporters who have ventured to the fair city of Cardiff then, welcome again and may you enjoy your day out.

The injury problem goes on unabated. With Mark Ring back on the walking wounded list, ill luck seems to be our constant company. The latest recruit to the unavailable is Paul Rees. His misfortune to collide with one of our own players in the Bridgend game is very typical of the bad luck we are experiencing at present. Paul badly dislocated his finger in the brush with Howard Stone and it is likely to keep him out of action for some weeks. Also typical of the bad luck we are having is the fact that Terry Charles is also on the list at the same time as John Scott. Terry who is a more than able deputy for the captain will probably be out for some weeks yet with ligament trouble to his knee. John Scott is hoping to be fit for today and Rhodri Lewis is another who is also hoping to be available for selection again in a couple of weeks so let's hope we have suffered the worst and things go on to get better.

In Terry Charles' absence, Bob Newman is leading the Rags and since their defeat at Berry Hill they have chalked up 3 wins against Treorchy, Newport United and Pontypridd Athletic. The Youth have won 7 of their 9 matches, lost 1 and drawn 1. They won their first round cup match and amongst their 7 wins were very good victories over Leicester away by 29 pts. to 24 and Bridgend at home when they really took the Brewery Field youngsters apart to the tune of 42 pts. to nil.

In speaking of the Brewery Field it looks as if the old Arms Park bogey has now turned turtle on them and working for us. That very last kick of the game which would have won the match for them last Wednesday was very kickable by Howard Davies' standard but it was a beautiful sight from our point of view to see that ball go sailing outside the post. Perhaps it's only poetic justice and compensation for the many games they stole during those 13 barren years we endured at the Arms Park.

P.N

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KNOW THE LAWS

By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

"JUMPING ACROSS"

This frequently happens especially at the front of the line. You see it "week in-week out", and hear the crowd shout, "jumping across ref. — he's jumping across". "Watch out for No. 4 jumping across ref. — penalise him ref. — open your eyes ref."

Are they right, — should it be a penalty everytime? No, there is no automatic penalty for jumping across in the line-out. Any player who is making a fair attempt to catch the ball with both hands can jump across, even if in doing so he knocks his opposite number out of the way, as long as it is not with his elbow, or his hand or anything.

This is something not generally realised by spectators or even by players in some cases. I would go as far as to say if some players realised it, we might see a good deal more quality line-out ball won in first class rugby than we do today.

Rugby Quiz - No. 6

- 1). What have the following in common:
 - a) Alban Davies, b) W. T. Harvard, c) A. A. Mathews.
- 2). Who captained the British Lions to South Africa in 1938.
- 3). Who plays in the following colours:
 - a) Scarlet, Green and White, b) Black, Green and Gold.
- 4). Which English wing won the A.A.A. 100yards title in 1956.
- 5). Who were the 3 replacements for the Lions in New Zealand in 1971.

Answers on page 8.



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3. I. EIDMAN

4. K. EDWARDS

5. A. MOGRIDGE

6. R. LAKIN

8. J. P. SCOTT (Captain)

7. O. GOLDING

J. SOUTO

N. O'BRIEN

Referee: A. W. BEVAN

Full Back

Right Wing

Right Centre

Left Centre

Left Wing

Outside Half

Inside Half

Forwards

Replacements

Today's match ball donated by T. HUGHES (Auctioneer), Caerphilly.

Northampton

R. LONG 15.

F. E. W. PALKMAN 14. P. D. LARKIN 13.

A. J. STREET 12.

N. D. C. UNDERWOOD 11.

J. SHARPE 10.

S. A. S. WORRAL 9.

J.A.G.D. RAPHAEL (Capt.) 2.

G. S. PEARCE 3.

D. H. MASON 4. V. G. M. CANNON 5.

P. M. GULKIAN 6.

G. J. POOLE 8.

I. C. WHITE 7.

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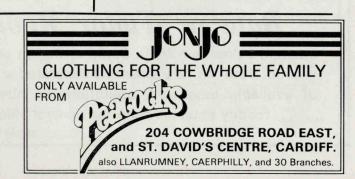
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RUGBY OUIZ No. 6 - ANSWERS

- 1). All vicars capped by Wales. 2). Sam Walker (Ireland). 3). a) Leicester,
- 4). J. R. C. Young. 5). Roger Arneil, Trevor Evans and b) Northampton. Stack Stevens.

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Wed. 14 Sat. 17 Wed. 21 Sat. 24 Wed. 28	Bristol Coventry Gloucester Aberavon Pontypridd	H 22-13 A 27-16 A 26-10 H 37-17 A 12-4	Mon. Sat. Sat. Sat.	2 7 14 28	Bath Moseley W.R.U. Cup 3rd Ro Aberavon	H A und A
OCTOBER Sat. 1 Wed. 5 Sat. 8 Wed. 12	Newport Bridgend Northampton Penarth	A 21-32 H 9-7 H	Wed.	1 11 15 25	S. Glamorgan Inst. Bristol Newbridge W.R.U. Cup 4th Ro	H A Hund
Sat. 15 Wed. 19 Sat. 22 Wed. 26 Sat. 29	Cambridge Univ. Pontypool Harlequins Maesteg Moseley	H A H H	Sat.	3 10 17 24 31	Ebbw Vale Pontypool London Welsh Newport Llanelli	A H H
NOVEMBER Sat. 5 Wed. 9 Sat. 12 Sat. 19 Sat. 26	Leicester Oxford Ebbw Vale W.R.U. Cup 1st Rou Llanelli	A H H nd A	APRIL Sat. Sat. Sat.	7 7 14 21	Bedford Gala Cent. Sevens Swansea Barbarians	H A
DECEMBER Sat. 3 Sat. 10	Swansea London Welsh	H	Mon. Fri.	23 27 28	Harlequins Neath W.R.U. Cup Final	H A



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