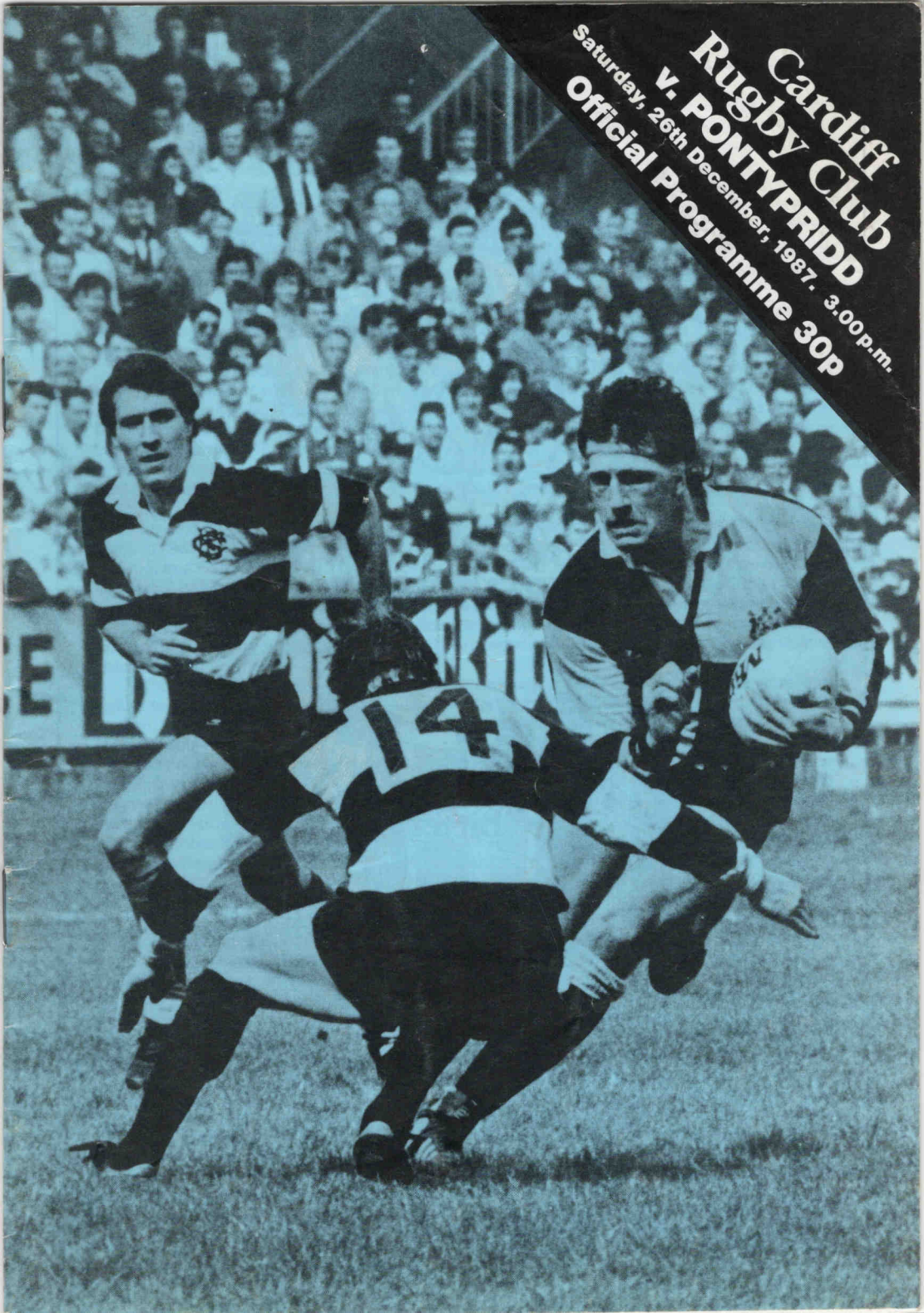
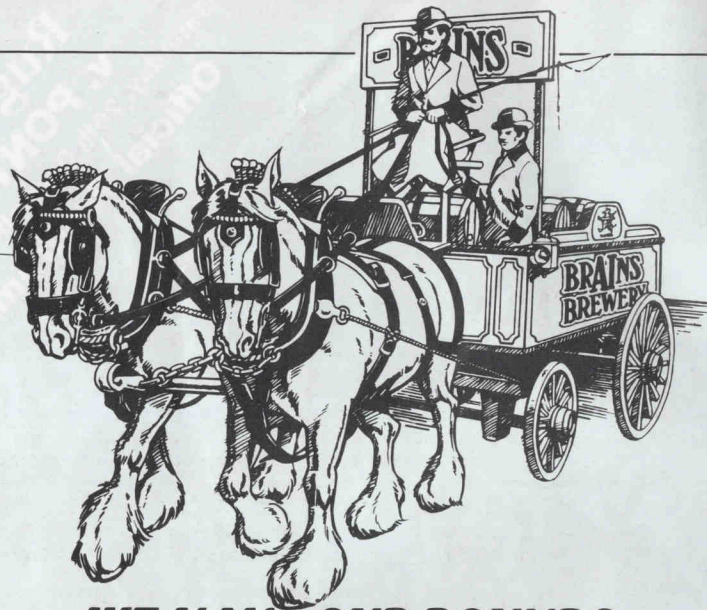


Cardiff
Rugby Club
v. PONTYPRIDD
Saturday, 26th December, 1987. 3.00 p.m.
Official Programme 30p





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Cardiff v. Pontypridd

SATURDAY, 26th DECEMBER, 1987

KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

Time, says the old adage, goes more quickly as you get older. On that basis, I must be getting near dotage because I just don't know where this year has gone, it's simply fled by. I've only just got used to writing 1987 on the date and here it is in its death throes.

Still this is a lowly time of the year though, so first things first, let's hope you are all enjoying the festive occasion. I hope all your goodies were acceptable too and that shirt is not too tight or the aftershave doesn't take the skin from your neck after a good old scrape.

Traditionally, Boxing Day has always been a great day out at The Arms Park, from time immemorial and our very welcomed visitors from Pontypridd are carrying on that tradition in exemplary manner. So I thought I'd have a bit of a delve into the records to find who has filled the bill in the past. And that gave me quite a surprise. Our first ever Boxing Day opponents were fellow city team Roath in 1877. They won that game by 1 drop goal to Cardiff's 4 tries. That, of course, was when the almighty boot was more influential in the game than it is even today. One goal, be it a drop goal or penalty, beat any number of tries. So to Roath went the spoils on our first ever Boxing Day outing.

Our next came in 1882 when no less than Swansea were our yuletide visitors. Old Leysians came in 1882 but the following year guess who arrived — Pontypridd. It was the fifth occasion we had met and Cardiff had won all four previous encounters. Father Christmas saw fit to bestow a somewhat belated present on Ponty and they won on the day by 1 goal and 1 try to 2 tries. So the present series wasn't the first time that Ponty have made a Boxing Day journey and was something that appears to have escaped previous notice. Strangely enough, two years later Liverpool made a one off visit and as you may well remember they preceded Pontypridd as our Boxing Day visitors between 1964 and 1971.

Other illustrious visitors have included the famous Barbarians and indeed we were very fortunate between 1892 and 1920 because with the Easter visit as well it meant two games every season. From there on in however the fixture appeared to be up for grabs with London Irish the most predominant.

The post war era got off to a fantastic start in 1945 however, when we were matched with The New Zealand Army XV 'The Kiwis'. We had won all previous seventeen games of that season and they were also unbeaten. The were led by the great Charlie Saxton and included such marvellous talent as Bob Scott, J.B. Smith, Kearney Argus Sherratt and Freddie Allen. The Western Mail of the 27th December 1945 (generously given to us by Mr. Peter Edwards of Glynneath) gave the game a glorious write-up. It stated that the 25,000 spectators present witnessed a very memorable and unforgettable game played in a wonderful spirit. The Kiwis just scraped home by 3 points (a try) to nil.

Perhaps then, unknown to us some 42 years on (yes a frightening 42 years for all of us who were amongst those 25,000) that marvellous game set the pattern of things to come. During the period we have had some sparkingly entertaining games from the likes of that great London club The Wasps and the men from Knotty Ash Land, Liverpool. Since 1972 however, it's been our great pleasure to entertain our near neighbour Pontypridd and more gracious and welcomed visitors we couldn't wish for. They have been every Boxing Day since except for our centenary year 1976 and strangely enough although we have had games disrupted by the weather early in December all 14 Ponty games have mercifully escaped from any inclement elements.

Of those 14 games we have claimed 12 wins to Ponty's 2. These came in 1977 by 13 points to 9 and secondly last season, 1986, after an exhilarating game 28-21. Those 2 victories were very creditable performances too because on both occasions they became the first team to win on The Arms Park in the particular season. Indeed last season The Sardis Road boys were one of only two teams to win in Cardiff. That first win in 1977 was amongst one of four in a row which is the most Ponty have ever won on the trot. Then again the win last season put paid to a string of eight consecutive wins that we had enjoyed.

Cup wise they have also been a thorn in our flesh and have a 100% record against us. We

have met on two occasions and came out second both times. That's more than any other club can say. Overall the record stands at: Played 59, 43 wins to Cardiff, 14 to Ponty, 2 drawn with 898 points to us and 403 to them.

The Pontypridd scenario of the present is on a real high and in supercharged condition. After a reasonable start to the season things have gone from that state to one of sheer exhilarance. This has been due to the arrival of Clive Jones from Treorchy as their new coach. This remarkable young man has certainly stamped his authority on their set up and has experienced defeat on only one occasion since his arrival in early October. And that one reversal was only by 23-18 at Pontypool. He has moulded the forwards into a very mobile ball winning unit and with such talent behind in Ceri Jones, Steele Lewis and Jonathan Mason it's no wonder they are doing so well. The excellent form of the first named of that trio has also been justly rewarded with a call up to the Welsh squad.

It was very pleasing to see that although they are in such good form at present they are looking for a special effort today in order to achieve another victory in Cardiff. This sort of attitude shows that other sides still see it as a very satisfying situation to win in Cardiff. There will be 15 players in Blue and Black however, who won't have much seasonal goodwill about them between 3 o'clock and half past 4 and will be doing their level best to see Ponty going home empty handed but still happy.

To Pontypridd then it's a very warm yuletide welcome once again we hope you all have an enjoyable day.

Last Saturday's cup win was quite a satisfying operation and far more positive than that at Ystradgynlais. It was no mean achievement to score six tries on a pitch that was a bit narrow and very heavy indeed. But it's now to Rodney Parade and Newport and that's another day and another dollar.

Finally, today as this is the last game of 1987 on behalf of the players and committee we wish you all a very happy new 1988.

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THE PLOT SICKENS

SOMETHING DIFFERENT again today for you to contemplate as you fall asleep in front of the fire. We print below an extract from an unpublished novel by Terry Charles Dickens (no relation to either). The reason for its lack of publication will rapidly become clear with regard to plot, style and general interest. But it is unique for, within this extract, there are contained the names of 30 players who have appeared for Cardiff this season. To win the £10 voucher to be spent at the Cardiff R.F.C. shop, you'll have to spot them all – and to get you attuned we even offer the clue that there's one in the first line.

"I HAD Leyton Orient to draw," said Tom. He was determined to make a fortune and Fred agreed. "You are right." They first tried the pools but argued over the choice of teams to net the reward. Fred raised an eyebrow. "Leyton Orient", he scoffed.

They turned criminal, forced to steal a vehicle which immediately broke down. "Some van! Some car! Dustbin's the only place for that," said Fred as they tried to accelerate up a slope. "Uphill?" I psychologically do not think it's possible. I'd manage better on foot. It's a load of comic rot. Her springs have gone. No can do. No van can help us now. The RAC ran donkeys more quickly than this."

Tom had to agree and the pair, with one accord, leaped through the door. "Aye, run for it," gasped Tom and, in panic, ran earnestly away. At low ebb, eroding their normal cheerfulness, they next considered kidnapping – or, at least, dognapping. "Better make it a royal corgi lest no one will pay," said Fred. "And talking about Royal, are you thinking of Ascot, Tom?"

Their choice of horses being even worse than football teams, they took up cards. "I feel a kind of lucky streak coming on," said Tom as he played one hand. "A good ace, yours," agreed Fred but it did not last.

They tried shoplifting but couldn't decide on which television or stereo. "You know less now than before. Not even the Beeb lack more details on equipment than you do," complained Fred.

"How ill I am," said Tom. "Let's spend Christmas in hospital," said Fred, "Ward Seven, I suggest. We may at least get some cheese." Tom looked happier. "A bit o'brie, nothing less," he said, "and possibly some greens, laden with Christmas joy."

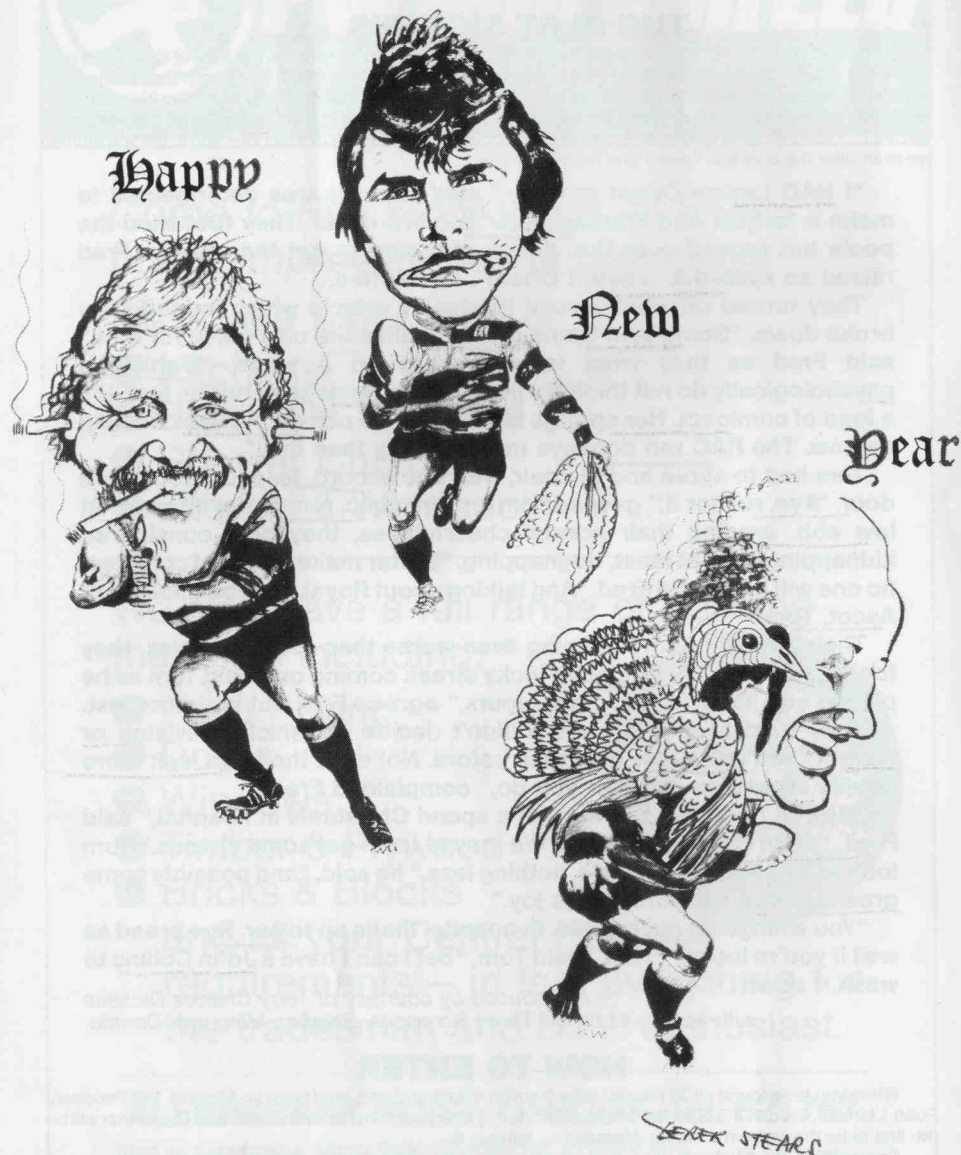
"You whingeing old ingrate. In hospital that's up to par. Rye bread as well if you're lucky." "Huh," said Tom, "bet I can't have a John Collins to wash it down"

— reproduced by courtesy of Terry Charles Dickens
with apologies to the Three Scrooges, Skipper, Ming and Donnie.

HOW TO ENTER

When you have found all 30 names, write them on a postcard and send them to: ADsport, 145 Pencisely Road, Llandaff, Cardiff CF5 1DN. Remember to write on it also your own name and address. The winner will be the first to be drawn from a hat on Wednesday, January 6.

Competition No. 11: Apologies – the gremlins got at the grid with the result that Messrs Cayward and Colmes were previous captains of Cardiff. The list should have read Thomas, Rowlands, O'Shea, Willis, Judd, Roberts, Tanner, John Scott, Norris, Matthews, Davies, Phillips, Tamplin, James, Wells, Williams, Norster, Hayward and Holmes. Because of the slight error, we also accepted those who put down three Williamses (clever thinking). And the winner? Robert Pugh of 4 Wyndham Road, Canton, Cardiff.



QUIDNUNC'S COLUMN

FEEL BETTER for the fresh air, do you? Well, it's always nice to welcome Pontypridd after the turkey and the rest of the sweet smells of excess — quite apart from which our heroes, after the various trials and tribulations of September, October and November, are thus far unbeaten in December. Quidnunc therefore views the approach of 1988 with a cautious optimism which can be born out only by a succession of performances which ensure an appearance at the neighbouring ground behind the south stand on May 7.

And with that firmly in mind, and taking the advice of various astrologists, counsellors, finks, ignorami and associated Cardiff nuts, buffs and committee men (not to mention those players still entitled to pass words with itinerant hacks), I offer Chapter One of the book of New Year Resolutions which should be made by those who have the destiny of the WRU Cup in their hands, at their feet or at their command.

Not that those responsible for the televised draw last Sunday helped in any way by working out finally that a visit to Rodney Parade on January 23 was necessary in order to qualify for the quarter finals. It could have been worse, mind you: we could have been waiting until the competition of 1989 in order to discover whether we would be playing Tredegar, Cilfynydd, Gabalfa Saracens, Glamorgan Wanderers, the Brian Thomas Illegal Entry XV, Cwmiscutt (Lower), the Albert Francis Sponsors Select, ADsport Wednesday or a Pakistani Former Umpires XV — or whichever combination is finally determined to be legal, legitimate and above board.

One quick anonymous phone call should have guaranteed a further twelve months of frenzied inquiries into the legitimacy of any number of players. In the meantime, I have started to make tentative inquiries about certain members of the Newport pack who, I am convinced, must have played under one name or another for Ystalygwnavon Quads in an earlier round.

But I digress through, no doubt, an excess of Christmas spirit. We were, some of you may remember, discussing what New Year resolutions may be made by the boys.

In view of the time of year, it is suggested unanimously that Mr. Robert Lakin should resolve not to mention the word turkey at least until next November 25. If you haven't sold them all yet, Bobby, try exporting to America for thanksgiving (unless you'll donate one for a competition elsewhere in the programme).

The second required resolution is for Adrian Hadley to sign on for a night-school course in changing nappies and associated skills. Come May, Ade, when you and Anne are the proud parents, you'll be able to sort out the babe and be at work long before the boss (assuming a 5 a.m. feed).

Working as he does for the giant NCS (Nappy Cleaning Services) Group, Mr. Hadley will also be able to ensure that his colleague Malcolm Dacey keeps his resolution: to play for Cardiff sometime.

Skipper Bob Norster should, resolve, I'm told, to be more positive in training sessions. He used to be indecisive, apparently, but now he's not so sure — but he'll be there in a minute. Perhaps — well, it could sort of, you know, make up his, what is it . . . but it's o.k. when he's on the park.

Chris Webber must be more decisive also in 1988: he must resolve yet again to give up smoking — or at least buy his own. Quidnunc's long-standing feud with J. Scott on this subject notwithstanding, Webber the Wine must stop now (although he can claim just one from the correspondent of a certain high-quality Sunday newspaper who blamed him quite erroneously for giving a try away in that cup match at Whostrangledalice?).

As for the afore-mentioned Mr. Scott, he must resolve for the short-term at least to cause neither alarm nor despondency in the senior selector's hostelry on Mondays, to give up his hopes temporarily of becoming the club's chief Poach and to leave bombs under certain legal chairs to ensure a happy business future.

Talking of business ventures, Jeff Whitefoot should resolve to hand out even more of those new visiting cards, and Albert Francis should resolve to use the club's sponsored car for its proper purpose.

While we are with the back-room boys, it is suggested that Dave the bar steward (or at least I think that's what they called him) should resolve to smile and that CAC general secretary Alf Gating, or Mike Heffel, should not be seen on television swearing at Pakistani umpires (or was that Spitting Image we were all watching).

As for Quidnunc, he resolves merely to write Chapter Two of this enthralling serial for the visit of Bath of January 2. Watch this space for the resolutions of Messrs Phillips, Donovan, Roberts, Stone, Crothers, Beard, Hutchings, Collins and many others (is no one sacred?).

In the meantime, enjoy the rest of the holiday, don't do anything that Scottie wouldn't do (or say, let alone write), and have a very happy and prosperous 1988.



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Rugby Quiz – No. 11

Let's look at our Cup statistics this week.

1. Three sides have beaten us in the Cup on two occasions. Who are they?
2. Who are the other five sides who have beaten us?
3. Who are our most played opponents?
4. How many times have we met Swansea in a semi-final?
5. One famous victory over Pontypool had Ray Prosser saying it was like men against boys. What game was it?

Did you see that?



If not – see me!

J. Warren Hailes

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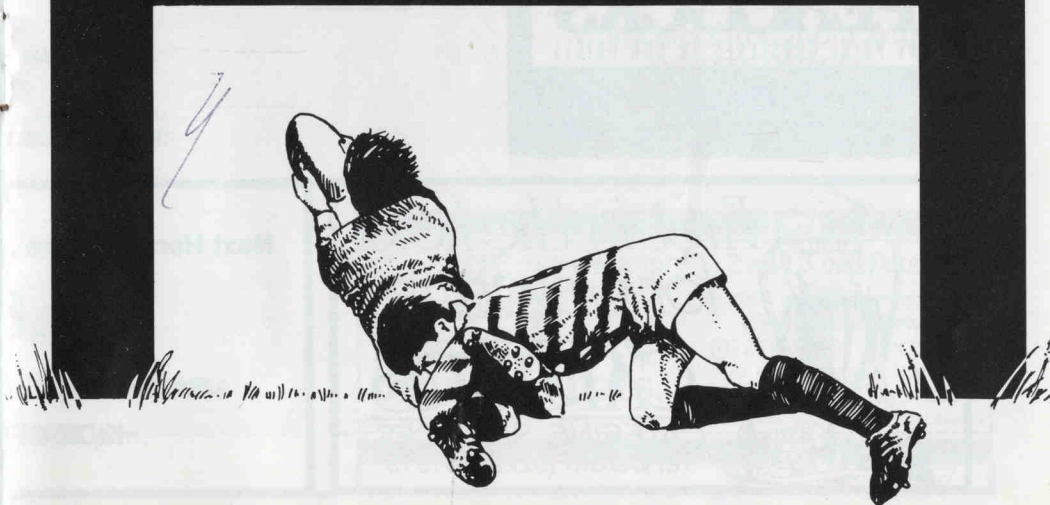
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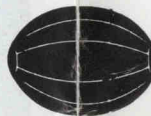
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- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 15. M. RAYER | Full Back |
| 14. G. CORDLE | Right Wing |
| 13. R. CARDUS | Right Centre |
| 12. S. CRANDON | Left Centre |
| 11. A. HADLEY | Left Wing |
| 10. D. EVANS | Outside Half |
| 9. R. GILES | Inside Half |
| 1. S. BLACKMORE | Forwards |
| 2. A. PHILLIPS (Captain) | |
| 3. R. BILTON | |
| 4. H. STONE | |
| 5. M. ROWLEY | |
| 6. R. LAKIN | |
| 8. M. EDWARDS | |
| 7. G. ROBERTS | |
| 16. D. GIBBON | |
| 17. C. GREEDY | |



Replacements

Referee: Mr. R. O. P. JONES

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Pontypridd

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| J. MASON | 15. |
| G. LOXTON | 14. |
| S. LEWIS | 13. |
| C. JONES | 12. |
| A. CARTWRIGHT | 11. |
| M. JONES | 10. |
| R. DAVIES | 9. |
| N. EYNON | 1. |
| G. JOHN (Captain) | 2. |
| R. STEVENS | 3. |
| S. BAIN | 4. |
| B. DAVIES | 5. |
| A.N. OTHER | 6. |
| S. KING | 8. |
| R. DAVIES | 7. |
| H. JONES | 16. |
| C. ARNOLD | 17. |

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Rugby Quiz No. 11 – Answers

1. *Aberavon, Llanelli and Pontpridd.*
2. *Pontypool, Swansea, Bridgend, Neath and Newport.*
3. *Pontypool and Swansea – six times each.*
4. *Three times, 1973, 1978 and 1981.*
5. *The 1985 semi-final at Newport when we won 24-3.*

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By PAUL REES

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G. JOHN	18	1	32	87	68	8	154	418
G. CORDLE	24	17	—	68	133(1)	99	1	398
M. RAYER	22	4	9	41	91(1)	17	28	153
R. CARDUS	13	9	—	36	38	22	—	88
A. HADLEY	18	7	3	35	184	108	3	439
C. WEBBER	9	2	8	26	102(7)	19	113	364
D. EVANS	9	—	9	25	47(1)	10	75	210
A. GLASSON	9	3	—	12	28	13	—	52
M. EDWARDS	13	3	—	12	13	3	—	12
H. STONE	13	3	—	12	110(1)	17	—	68
R. NORSTER	16	2	—	8	250	15	—	60
R. JONES	4	2	—	8	4	2	—	8
C. HUTCHINGS	11	2	—	8	24(1)	3	—	12
T. CROTHERS	12	2	—	8	107(2)	25	—	100
N. O'BRIEN	5(1)	2	—	8	43(14)	17	—	68
A. PHILLIPS	13	2	—	8	404	145	—	580
M. ROWLEY	12	2	—	8	33	4	—	16
G. ROBERTS	12	2	—	8	95	29	—	116
D. WILLIAMS	2	—	3	8	6	2	3	16
S. CRANDON	9	1	—	4	9	1	—	4
R. GILES	6	1	—	4	6	1	—	4
M. PARRY	10	1	—	4	38	2	—	8
J. BURNELL	4	1	—	4	7	2	—	8
P. CRANE	4	1	—	4	23	2	—	8
J. WHITEFOOT	17	—	—	—	250	7	—	28
S. BLACKMORE	13	—	—	—	73	3	—	12
A. DONOVAN	12	—	—	—	140	18	—	72
J. SCOTT	11	—	—	—	249(2)	35	—	140
I. EIDMAN	10	—	—	—	211	3	—	12
I. GREENSLADE	10	—	—	—	15(3)	—	—	—
R. LAKIN	8	—	—	—	260(3)	59	—	236
R. BILTON	8	—	—	—	10	—	—	—

* Total includes one penalty try.

Also played: 7 — O. Golding. 5 — M. Knowles. 3 — V. Evans. 2 — A. Moore, C. Conway, M. Hadley (+1).
1 — C. Miller, M. Dacey, A. Carter, D. Gibbon (+1), G. Pritchard (+2), C. Collins (+1).

Subs: R. Williams (1), M. Poole (1).

P 26 W 14 D 2 L 10 F 450 A 368 Tries 71 Cons 35 Pens 30 Drops 2

[up to and including match v. Aberavon Quins]

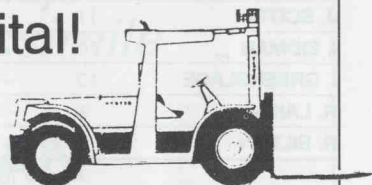
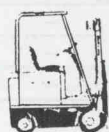
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April 15th (Friday) — ANNUAL DINNER (Clubhouse)	

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16 (Sat) Ebbw Vale, £3.00	16 (Sat) Neath, £3.00

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KNOW THE LAWS

By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

NADOLIG LLAWEN — A Happy Christmas to all who read this column, and since it's the appropriate time for quiz questions, **please answer the following**, fully realising that the referee frequently has to make a split second decision.

1. What is the **minimum** number of players necessary to form a line-out?
2. **Who determines the maximum number** of players from either team in the line up?
3. What determines the **length** of the line out?
4. What is the **space** that must be left —
(a) between the two lines of players;
(b) between one player and another of his own team?
5. A match shall be played by not more than 15 players in each team. What is the **minimum number possible** in order for one side to continue playing?
6. (a) A player catches the ball cleanly from a **throw forward** by one of his opponents and shouts "**Mark**". Is this allowed?
(b) The ball **rebounds from a goalpost** to the fullback who shouts "**Mark**". Is this in order?
7. A player taking a free kick **bounces the ball on his knee**. Is this allowed?
8. Are the **opposition allowed to charge a freekick**?
9. Is it possible to be **offside in in-goal**?
10. The ball is lying in in-goal near the corner post. An attacker dives 'through' the post knocking it over and touches the ball down. **What is the correct decision?**

I will give you the correct answers in the next home match programme — so please turn up in crowds to watch **BATH at the Arms Park on Saturday January 2nd**.

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Cardiff Rugby Club 1987-88

FIRST XV FIXTURES

1987			1988		
SEPTEMBER			JANUARY		
Wed. 2	Taffs Well (Centenary)	A 28-4	Sat. 2	Bath	H.....
Sat. 5	Bristol (Centenary)	A 20-15	Sat. 9	Aberavon	A.....
Wed. 9	Glamorgan Wanderers	A 6-6	Sat. 16	Ebbw Vale	A.....
Sat. 12	Neath	H 6-35	Sat. 23	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round	
Wed. 16	Maesteg	H 9-9	Sat. 30	Llanelli	H.....
Sat. 19	Coventry	A 14-21	FEBRUARY		
Wed. 23	Pontypridd	A 18-16	Sat. 6	London Welsh	A.....
Sat. 26	Aberavon	H 12-15	Sat. 13	Newport	H.....
OCTOBER			Sat. 27	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round	
Sat. 3	Newport	A 9-16	MARCH		
Wed. 7	Bridgend	H 6-7	Wed. 1	Bristol	H.....
Sat. 10	Northampton	A 14-7	Sat. 12	Pontypool	H.....
Wed. 14	Pontypool	A 0-31	Wed. 16	Penarth	A.....
Sat. 17	Cambridge University	H 48-9	Sat. 26	W.R.U. Cup Semi Final	
Wed. 21	Caerphilly (Centenary)	A 19-12	Mon. 28	Newport	A.....
Sat. 24	Harlequins	A 20-12	APRIL		
Sat. 31	Moseley	H 10-14	Sat. 2	Barbarians	H.....
NOVEMBER			Tue. 5	Llanelli	A.....
Sat. 7	Leicester	A 19-27	Sat. 9	Swansea	A.....
Mon. 9	Welsh XV	H 17-13	Sat. 16	Neath	H.....
Wed. 11	Oxford University	H 22-27	Sat. 23	Wasps	A.....
Sat. 14	Ebbw Vale	H 35-9	Wed. 27	Barry (Centenary)	H.....
Sat. 21	Ystradgynlais (Cup)	A 12-9	Sat. 30	Nottingham	H.....
Sat. 28	Llanelli	A 6-41	MAY		
DECEMBER			Sat. 7	W.R.U. Cup Final	
Wed. 2	Newbridge	H 20-0			
Sat. 5	Swansea	H 17-0			
Sat. 12	London Welsh	H 27-21			
Sat. 19	Aberavon Quins (Cup)	A 36-0			
Sat. 26	Pontypridd	H.....			
Mon. 28	Bridgend	A.....			

ATHLETIC XV FIXTURES

1987			Sat. 19		
SEPTEMBER			Newport Saracens		
Sat. 5	Bristol United	H 21-26	Sat. 26		
Wed. 9	Glamorgan Wanderers II	H 17-8	Rumney		
Sat. 12	Kenfig Hill	A 65-4	1988		
Wed. 16	Bridgend Sports	A 19-19	JANUARY		
Sat. 19	Coventry Extras	H 77-4	Sat. 2	Bath United	A.....
Wed. 23	Llandaff	H 10-16	Sat. 9	Neath Athletic	H.....
Sat. 26	St. Peters	A 10-25	Sat. 16	Ebbw Vale United	H.....
Tue. 29	Pontypool United	A 10-12	Sat. 23	Llandaff	A.....
OCTOBER			Sat. 30	Pontyclun	A.....
Sat. 3	Newport United	H 31-23	FEBRUARY		
Sat. 10	Neath Athletic	A 13-19	Sat. 6	Reading	A.....
Wed. 14	Pontypool Athletic	H 34-0	Sun. 7	Abbey	A.....
Sat. 17	Bridgend Ravens	A 11-27	Sat. 13	Newport United	A.....
Wed. 21	Cardiff & District	H Post.	Sat. 27	Pencoed	A.....
Sat. 24	Abercarn	H 8-13	MARCH		
Wed. 28	Garndiffiath	H 44-6	Wed. 1	Bristol United	A.....
Sat. 31	Moseley United	A 19-17	Sat. 5	Maesteg Celtic	A.....
NOVEMBER			Sat. 12	Pontypool Athletic	A.....
Sat. 7	Leicester Extras	H 30-20	Wed. 16	Bedwas	H.....
Wed. 11	Caerphilly	A Canc.	Fri. 18	Risca	A.....
Sat. 14	Ebbw Vale Athletic	A 37-0	Wed. 23	Pontypool United	H.....
Sat. 21	Berry Hill	A 27-9	Wed. 30	Cardiff H.S.O.B.	A.....
Sat. 28	Bridgend Ravens	H 14-18	APRIL		
DECEMBER			Mon. 4	Blackwood	A.....
Sat. 5	Swansea Athletic	A 6-25	Sat. 9	Swansea Athletic	H.....
Sat. 12	Llanharan	A 9-15	Tue. 12	Llanharan	H.....
			Sat. 16	Bridgend Sports	H.....
			Sat. 23	Mumbles	A.....



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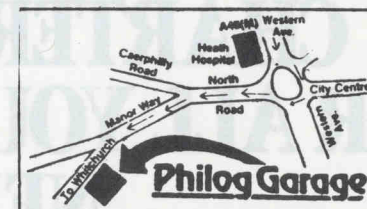
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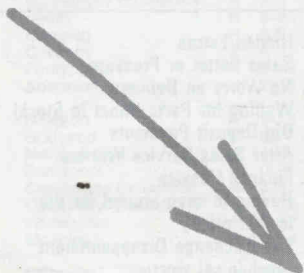
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