

Schweppes Challenge Cup Competition 1980/81

Brewery Field, Bridgend
Saturday, 14th March 1981
Kick off 3.00 p.m.

Semi Final

CARDIFF

versus

SWANSEA

Official Programme 20p

WELSH RUGBY UNION

SCHWEPPE'S CUP FINAL

SATURDAY, 11th APRIL, 1981
NATIONAL GROUND, CARDIFF ARMS PARK
KICK OFF 3.00 p.m.

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

Please supply me with the following tickets for the Schweppes Cup Final to be played at the National Ground, Cardiff Arms Park, Saturday, 11th April, 1981.

RESERVED GRANDSTAND

..... North Upper (Blocks B-J)	@ £4.00	.....
..... North Lower (Blocks 1-8)	@ £4.00	.....
..... South Upper	@ £4.00	.....
..... South Lower (Blocks C-G)	@ £4.00	.....
..... South Lower (Blocks B and H)	@ £3.00	.....
..... West Stand (Blocks L-P)	@ £3.00	.....
..... North Upper (Blocks A and K)	@ £3.00	.....
EAST TERRACE	@ £1.50	.....
SOUTH ENCLOSURE	@ £1.50	.....
WEST ENCLOSURE	@ £1.50	.....

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.

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

Please note that despatch of tickets will commence on Monday, 16th March, 1981.

Name

Address

.....

.....

Welcome to the Brewery Field

As hosts for the day, and on another unique occasion, I would like to take this opportunity of cordially welcoming to the Brewery Field the players, officers and committees and supporters of both Swansea and Cardiff for the semi-final of the 1981 Schweppes Challenge Cup Competition.

As the draw turned out, the only really logical venue for the clubs for this semi-final was the Brewery Field, and despite the considerable administrative problems involved, we were pleased that the clubs themselves and the Welsh Rugby Union expressed a wish to come here, as did Aberavon and Pontypridd in a 1979 semi-final.

This is a ground where, over many years, Cardiff and Swansea have "done battle" with the home team, and what stirring and memorable encounters many of them have been with a great sporting spirit and tradition always prevailing both on and off the field.

Since its inception in 1971/72, and despite a number of teething problems along the way, the Competitions Committee of the W.R.U., led first by Mr. Ken Gwilym and now carried on by Mr. George Morgan has persevered in its efforts, and have now succeeded in making it one of the most popular, exciting and clear-cut events in the annual Welsh rugby calendar.

How else would the so-called "second class" clubs, and this is becoming a greater misnomer than ever, have been able to meet the more "fashionable" and leading teams in Welsh rugby. We ourselves have thoroughly enjoyed the visits to the Brewery Field over the years of stalwart clubs like Llandaff, Cwmavon, Burry Port, Ynysybwl, Treorchy, Lampeter Town, Kidwelly, Waunarlwydd, and this year, further newcomers in the shape of New Dock Stars and Maesteg Celtic. And what Bridgend supporter can ever forget the titanic struggles we had at Blaina (9-0), Senghenydd (12-11), Mountain Ash (8-6), Pontypool United (17-4) and more recently the nail-biting 12-6 visit to Haverfordwest in 1979/80, when we could so easily, and as cup holders, have been knocked out in the first round!

This is the very stuff of Welsh rugby and can truly be said to be the foundation of the advance of the game right up to international level.

The financial incentives of the Competition nowadays are considerable, but this has never, to any marked extent, prevented all participating clubs from going onto the field primarily to enjoy themselves—to give of their utmost to win, of course, but never to the detriment of the game itself.

I feel sure that today's classic encounter, between two of the finest clubs in the country will be played in the same spirit, and will be a true reflection of their great sporting traditions for well over 100 years.

Finally, everyone will be aware that for the third successive year, between 3.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. this afternoon, Bridgend will be locked in combat in the other semi-final against Llanelli at St. Helens, Swansea. We would like to feel that your good wishes are with us, knowing that only two clubs can go to the National Stadium on the 11th April for what is now regarded as the premier event in Welsh rugby.

A number of Bridgend officials, committeemen and supporters have stayed behind to help run today's match, and we are very grateful to them for their willing and unselfish co-operation. Because our resources today will be stretched to the utmost, we would ask you to bear with us in our efforts to provide adequate ground and clubhouse facilities. With your patience and co-operation, we will do our best to make your visit to the Brewery Field an enjoyable one. On the playing field itself, I think it is always fair to say that one hopes the better side on the day will win.

DURBAR LAWRIE
Hon. General Secretary, Bridgend R.F.C.

SWANSEA

by MALCOLM LEWIS (Western Mail)

Though Swansea have clashed with only one leading club on their way to their fifth semi-final in eight years, they have experienced a far from easy passage.

The last two hurdles almost brought their downfall, first unexpectedly at Ystradgynlais where the Swansea Valley side fought tooth and nail to fell the giants of Abertawe.

It was not a game that Swansea like to recall and only a penalty goal from the prolific scoring Roger Blyth pulled them through 3-0.

More recently, Newbridge gave the All Whites a fright with their tough, rugged forwards and spoiling tactics, which went very near to making the men of Gwent only the second club side to win at St. Helen's this season.

As it is—and is there any need to mention it?—Cardiff are the only club to have won at St. Helen's this season just as they were the only side to win there last year.

Indeed, Cardiff so often have the upper hand over the All Whites that they are as much a bogey side to Swansea as Bridgend are to Cardiff.

However, neither side will be taking much notice of that today. History has shown that in these one-off cup games past results are

little guide to what will happen on the day.

Nobody outside Swansea really fancied the All Whites on the last occasion they met Cardiff in the semi-finals of the cup. That was three years ago at Aberavon when Dave Richards was playing at outside half and cheekily glided away from a set scrum to cross the Cardiff line for as smart a solo try as any you are likely to see.

Swansea were leading 15-3 when they were shaken to the core by a hectic Cardiff rally in the last 15 minutes in which the ball was run at them in bewildering fashion from all points of the field.

Swansea won 18-13 in the end but as Swansea chairman Norman Blyth remembers it at the final whistle players were laid out exhausted by the tremendous effort they had put into the game. It must rank as one of the best, if not THE best, of all Schweppes Cup semi-finals.

Swansea, led by Alan Meredith, went on to win the cup by beating Newport 13-9 in the final and the scheming, dazzling David Richards deservedly took the Lloyd Lewis Trophy as the 'Man of the Match'.

Swansea's other semi-final appearances were in 1973 when Cardiff beat them 12-8 at Aberavon, 1976 when Pontypool

were overcome 22-14 at Cardiff and Mervyn Davies collapsed with a brain haemorrhage that was to end an outstanding career and 1980 when Newport were beaten 23-13 in Cardiff.

Despite their somewhat uncertain cup progress this season the All Whites have the impressive record of 147 tries in 36 games. Their points total of 921 puts them well on target for overhauling last season's record of 1,196.

Right wing Tony Swift is again setting a brisk pace as the leading try scorer with twenty from twenty-one outings. Out in front are the prolific pair of Mark Wyatt (186) and Roger Blyth (162) who, between them, have been responsible for 348 points.

With a strong squad to choose from the All Whites have been making frequent changes both up front and behind and at no time have the selectors revealed their hand as to what they believe to be their best combination.



The choice becomes most difficult in deciding between four forwards for the three places at second row and No. 8. Skipper Geoff Wheel commands one of them. That leaves Barry Clegg, Richard Moriarty and Trevor Cheeseman to fight over what remains.

To reach this far in the cup Swansea have beaten Hendy 30-9 (home), Ystrad Rhondda 61-9 (home), Ystradgynlais 3-0 (away), and Newbridge 13-10 (home).

Swansea Captain
Geoff Wheel

Swansea PEN PORTRAITS

ROGER BLYTH (Full back). Age 29. 6' 1", 14 st.

Capped six times by Wales. Swansea's leading points scorer on many occasions and holds the club's points scoring record. Barbarian. A company director.

TONY SWIFT (Wing threequarter). Age 22. 5' 8".

Native of Preston. An ex Fylde player before moving to Cardiff to study at UWIST, where he gained his B.A. degree. A Lancashire, England Under-23 and England 'B' cap and currently in the England squad. A trainee accountant.

HUW REES (Wing/Centre). Age 21. 5' 11", 13 st. 7 lb.

Product of Maesyderwen Comprehensive School and Abercrave. Youth Secondary Schools international. Sales representative.

GARETH JENKINS (Centre threequarter). Age 24. 6' 0", 13 st. 13 lb.

Product of Bishop Gore Grammar School and Swansea Youth. Cardiff College of Education. A Wales 'B' cap against Rumania in 1978. School teacher.

MALCOLM DACEY (Centre threequarter). Age 21. 6' 0", 11 st.

Product of Bonymaen and a Youth international. Joined Swansea in 1978. Also a very competent outside half. Wales 'B' cap against France—October 1980. Carpenter.

ALAN MEREDITH (Wing threequarter). Age 28. 5' 10", 12 st.

Welsh Secondary Schools and British Universities. A former Neath player, and has played scrum-half, fly half, centre and full back. Captained Swansea for two seasons and led his team to win the Schweppes Cup in 1978. Wales 'B'. Barbarian. A Solicitor.

DAVID RICHARDS (Stand-off/Centre). Age 26. 5' 9", 11 st. 12 lb.

Neath Grammar School, captained Welsh Secondary Schools and played for Cardiff College of Education. Toured Australia with Wales in 1978 and South Africa with the British Lions in 1979 playing in one Test before injury put him out of the tour. Capped by Wales at centre. Barbarian. Finance company representative.

BRYNMOR WILLIAMS (Scrum half). Age 28. 5' 11".

Cardigan Grammar School and Welsh Secondary Schools cap. Joined Swansea after first playing for Cardiff and Newport. British Lion and played in three Tests against New Zealand before being capped for Wales on the 1978 Australian Tour. Barbarian. Building Society Manager.

TREVOR CHEESEMAN (Back row forward). Age 26. 6' 3", 16 st.

A native of Kent. Cardiff College of Education. A current member of the England squad, he is already an England Under 23 and England 'B' cap. A school teacher at Gowerton Grammar School.

JEFF HERDMAN (Hooker). Age 27. 5' 9", 12 st. 7 lb.

Captained Wales at Under 15 and Secondary Schools level and played for British Universities. Rare turn of speed for a forward; 'B' cap against France in October 1980. A Building Society Manager.

CLIVE WILLIAMS (Prop). Age 32. 5' 11", 16 st.

Porthcawl, Neath and Aberavon before joining Swansea in 1979. First Welsh cap 1977 and back in the side after being out of the game for a year with a severe knee injury suffered on the Lions tour to New Zealand. Toured for the second time with the Lions in South Africa in 1979 and played in all the Tests. Capped six times for Wales and a Barbarian. A self employed builder.

GEOFF WHEEL (Lock). Age 28. 6' 4", 16 st. 6 lb.

Capped 30 times by Wales and rated as one of the best lock forwards in the four home countries. Joined Swansea from Mumbles. Chosen for British Lions to tour New Zealand in 1974 but was advised to withdraw because of ill health. Club captain. A Barbarian, he also toured Australia with Wales. A brewery company representative.

GARETH ROBERTS (Wing forward). Age 23. 6' 1", 15 st.

Gowerton Comprehensive School. Capped for Welsh Schools at Junior and Senior level. Wales 'B' international. Studied at UWIST and is a pharmacist.

BARRY CLEGG (Lock). Age 26. 6' 5", 15 st. 12 lb.

Was automatic choice for Wales at 'B' level until he replaced Geoff Wheel when he withdrew from the side to play France in Paris in 1979. Toured Australia and Japan with Wales. A fireman.

MARK KEYWORTH (Flanker). Age 32. 6' 1", 14 st.

Capped four times for England and a former regular with North Midlands. Introduced to Swansea by former coach Ieuan Evans. A native of Bridgnorth, is a farmer residing in Aberaeron, and is currently in the England squad.

RICHARD MORIARTY (No. 8). 6' 6", 16 st.

A product of Schoolboy rugby in Morriston. Through Morriston Youth and Senior sides to join Swansea in 1977. Was a replacement in the Welsh Trial in 1978 and toured Canada and U.S.A. with a Wales XV in 1979. An electrician.

MARK DAVIES (Flanker). Age 24. 6' 2", 14 st. 4 lb.

A product of Nantyffyllon, in the Llynfi Valley. In second season at Swansea and has developed rapidly into a fast, constructive breakaway forward. A very good cricketer with Maesteg Celtic. A physiotherapist.

MARK WYATT (Full back and utility threequarter). Age 23. 6' 0".

Product of Brecon Grammar School and Swansea University. A very keen all-round sportsman. Played for British Universities, and is now researching for his Ph.D. at Swansea University. University graduate.

ALLAN DONOVAN (Centre). Age 24. 5' 8", 12 st. 7 lb.

Welsh Secondary Schools squad in 1973/74. Captained St. Pauls's College, Cheltenham. Capped for Wales 'B' against France in 1978 and toured Australia with Wales later in the season when he received his cap at full back. Sustained severe knee injury from which he has taken a long time to recover and re-establish himself. A schoolteacher.

HUW DAVIES (Scrum half). Age 27. 5' 7", 12 st.

A former Mumbles player who was the established scrum half with the 'Whites' until last season when he spent a brief spell with Aberavon. Nicknamed 'Spider'. Graduated at Southampton University and is now a Building Society Manager at Brecon.

STEVE DAVIES (Hooker). Age 23. 5' 9", 12 st. 7 lb.

A product of Cwmtawe School and Welsh Secondary Schools cap. Joined Swansea last season and has proved himself to be a popular member of the squad and an exceptionally good hooker. A bank clerk.



CARDIFF

Colours: Cambridge Blue and Black

KICK OFF 3.00 p.m.

SWANSEA

Colours: All White



FULL BACK

15 RHYS WILLIAMS

FULL BACK

15 ROGER BLYTH*

FULL BACK

THREE QUARTERS

14 STEVE EVANS *PREKKE TRY 4* RIGHT WING *TRY 4.*

14 TONY SWIFT

THREE QUARTERS

13 DAVID BURCHER* *DAVID CON 6* RIGHT CENTRE *PREW 7.*

13 DAVID RICHARDS*

12 NEIL HUTCHINGS *DAVID CON 12* LEFT CENTRE

12 ALAN MEREDITH

11 ANDREW YEANDLE *DAVID PREW 18* LEFT WING

11 HUW REES

HALF BACKS

10 GARETH DAVIES* *FRANK 18* OUTSIDE HALF *7.*

10 MALCOLM DACEY

HALF BACKS

9 TERRY LEE INSIDE HALF

9 ~~BRYNMOR WILLIAMS*~~
HUMPHREYS DAVIES

FORWARDS

1 JEFF WHITEFOOT FORWARDS

1 CLIVE WILLIAMS*

2 ALAN PHILLIPS*

2 JEFF HERDMAN

3 IAN EIDMAN *INTERNATIONAL

3 HYWEL HOPKINS

4 KEVIN EDWARDS

4 GEOFF WHEEL (Captain)*

5 TONY MOGRIDGE

REFEREE:
Mr. KEN ROWLANDS
(Ynysybwl)

5 BARRY CLEGG*

6 ROBERT LAKIN

TOUCH JUDGES:
Mr. K. C. PARFITT
(Port Talbot)

6 MARK DAVIES

8 JOHN SCOTT (Captain)*

Mr. W. O. DAVIES
(Griffithstown)

8 RICHARD MORIARTY

7 BRYAN LEASE

RESERVE TOUCH JUDGE:
Mr. R. G. Hughes
(Blaengarw)

7 GARETH ROBERTS

FORWARDS

Replacements

16 KARL SWAIN
17 DAVID BARRY

18 GWYNFOR WILLIAMS
19 MIKE WATKINS

20 ROBERT NORSTER
21 STUART LANE*

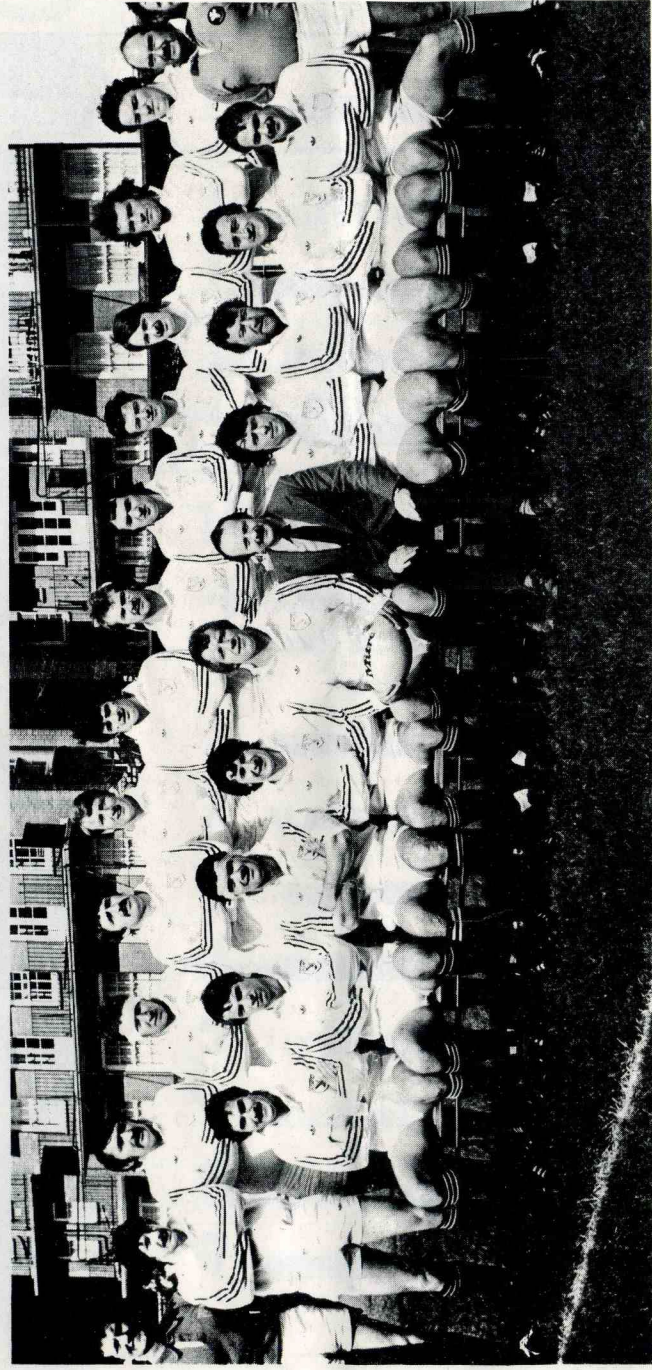
HUW DAVIES
MARK WYATT

GARETH JENKINS
STEVE DAVIES

KEITH COLCLOUGH
TREVOR CHEESEMAN

Replacements

SWANSEA R.F.C.



*The Swansea RFC Squad that defeated Newport 23-13 in the semi-final at Cardiff Arms Park on March 29, 1980.
(Left to right): Back row—Winston Jones (touch judge), Alun Donovan, Byron Mugford, Clive Williams, Trevor Cheeseman, Richard Moriarty, Barry Clegg, Gareth Roberts, Roger Blyth, Mark Wyatt, Malcolm Dacey, Mark Keyworth, Keith Williams, Ken Rowlands (referee). Front row—Gareth Jenkins, Tony Swift, Jeff Herdman, David Richards, Geoff Wheel (capt.), Stan Addicott (coach), Brynmor Williams, Hywell Hopkins, Alan Meredith, Steve Davies.*

CARDIFF R.F.C.



CARDIFF 9 NEW ZEALAND 16 (18th October 1980)

Cardiff PEN PORTRAITS

RHYS WILLIAMS

Joined Cardiff from Llanharran. Came as third choice full back, but due to injuries to Glyn Davies and Chris Webber has now firmly established himself in the 1st XV.

STEVE EVANS

Joined club from Pontypool this season where he was the 'Pooler' leading try scorer.

DAVID BURCHER

British Lion. Four Welsh caps. An outstanding centre with Newport before joining Cardiff, and captained the Black and Ambers when they won the Schweppes Cup although he did not play himself.

NEIL HUTCHINGS

Former Aberavon player. Played for Barbarians against All Blacks on their last tour. Leading try scorer last season.

ANDREW YEANDLE

Cardiff boy. Came from Glamorgan Wanderers three seasons ago. Toured South Africa with Cardiff two years ago. Unlucky with injuries at a time when he was strongly fancied for a Welsh cap.

GARETH DAVIES

British Lion. Thirteen Welsh caps. Toured Canada with Barbarians. Club captain last season and this year's vice-captain. Over 200 points this season.

TERRY LEE

Product of Rumney Youth. Pontypool. Outstanding young player with plenty of experience due to the absence through injury of Terry Holmes and Gwynfor Williams.

JEFF WHITEFOOT

Loose head prop, joining from Bedwas. Three seasons with club. Ever-present player, missing only two games this season.

ALAN PHILLIPS

British Lion. Ten Welsh caps. Straight from Cornelly Youth to Cardiff. Toured South Africa with British Lions. Current Welsh hooker.

IAN EIDMAN

Three seasons with club, joining from Dinas Powis.

KEVIN EDWARDS

Joined the club at end of last season. Product of South Glamorgan Institute. Pontypool. Toured Canada and U.S.A. with Wales in May 1980. Schoolteacher.

TONY MOGRIDGE

Made an excellent reputation with Newport. Joined Cardiff this season from Machen. Accountant.

ROBERT LAKIN

Former Cardiff Youth and Welsh Youth captain. Appointed captain of the 'Rags' this season but promoted rapidly and regularly to the 1st XV, and now well established in the side.

JOHN SCOTT

England (17 caps) and Barbarians. Joined Cardiff three years ago. Reputed to be the best No. 8 in the country. Native of Exeter.

BRYAN LEASE

Joined from Newport last season. Born in Bath, he was watched by the England selectors recently.

How Cardiff got to the Semi-final . . .

TONYREFAIL	15 - 0
BRITISH STEEL	41 - 0
TREDEGAR	22 - 0
CROSS KEYS	22 -10

The full effect of the injury plague can be judged by the number of players who have pulled on the Cardiff shirt this season. At present the figure stands at 51, and in the cup run only four players have taken the field. They are David Burcher, Gareth Davies, Bob Lakin and Jeff Whitefoot.

Although Cardiff had to write off any hopes of playing Terry Holmes, Pat Daniels and Mike Murphy they found a silver lining in the injury cloud. The cup draw produced three home and just one away tie. This good luck went a long way to erasing the thought that the dice were being loaded against an Arms Park side still searching for a first cup win.

Coach John Ryan says—"One of the benefits to come out of our misfortune has been the tremendous team spirit. We have been playing reasonably well but the disruptions to the backs and forwards has engendered this great spirit. They have pulled together to get us to the semi-finals and everyone who has come into the team has played a part in this success. We have already beaten two very good club sides in Tredegar and Cross Keys and they both played well against us. Skipper John Scott is having an outstanding season and leads by example and we have not played as well when he has been out. We are quietly optimistic about the Swansea game but we know we are going to have to be at our best to win. I feel we played our best rugby so far this season in December and I hope we can recapture that form for the semi-final".

Always a bridesmaid, never a bride . . .

by J. B. G. THOMAS (Western Mail)

If there is one honour that Cardiff would like to achieve, it is the winning of the Schweppes Cup, and they are the only club of the four semi-finalists who have not done so, and they would like to keep up with Bridgend, Llanelli and Swansea. Even their other rivals, Newport and Neath, have won the Cup and this drives Cardiff on!

They have had their opportunities and good ones, but have let them slip, as they were in two finals in 1973 and 1977 only to be beaten by Llanelli and Newport respectively. Of all the finalists, Llanelli must be regarded as the most impressive with their running rugby and four victories in succession.

In the Western Mail Championship table at the moment, the order of merit of the four semi-finalists is as follows: Bridgend, Swansea, Cardiff and Llanelli, and so the two finalists after today, should be Bridgend and Swansea as a repeat of last season's final. These clubs were the top two last season and deservedly so.

This year, Cardiff and Llanelli hope to exchange places with their rivals, at least in the final! So far this season Cardiff have played 33

matches in the championship, winning 23, losing nine and one drawn. Gareth Davies, their international outside half, has scored 214 points so far this season including five tries, and has played an important part in holding the side together, especially in the absence of John Scott.



Cardiff Captain
John Scott

Obviously, Cardiff have no chance in the championship, but their captain John Scott, is eager to carry off the Cup. "We will be

trying really hard and our success at St. Helen's in December gives us confidence. We are the only club side to win at St. Helen's".

Swansea have not lost a match since the Cardiff defeat in December, and thus Scott is not going to underestimate the return of confidence to the Swansea side. Obviously it is going to be very hard with the clash of the packs the most interesting feature.

Cardiff's forwards, despite many injuries, have gathered momentum and they will match Swansea in front. If this does happen then it will turn on back play and place-kicking. In the end it could be a kicking duel between Roger Blyth and Gareth Davies.

The Cardiff threequarter are sound rather than brilliant while Rhys Williams is an attacking full-back, eager to match his skills with the international Blyth in the art of joining the attack. The senior player behind for Cardiff is international, David Burcher, who was captain of Newport when they lost in the 1978 final. A steady player, he wants to make another final.

On a neutral ground, so much depends on form on the day. The supporters from Cardiff believe it is fifty-fifty . . . and that is what most critics believe. However, may it prove an enjoyable and exciting match; one as good as the last time the two clubs met in the semi final at Aberavon.

WELSH RUGBY UNION—PRINCIPAL FIXTURES 1981/82

This cancels all previous lists

1981

September

12—1st Preliminary Round Schweppes Cup

October

10—2nd Preliminary Round Schweppes Cup

28—BRIDGEND v. AUSTRALIA

31—WALES 'B' v. AUSTRALIA Cardiff

November

4—PONTYPOOL v. AUSTRALIA

21—1st Round Proper Schweppes Cup

28—SWANSEA v. AUSTRALIA

December

1—PONTYPRIDD v. AUSTRALIA

5—WALES v. AUSTRALIA

19—2nd Round Schweppes Cup.

1982

January

5—WEST WALES v. AUSTRALIA . . . Llanelli

9—BARBARIANS v. AUSTRALIA . . Cardiff

16—IRELAND v. WALES Dublin

23—3rd Round Schweppes Cup

February

6—WALES v. FRANCE

27—4th Round Schweppes Cup

March

6—ENGLAND v. WALES Twickenham

20—WALES v. SCOTLAND

27—Schweppes Cup Semi-Finals

31—WELSH SCHOOLS (Intermediate) v.

ENGLAND Cardiff

April

13—WELSH SCHOOLS (Senior) v.

FRANCE Cardiff

17—Welsh Brewers Cup Final Cardiff

24—Schweppes Cup Final Cardiff

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