

2316

Dublin: Triple Crown hopes brought the biggest Welsh invasion, and a record crowd to Lansdowne Road, where Ireland kicked off against the unbeaten men from Wales.

Following victories over England and Scotland, Wales looked almost ~~certain~~ certain winners: but Ireland soon showed that there was no easy path to that coveted crown, as they menaced the Welsh line.

Full of fight - Wales came storming back into the game in a series of devastating attacks. ^{Then,} ~~and~~ just on half-time - Ireland were penalised and Owen kicked ^{A FINE} an easy goal.

In the second half, Ireland withstood heavy Welsh pressure after Jackie Kyle had levelled the scores with a dropped goal.

Back came Ireland - and when a scrum infringement brought them a penalty, Pedlow made no mistake with a grand kick.

Ireland Six. Wales Three. And now those ^{IRISH} ~~Welsh~~ forwards were getting right on top - and proud Welsh Triple Crown hopes were sagging ~~again~~ under continuous pressure.

Ireland just had to score - and when Cunningham forced his way over near the posts - it was just reward for a great-hearted forward effort.

The rest is Rugby history. Pedlow added the goal points, and the fighting Irish ~~had gained a surprise triumph~~ had gained a surprise triumph by eleven points to three.