



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s cGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Morale booster for Llandovery

Llandovery 15 pts, Pontardawe 3 pts.

SEPT. 1978

Llandovery approached their third league game with a degree of apprehension having lost the corresponding encounter last year, but confident in having registered a win over Penygroes in mid-week.

The game was never outstanding in the quality of football but aspects of play on both sides gave satisfaction. The Pontardawe pack showed itself to be an efficient unit and channelled the ball superbly especially from the linesout.

For Llandovery the return of Gareth Williams gave greater stability to the front row, and the play of Wyn Williams in the second row, was very encouraging particularly since he was playing his first league game in his first season of senior rugby.

Within minutes of the start Nigel Clarke kicked Llandovery into the lead following a late tackle on left wing Huw Lewis. Though the home side were never to lose the lead the sizeable crowd saw the visitors attack strongly before some loose play allowed the initiative to be gained by Llandovery.

A kick out of defence was fielded by centre Tony Williams who ran strongly before giving Alun Williams a sight of the line. The winger was forced into touch on the corner flag. Llandovery continued to pressurise and from a five yard scrum a blind side move by Handel Davies and Nigel Clarke saw Alun Williams score in the corner.

Pontardawe returned to the attack. Pascoe was wide with a penalty attempt and Garry Davies wide with an attempted dropped goal. Several forward drives were inches short of the Llandovery line, and when the visitors crossed the ball was knocked on, so Llandovery had a 7-0 interval lead.

Pontardawe opened the second half with some attacking rugby and Pascoe reduced the arrears with a 30 metre penalty following an indiscreet comment by a player. With only four points separating the sides the visitors threw away the best scoring opportunity of the game when the final pass to the left wing was dropped with the line at his mercy.

Having held their opponents' best efforts Llandovery gained confidence and in the latter stages scored a further two tries.

With twenty minutes remaining the backs fed the ball along the line to left wing Huw Lewis. His well-timed pass allowed full back John Davies, who had a good game, to attack up the left hand side. Play was stopped short of the line, but from the

resulting line-out Wyn Williams took a fine ball. Davies ran into the line from full back and Alun Williams did well to score in the corner.

The home side had a clear lead and used any possession to attack. However the final try was to come from an indirect free kick. Allan Walters ran strongly and was well supported by Howard Ingram. From the ensuing maul the ball was passed along the line and John Davies ran outside left wing Lewis to take a well judged pass and score in the corner.

Whilst this game did not achieve a high standard of excellence, Llandovery now approach the home game with Skewen tomorrow (Saturday) with increased confidence.

Pontardawe came back into the game and forced play into the Llandovery 22 metre area. A penalty award however, rather surprisingly, gave the visitors a scoring opportunity which Handel Davies accepted. On four consecutive occasions the referee penalised Pontardawe and Llandovery were given four ten metre decisions to bring the penalty award within range.

Llandovery's fourth try was made by Allan Walters so that all three back-row players had scored. Pontardawe again fought back but their try was to come rather unexpectedly. A long throw-in almost on their own line surprised their opponents and in a move that went nearly the whole length of the field Gary Davies scored in the corner.

PENALTY SURPRISE

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A long throw in almost on their own line surprised their opponents and in a move that went nearly the whole length of the field Gary Davies scored in the corner.

Llandovery had much the better of the early exchanges being dominant in all phases of the game. Within ten minutes of the start the visitors took the lead. Llandovery ran a penalty award near the half way line. Nigel Clarke scored and Handel Davies converted. Within minutes they went further ahead when a blind side move involving scrum half Davies, and left wing Meirion Dyer saw Trevor Harris scoring. Llandovery changed over with a ten point interval lead.

The second half matched the first as again Llandovery were on top initially. Within minutes of the restart Clarke scored his second try. Scrum half Davies fed Nigel Clarke the Llandovery No. 8 at a scrum 20 metres from the Pontardawe line. Clarke set off on a diagonal run and scored under the posts. Handel Davies converted.

Pontardawe 4 pts., Llandovery 23 1978

Dominant visitors

DES Pontardawe 4
1978 Llandovery 23

In an ill-tempered game played under reasonable ground conditions, Llandovery scored four tries to their opponents one, and in gaining a further two league points, completed the "double" over their rivals.

The refereeing did nothing for the game and many decisions left both sides bewildered and frustrated.

The incessant comments by some of the home side were a feature that was allowed to continue.

Many of the incidents in the game could and should have been firmly dealt with by a more alert official.

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Clive clinched it for Llandybie

by MIKE WATKINSON

Llandybie 3 pts., Llandover nil

THE MOST remarkable feature of an otherwise undistinguished C. C. Evans cup final was the fact that Llandover, who received about 80 per cent use of the ball, failed to convert this possession into points and were beaten by a Clive Roderick drop-goal.

The game was only minutes old when Gareth Williams missed a good chance to put his side in front when his penalty went low and to the left of the posts.

The Llandover backs tested Llandybie captain and full-back Darrel Edwards with a succession of high balls but Edwards looked solid and his clearances repeatedly found touch.

Llandybie were forced to remain on the defensive in the face of some pressure from Llandover, who midway through the half, produced a determined surge resulting in the ball being passed along the line to Alan Walters who was forced into touch a couple of strides from the Llandybie line.

INJURY

It seemed only a question of time before Llandover scored, and the Llandybie defence had some hair-raising moments, notably when winger Jeff Augustus was knocked out of play a yard from the line, and again when Elfyn Jenkins was tackled just short by Lyn Jones.

The Llandover cause was not helped by an injury to number eight Nigel Clark who was forced to leave the field on the half-hour. He returned briefly but was replaced at the interval by Martin Phillips.

During the entire match Llandybie gave an object lesson in defensive play, producing some superb tackles and cover. The handling of scrum-half Lyn Davies occasionally looked suspect but this he more than compensated for with some fine clearance kicks from tight situations.

But the Llandover backs, particularly fly-half Alan Morgan showed a tendency to kick instead of passing the ball out, much to the exasperation of their large band of supporters.

DROP GOAL

Ten minutes were left when Llandybie were awarded a penalty to the left of the Llandover posts. Clive Roderick, who just before the match had been chosen to lead the side next season, elected to try a drop goal, and succeeded in putting his team almost unbelievably in front.

Llandover seemed to lose heart after this blow and the Llandybie forwards were operating far more efficiently towards the end of the match, but Llandover still could have saved the match in the last seconds when Llandybie were penalised.

Poor Gareth Williams sliced the ball wide of the posts and moments later the final whistle blew.

Roderick grabs dramatic victory

Llandybie 3 pts
Llandover nil

Leach ran strongly on the wing for Llandybie.

FIRST HALF

A dropped goal by Llandybie's Clive Roderick, halfway through the second period was sufficient to clinch the C. C. Evans Cup.

With both sides having experienced fluctuating fortunes in their league programmes this year, the C. C. Evans Cup represented one way of rescuing some glory. The game, however, was a disappointment as a spectacle and the large crowd gathered at the Ammanford Recreational Ground seldom had anything to shout about.

The Llandover pack was dominant throughout in both the loose and tight play. Dai Thomas was outstanding in the loose and Wyn Williams and Noel Page dominated in the linesout.

Although the Llandover forwards won excellent ball the backs were unable to profit by it. The running was very ordinary and too often possession was kicked away without any advantage. The Llandybie back play was very solid in defence and both Leach and Davies completely dominated their opposite numbers.

While Daryl Edwards had an unhappy evening at full back especially with high balls, Ray

Immediately from the kick off Llandybie were on the defensive and indeed throughout the first twenty minutes withstood considerable pressure. The signs were ominous as even with the lion's share of possession Llandover could not score.

This pattern continued and the game appeared to be a stalemate. The Llandybie defence easily coped with a Llandover attack showing limited variety.

Both Thomas for Llandover and Roderick for Llandybie missed with long range penalties.

Halfway through the second half Llandybie had a chance to score. Roderick made no mistake and their patience had been rewarded. The ball was put somewhat prematurely into a scrum and Llandover were adjudged to have pushed before the ball was in. From the indirect free kick Roderick tapped the ball and dropped a fine goal from 40 metres.

With neither side showing any signs of scoring a try, Llandybie's tactics, though negative, had won the day.

Eifion Morgan

BRYNAMMAN PIPPED IN CUP-TIE

Llandover 16, Brynamman 14

Llandover won this C. C. Evans cup-tie when Nigel Clarke kicked a penalty goal in the dying minutes following a line-out infringement close to the Brynamman line to close an exciting encounter in which first Brynamman and then Llandover gained the initiative.

It was well into the first half when Brynamman opened the scoring. The ball came back from a scrum and an attempted tactical kick by the visitors was charged down by Llandover. The ball however, bounced kindly for the visitors and John Rees gave left wing Eric Griffiths a clear run to the corner to score.

Two penalties by Rees stretched Brynamman's lead to ten points but Nigel Clarke reduced this with a penalty just before half time.

With the Llandover backs making fewer errors as they settled down, Brynamman came under increasing pressure and Meirion Dyer further cut the deficit after Tony Williams, the Llandover full-back had run into the line.

Brynamman, however, scored almost immediately from the restart when Eric Griffiths crossed for his second try. John Davies hit the post with the conversion—a miss which was to prove decisive.

WINNER

Well into the last quarter Geraint Williams set up a good attacking position with a fine break and Allan Morgan, the home side's outside half scored and Clarke converted.

Llandover continued to press and Clarke's penalty right at the end was a winner.

10/3/19 WATER TIGHT DEFENCE THWARTS LLANDOVER.

Llandover 6 pts
Crynant 19 pts

The final score flattered Crynant in this cut and thrust battle. They were forced to defend desperately for long periods and Llandover could count themselves unlucky not to have crossed the line on several occasions.

Llandover, up against a defence breached only four times in this season's campaign, were thwarted by the boot and general play of Lyn Hopkins. He banged over

three penalties and a conversion as well as providing the spark for threequarter moves.

Hopkins posted his intentions in the opening minutes when he fired inches wide with a long range penalty attempt. This preceded sustained pressure by Crynant during which they won the lion's share of good ball from the tight and loose.

Ironically it was Llandover who drew first blood when Caerwyn Williams landed a penalty from the 22 metre line after narrowly missing with a siege gun kick from the halfway. Crynant were not long in replying. Hopkins pushed play to the Llandover line and Colin Lewis touched down after a scrum.

Llandover levelled before half-time with a second

penalty from Williams but changed over ruining several missed chances. Both Alan Walters and Nigel Clarke had come within inches of scoring after concerted attacks.

The Crynant pack were dominant in the scrums and loose play and three long range penalty goals by Hopkins proved to be decisive.

With Llandover striving for a score, Raymond Evans intercepted and put the issue beyond doubt with a try.

Llandover gave a good account of themselves and with a little luck at crucial times could have won this game. This defeat, however, puts the home side in danger of relegation whilst Crynant's young side look forward to honours.



Clarke steals victory

Llandovery 16 pts
Brynamman 14 pts

Llandovery won this C.C. Evans Cup game when Nigel Clarke kicked a penalty goal in the dying minutes following a lineout infringement close to the Brynamman line.

The clash had previously been highly exciting with Brynamman at first and then Llandovery taking the initiative as the visitors' forwards tired in the second half.

It was well into the first half when Brynamman opened the scoring. The ball came back from a scrum and an attempted tactical kick was charged down by Llandovery. The ball however bounced kindly for the visitors and John Rees gave left wing Eric Griffiths a clean run to the corner. Two penalties by John Rees stretched Brynamman's lead to ten points but Nigel Clarke reduced the arrears with a penalty just before half-time.

With the Llandovery backs making fewer errors as they settled down, Brynamman came under increasing pressure. Following a maul Meirion Dyer scored after Tony Williams the Llandovery fullback had come into the line.

Brynamman, however, scored almost immediately from the restart when Eric Griffiths scored his second try. John Davies hit the post with the conversion — a miss which was to prove decisive.

Surprisingly the Brynamman pack began to tire though John Roberts then No. 8 was giving a good account of himself. Well into the last quarter Geraint Williams set up a good attacking position with a fine break and Allan Morgan the home side's outside half scored. Clarke converted.

Llandovery continued to press and Clarke's penalty right at the end was a winner.

LLANDOVERY ON TOP IN THRILLER

Llandovery 23pts., Abercrave 13

On a wet and windy afternoon conditions soon became difficult but both sides continued to play attractive rugby and the first half saw the lead change four times before Llandovery ran out the winners by 23-13.

Full back Kevin Williams kept Abercrave in the game during the first half with three good penalty goals — the third from near the half way line — and only a penalty for Llandovery following an unprovoked punching incident saw the home side establish a 17-13 half time lead.

Within minutes of the start Llandovery took the lead when second row Ellis Davies charged down an attempted clearance and scored.

PENALTIES

Two penalty goals by full back Williams put the visitors ahead — a lead, however, they were to lose within five minutes.

Abercrave attempted a quick drop out but Dewi Evans, playing his first game for the first team, capitalised and forced play back to the Abercrave line.

From the resulting scrum the ball was passed along the three-quarters, leaving out centre Geraint Williams, but with full back Tony Williams in the line.

Williams forced his way up to the line and gave Geraint Williams a scoring pass.

BREAK

Abercrave, however, came storming back and scored a well executed try. Outside half Vivian Evans broke clear close to the scrum and handed on to centre Huw Griffiths who did well to hold a difficult pass. Griffiths forced his way up to the line and No 8 Dylan Jones was on his inside to score.

Back came Llandovery to score a push over try credited to Noel Page which Geraint Williams converted. But Williams narrowed the deficit for the visitors with a long range penalty and so the game was finely balanced at 14-13 when an Abercrave forward punched a Llandovery player right in front of the referee.

Llandovery kicked the penalty to change over 17-13 ahead.

POUNCED

Llandovery got the better of the exchanges in the second half, and the game was largely played in the visitors half.

Abercrave threatened occasion-

ally and both full back Williams and right wing Steve Thornton ran strongly, but with only ten minutes remaining Llandovery scored their final try.

Outside half Allan Morgan chipped ahead and the ball bounced awkwardly and the same player pounced to score under the posts. Carwyn Williams converted.

PENALTIES DECIDE AT LLANDOVERY

BY EIFION MORGAN

Llandovery 9pts Ammanford 3

A hat-trick of penalty goals by Caerwyn Williams took Llandovery into the Semi-finals of C. C. Evans Cup.

However, although the result hinged on the boot, the Towy Valley club deserved victory.

Territorially they had most of the advantage and on a number of occasions they came within a fingertip of notching a try.

Included in their line-up were several young players, and none did better than right wing Eirian Jones who frequently embarrassed the Ammanford defence.

Outside half Glanedd Davies's kicking kept Ammanford in the game, and Jeff Roach made some timely tackles when Llandovery looked dangerous.

PRESSURE

While Llandovery exerted considerable pressure at times in the first half, it was the visitors who were first to open their account mid way through with a well-struck penalty goal by Glaneth Davies.

Llandovery replied seven minutes later when Caerwyn Williams levelled the scores with the first of his three penalties.

The second half was roughly comparable to the first, Llandovery coming close to scoring on more than one occasion only to see the final move fail.

Ammanford, however, got the better of the lines out where Simon Davies was dominant at the front, but Llandovery dominated the set scrums and Malcolm Page was prominent for them in the loose.

The game was decided by two Caerwyn Williams penalties half way through the second half.

Revenge Victory

Llandovery 3 pts

Llangennech 6 pts

In a game spoiled by a strong cross wind both sides had their chances to win but it was Llangennech who eventually ran out winners, and reversed last Saturday's result.

The Llangennech pack was dominant in the set scrums and loose play and effectively ruined Llandovery's line out play. With a plentiful supply of the ball Elwyn Davies used the wind to good advantage and his kicks often proved difficult for Llandovery to handle.

Both sides came close to scoring. Llangennech crossed only to be recalled, and Llandovery on more than one occasion were within inches of the line. Lack of ball made the Llandovery backs somewhat hesitant, and this, together with the windy conditions prevented them showing their flair.

Elwyn Davies, the visitors outside half, opened the scoring. He received good ball from a scrum 35 metres out and dropped a goal.

Both sides had opportunities to score tries. Keith Thomas, the Llangennech wing, was tackled into touch on the corner flag, and for Llandovery both Handel Davies and Nigel Clarke went close. It was Nigel Clarke who levelled the scores. Following obstruction by a Llangennech forward Clarke kicked a penalty.

Llandovery withstood severe pressure in the closing minutes of the first half to change over at 3-3.

The game followed the same pattern in the second half with both sides having chances to score, and the visitors again controlling the loose play. Injuries at vital moments also stopped the game flowing and it appeared that a low scoring game would be decided by the next score.

This proved to be a penalty for Llangennech by Elwyn Davies which ensured two league points.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s CGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

DISTRICT F, SEVEN-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT SAT. 21ST APRIL 1979 WINNERS GO FORWARD TO PLAY OFF AT STRADEY PARK ON MAY 12TH, 1979

REFEREES and TOUCH JUDGES		FIRST ROUND		SECOND ROUND		SEMI FINAL		FINAL	
1. L. J. Peard 2. M. Crouch 3. D. G. Evans 4. V. Donagh 5. D. Perry 6. G. Price		B		All matches on pitch A					
		PENCLAWDD		GORSEINON		PENCLAWDD (4)			
		v		2.30 p.m. R4 T5 & 1					
		TUMBLE		v					
		CWMGORS		2.30 p.m. R3 T6 & 2		TUMBLE			
		v				3.50 p.m. R2 T6 & 4			
		A		WAUNARLWYDD (9)		LLANDOVERY (18)			
		LLANDOVERY (22)		v					
		2.50 p.m. R1 T5 & 4							
		PONTARDULAIS		v					
		LLANDYBIE		2.50 p.m. R2 T6 & 3		LLANDOVERY			
		v				LLANDYBIE			
		BRYNAMMAN		v					
		AMMAN UNITED		3.10 p.m. R6 T4 & 2		BRYNAMMAN			
		v				LLANGENNECH			
		LLANGENNECH		v					
		AMMANFORD		3.10 p.m. R5 T1 & 3		LLANGENNECH			
		v				4.30 p.m. R1 T2 & 4			
		CEFNEITHIN		v					
		LOUGHOR		3.30 p.m. R4 T2 & 6		LOUGHOR			
		v				GOWERTON			
		PENYNGROES		v					
		GOWERTON		3.30 p.m. R3 T1 & 5		LOUGHOR (6)			
		v				5.30 p.m. R3 T1 & 5			
		PONTYBEREM		v					
		2.10 p.m. R2 T1 & 6				BRYNAMMAN (4)			
						LOUGHOR (10)			
						6.15 p.m. R1 T5 & 3			
						</			



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s CGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



Llandovery Rugby Club are so proud of their success during the past season that their float at the town carnival was aptly cackled "Llandovery RFC playing achievements in 1979/80". The club's 1st team gained promotion from

Section D to Section C in the West Wales championship and the 2nds won the Llanelli and district championship and the Llanelli and district President's cup.

(Photo: John Jenkins, Llandovery)

LLANDOVERY UPSET LOUGHOR TO TAKE TITLE

LLANDOVERY suprised everyone by winning the Welsh Rugby Union national sevens District F title at Dunvant, but they were worthy of their success. They defeated Loughor 18-10 in an entertaining final with tries coming from Geraint Williams (2), Nigel Clarke and Handel Davies, one of which Davies converted.

For Loughor, who like the winners were making their first appearance in a final, Gareth Banfield and Mike Davies crossed for tries, one of which George Pow converted.

Loughor's George Pow won the individual award and also shared the top point scoring Berni Inns award

with Handel Davies, of Llandovery. Both scored 22 points.

In the semi-finals Llandovery defeated Penclawdd 28-4 and Loughor edged out Bynamman 6-4.

In the district G competition at Carmarthen, Burry Port defeated Felinfoel 16-10 in the final after Felinfoel had led 10-6 at the interval.

The loss of their fastest man, George Jenkins, through injury proved too much of a handicap for Felinfoel.

For Burry Port the day's top scorer Nigel Rees (with 22 points) crossed for two tries and added a conversion while Bledwyn Hughes and Stephen James scored tries.

Felinfoel's points came from two

tries and a conversion by Mike Francis, who finished as second top scorer with 20 points. In the semi-finals Felinfoel defeated Carmarthen 16-12 and Burry Port beat Kidwelly 22-10.

Favourites Swansea University, won the District E final by defeating Bonymaen 28-6. The All Whites full back Mark Wyatt was declared the player of the tournament and was also the top scorer with 56 points.

DISTRICT E: Semi-finals—Mumbles 4, Swansea University 6, Bonymaen 16, Pontardawe 6. Final—Swansea University 28, Bonymaen 6.

DISTRICT F: Semi-finals—Penclawdd 4, Llandovery 28, Bynamman 4, Loughor 6. Final—Llandovery 18, Loughor 10.

DISTRICT G: Semi-finals—Felinfoel 16, Carmarthen 12, Kidwelly 10, Burry Port 22. Final—Felinfoel 16, Burry Port 16.

Llandovery start with a bang 15/9/79

Llandovery 14 pts., Pontardawe nil
by EIFION MORGAN

LLANDOVERY began their league programme with an excellent display against Pontardawe. Two tries in the first half followed by a couple of second-half penalties put paid to the Swansea Valley side's victory hopes.

Llandovery were on the attack practically from the start and loose passing by the Ponty backs opened up a path to the visitors line. But the referee ruled that Llandovery outside half Caerwyn Williams had not touched down and curiously awarded a scrum five metres out.

Both sides had chances to go ahead but Clarke of Llandovery and Roy Pascoe of Pontardawe were wide with penalty attempts.

Llandovery took the lead midway through the half after being awarded a penalty inside the Ponty 22.

SECOND TRY

The home side ran the ball and right wing Elrian Jones rounded his man before setting up a try for centre Geraint Will.

iams with an inside pass.

The Towy Valley side increased their lead right on half time when centre Geraint Williams scored his second try of the afternoon. Malcolm Page fed the ball back from a line-out and Caerwyn Williams chipped it over the Pontardawe try line where his brother Geraint won the race for touch-down.

Caerwyn Williams added a penalty immediately after the resumption and Llandovery continued to press. It was Pontardawe however, who came closest to scoring when John Broad broke through the home defence only to be stopped by Caerwyn Williams' desperate tackle.

Outside-half Richard Probert kept Llandovery at bay with some good touch kicks but Nigel Clarke put the issue beyond doubt with a long-range penalty.

Penalty kick gives Wales final win 12/3/80

In deplorable conditions — heavy rain fell throughout — Wales beat Bristol, the holders, in the Polytechnic final, at Roehampton, London, yesterday, by a penalty goal to nil.

Welsh forwards outplayed their opponents for most of the game, and their backs showed far more enterprise and initiative.

They opened up the game at every opportunity and handled the greasy ball with much more assurance than their opponents. They led 3-0 at half time. The penalty goal, kicked by fly half Bledwyn Griffiths, came two minutes after the start when Bristol were caught offside, 25 metres out.

They came close to increasing their lead just after half time, when centre Ian Goslin's drop goal attempt went narrowly wide.

The Welsh forwards won the lineout battle and Carl Dehney, in particular, and David John were outstanding



Llandoverey RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s cGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



The victors. . . Llandoverey after their 3-0 success over Pontyberem in Saturday's league encounter. Included in the picture are: A. Morgan, T. Williams, M. Williams, C. Williams, E. Jones, G. Williams, H. Davies, N. Clarke, E.

Jenkins, A. Walters, N. Page, J. Lilley, R. Augustus, P. Davies, A. Davies and M. Page. (Ifor Jacob,

ONE KICK ENOUGH FOR LLANDOVEREY

by EIFION MORGAN

Pontyberem 0, Llandoverey 3

In a game which can only be described as disappointing, Llandoverey achieved at least one objective — They got two league points.

Play was often scrappy and while the Pontyberem forwards won good ball from rucks and mauls their back play was poor.

The half-backs lacked understanding, and the centre play showed complete lack of penetration due largely to poor passing.

TIRELESS

At forward no one played with more enthusiasm than wing forward Angelo Jones. His tireless efforts saw him first to the loose ball and his play was effective and gave his side unlimited loose-ball possession.

However, the only real threat to the visitors came when full back Terry Rumble entered the line and wing Robert Davies was given a run.

Both sides missed early opportunities to go ahead through missed penalty attempts and both came close to scoring a try.

COVERING

Robert Davies, Pontyberem's right wing in a rare attacking move ran outside his opposite number, kicked over the full back and only good covering work by outside half Carwyn Williams prevented a certain try.

Llandoverey returned to force out the Pontyberem line when the forwards were involved in a sequence of inter passing that virtually went the length of the field. These were two highlights in an undistinguished first half.

Right on half time Llandoverey scored the decisive penalty. Eirian Jones intercepted some loose passing on the half-way line and was only stopped 10m out. An infringement by a Pontyberem player led to a penalty converted by Carwyn Williams.

Immediately after the re-start both sides missed penalties—Williams hit the post from nearly 40m. Whilst Huw Williams was wide for Pontyberem and the same player was short with a long range penalty minutes later.



My ball . . . Pontyberem second row Viv Hughes holds on for grim death as the Llandoverey pack move in. Hughes

got the ball away to his backs, but Llandoverey won 3-0. (Ifor Jacob, Burry Port



WILLIAMS SA LLANDOVERY

by EIFION MORGAN

Pontardawe 10 pts., Llandovery 10
LLANDOVERY gained a valuable away point against much-improved Pontardawe who included Keith Williams and Brian Williams in the back-row and Julian Bracey in the backs—three players with recent first-class experience.

The Pontardawe forwards dominated in all phases of the game and it was left to the visitors backs, notably Geraint Williams, to keep them in the game.

Centre Williams was involved in setting up the try as well as kicking both penalty goals—and at a time when Llandovery were ten points in arrears.

After the initial scrums when both sides kicked rather ineffectively Andrew Thomas, the home side's scrum half found touch close to the Llandovery line. Llandovery, as was to happen throughout the match, failed to win 'clean ball' and from the ensuing mail No. 8 Brian Williams dived over to score.

ON TOP

Both sides attacked intermittently but the pattern of the game was set with the Pontardawe forwards on top.

Llandovery were pushed in the scrums and forced to tap back from the lines, and from one 'tap back' Pontardawe produced a forward drive which led to a try by wing forward John Broad which Pascoe converted.

Close to half time Llandovery came back into the game with a penalty goal by Geraint Williams and Pontardawe turned round with a 10-3 lead.

PRESSURE

With Pontardawe getting the better of the forward exchanges in the second period Llandovery were forced to attack whenever the opportunity presented itself, and from a penalty deep inside their area interpassing between Geraint Williams and Eirian Jones took play to their opponents' line.

Tony Williams then came into the line from full back and this left the defence flat footed and Eirian Jones scored far out. Within minutes Williams kicked the

second penalty, and so with ten minutes of the re-start Llandovery had drawn level.

STALEMATE

With half an hour left both sides strove to gain the initiative and the game continued to be tense and exciting. Pontardawe continued to maintain their forward pressure and their opponents were guilty of poor tackling resulting in the Llandovery backs often having the Pontardawe back row running at them. With Carwyn Williams returning to something like the form he can produce, the visiting backs were up to their task and the game ended with both sides gaining one league point.

Polytechnic Cup 12/3/80

WELSH SIDE OVERCOME ALL ODDS

By JOHN MASON

Bristol Polytechnic ... 0,
Polytechnic of Wales ... 3pts

THE Polytechnic of Wales overcame the mud, incessant rain and Bristol, the holders, to win the British Polytechnics Cup for the first time at Rosslyn Park's much-used ground at Roehampton yesterday.

A penalty goal in the third minute was sufficient for a victory which, in foul conditions, was a credit to a bustling pack and ambitious backs — points made by Mike Davis, the England coach, when presenting the cup.

Bristol, though probably possessing the better individuals, were far less positive as a team.

Bristol counter-attacked strongly in the final period, putting together a series of well-executed thoughtful raids, the object being to allow Lane, a powerful right wing, to run at a previously untested defence.

Worthy victory

Sagoe joined in busily, if predictably, from full-back and, for a while, it appeared Bristol would snatch a try to retain the cup. But Wales, after initial panic, rallied sensibly and padded on to a worthy victory.

Brian Head-Rapson, a Polytechnic lecturer from Nottingham and very close to England's international panel of referees this winter, shrewdly imposed his authority. He called the four props aside early on and made it clear what he expected. The scrum collapsing ceased.

Griffiths, the Wales Poly outside-half, landed the match-winning points with his first kick at goal after Bristol had come over the top and not allowed the ball to be played.

That Griffiths missed five other kicks in the increasingly difficult conditions, no one will mind too much. His full-back colleague, Williams, was also off target once.

Bristol's place kicking was no more successful. Sagoe was either short or wide or both with four attempts. So, despite having beaten Wales in the round-robin part of the competition earlier in the season, this was not Bristol's day.

The Welsh second team lost 8-10 to Leeds in the subsidiary competition earlier in the afternoon.

Bristol Polytechnic.—F. Sagoe; J. Lane, G. Dive, P. Sherliker, P. Walford; A. McCutcheon, J. Williams; P. Davies, D. Bennett, C. Folland, J. Brain, N. Williams, P. Folladrie, P. Harding, J. Evans.

Polytechnic of Wales.—G. Williams; J. Rees, L. Jones, I. Goslin, N. Crossland; B. Griffiths, J. Mears, A. Breze, I. Morgan, P. Morgan, C. Dehney, D. Johns, P. Evans, G. George, G. Cartwright.

Referee.—B. Head-Rapson (Notts. Lincs & Derbys).



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s CGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



Llandovery retained their own seven-a-side trophy on Bank Holiday Monday with another fine display of sevens rugby. In doing so they beat WRU District F sevens champions Llandybie in a repeat of last year's final. Back row (left to right): Ken

Milton, Nigel Clarke, Carwyn Williams, Alan Walters. Front row: Gareth Davies, Wynn Morgan, Geraint Williams and Alan Morgan.

(Photo: John Jenkins, Llandovery)

LLANDOVERY GO DOWN

LLANDOVERY 6pts.,
FELINFOEL 12

Llandovery lost their Section B unbeaten record at the hands of Felinfoel, last Saturday who go top of the Section thanks to this performance.

Wet conditions conspired but did not succeed in spoiling what proved to be an entertaining game.

Defences remained on top for a long period in the first half until Carwyn Williams kicked a penalty goal for Llandovery only for Peter Rees to reply for Felinfoel with a similar score five minutes later.

Just before half-time the visiting threequarters opened out with a fine passing movement and David Callaghan, the inside centre, scored a fine opportunist try for Peter Rees to convert.

At half-time Llandovery were trailing by 9 points to 3.

After the restart Llandovery, with Gareth Davies, Carwyn Williams and Dewi Evans prominent, made despairing efforts to reduce the deficit but extreme pressure was ruined by new-law infringements and a fatal habit of kicking into the hands of the opposition.

By doing this they lost vital

possession and surrendered territorial advantage.

Felinfoel defended resolutely and were quick on the counter attack.

Peter Rees and Mike Francis, ex-Aberavon full-back, were prominent in this defensive phase, and when the former dropped a goal some twenty minutes from the end Llandovery's fate was sealed.

In the last 15 minutes the home side tried every known ploy to break out of the visitors' stranglehold, but in vain and the game ended with Felinfoel worthy winners by 12 points to six.

LAMPETER travelled to Llandovery on Saturday morning to take on the new Section 'C' champions of the West Wales League in a game for the Bryn Jones Cup — a competition that is being played on a two-leg basis, the combined scores counting.

Llandovery 9pts. Lampeter 6pts.

First Leg Cup Win

Lampeter were evidently using the wrong tactics in the first half by putting the ball in the air too much, for such a wind in their faces. Line kicks were going straight into touch time and again. In the second half it was all Lampeter, who now had the wind behind them, and they exerted on the Llandovery line it is a wonder that they did not cross the line on a number of occasions. Certainly they had their chances, but undoubtedly cold and wet hands were making things difficult. Wynn Williams had the line at his mercy but failed to hold the ball; Richard Evans slipped in his attempt to break through the middle; and the same happened to Bryn Geggson. The forwards were doing great work, getting plenty of ball for their backs. They can only hope that it will be a nice dry day for the return leg at Lampeter. Next Saturday Lampeter are at home to Tonna.

WRONG

tin Davies converted. E. Jenkins when he had not grounded the ball, and Mar- referee awarding a try to This was followed by the to put the home side ahead Davies kicked a neat penalty and young winger Martin their favour in the first half Llandovery had the wind in ball had gone over the posts signalled that the first half was disallowed by Another he kicked in the half kicked by Ieuan Jones. to show for it — one in each with only two penalty goals However, they came away cent of the play territorially. proper for they had 80 per up this first leg good and Lampeter should have seen



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s CGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



Llandovery's fly-half Carwyn Williams puts points to six on Saturday, in a clearance kick. His side went to top spot in Section B after beating Mumbles by 13 (Photo: Alan Richards, Kingsbri)

LLANDOVERY ARE TOPS

LLANDOVERY 13 MUMBLES 6 pts

Llandovery went leap frogging to the top of Section B of the West Wales Rugby Union with this defeat of Mumbles in a rain-soaked mud-bath.

They took the step of moving skipper Alan Walters from flanker to right wing and brought in stalwart Dil Augustus to take his place in the pack.

And the move paid off as Llandovery shot into a ten point lead early in the game. A quick movement across the field led to hooker Wyn Morgan scoring at the corner. Carwyn Williams converted from the touchline.

Then Alan Walters made a break on the right which culminated in centre Alan Morgan getting the second try in almost the same spot as the

first. Carwyn Williams' conversion attempt failed.

This was just the start Llandovery needed against a side who are struggling at the base of the section.

Before half-time Phil Adams kicked a penalty goal for Mumbles and Carwyn Williams replied to make the score 13-3 at half time.

The second half was played in a downpour of rain which reduced the forwards to a number of mud-larks playing the Eton Wallgame in a monsoon.

Play up front was fairly

even. But Llandovery began to set up a series of sustained attacks.

Twice Carwyn Williams was tackled within yards of the line and only a dropped pass by a home forward prevented a score after an incisive break by Gareth Davies.

Both full-backs, Roger Davies for the visitors and Noel Jones for Llandovery, handled and kicked the greasy ball with confidence, and good defensive-kicking by Phil Adams, who helped himself to a penalty goal, the only score of this half, kept Llandovery at bay.

Gareth Davies

By Ian Davies

Despite being on top for most of their Schweppes Welsh RU Cup second preliminary round tie at Gorseinon last Saturday, Llandovery had to wait until extra time before clinching their rightful place in the next round.

The teams were forced into this position after they'd been locked at 3-3 after eighty minutes. Carwyn Williams had put Llandovery ahead with a penalty goal, before Richard Bevan replied with a similar effort for Gorseinon.

But in extra time Llandovery took command and edged in front again when Gareth Davies, back in the side after a short spell with Pontypool, scored a magnificent try under the posts. Carwyn Williams converted. Although Richard Bevan reduced the deficit with a further penalty goal for Gorseinon, Llandovery were not going to let it slip at this stage.

Nicky Morgan was once again the Burry Port star as he helped his team to an excellent 13-9 win over Lampeter Town in the same competition.

LLANDOVERY EARN A LUCKY WIN

Llangennech 4 Pts.,
Llandovery 11

Llandovery managed to claw their way into the first round of the Schweppes Cup with this unimpressive defeat of Llangennech on Saturday.

Again they were unable to really put their game together and at the end of the day Llangennech probably felt a little aggrieved at losing this one.

Llandovery's backs were unsure in defence and missed several tackles and found touch kicking a real problem — often missing touch and giving the Llangennech three-quarters a chance to counter attack.

However, they found this as difficult as Llandovery found tackling and were unable to make the most of the chances they were presented in this way.



LATE TRY CLINCHER

GORSEINON 6 Pts., LLANDOVERY 9

Section B Llandovery had a Schweppes cup fright at Gorseinon on Saturday.

It took an extra time try by scrum half Gareth Davies to bring an untidy and often ill-tempered match to an exciting climax.



Carwyn (caws) Williams slices through the Gorseinon cover during last Saturday's exciting cup tie which went to extra time.

(Photo: Alan Richards)

Gorseinon raised their game remarkably well and posed Llandovery all sorts of problems. Llandovery, meanwhile, simply could not reproduce the sort of form which has put them close to the top of their section — one of the most difficult in West Wales rugby.

But reputation or position count for nothing in cup matches and Gorseinon were bent on getting into the first round proper.

They stifled Llandovery's style and stopped the backs running. But they could not stop Llandovery taking the lead through fly half Carwyn Williams.

He slotted a penalty but saw his side's lead wiped out by Richard Bevan who slotted his penalty chance soon after.

The rest of the match was undistinguished stuff punctuated with the odd punch-up which really should have been stamped out early on.

Llandovery had been well served by scrum half Davies and Alan Morgan. Also Eddie Morris turned in a fine performance at lock. But the team effort on the whole was mediocre.

But they picked their socks up in extra time. The decisive score came in the first ten minute period and was worth waiting for.

The move started with Morgan just outside the Llandovery 22. The ball passed through five pairs of hands and travelled 60 yards before Davies took the scoring pass. Carwyn Williams converted and the game seemed tied up.

But Gorseinon were not going to lie down then. Llandovery lost scrum half Davies with a nastily cut head and had to hang on grimly in the face of severe pressure.

Gorseinon cut the deficit with a Richard Bevan penalty but it was not to be their day.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s CGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



Tumble, who won the District F sevens in 1980, were outpaced in this year's final by Gorseinon who won by 28 points to four. Tumble fielded Steve Lewis, Arwel Davies, Vivian Jones, Paul Thomas,

Perris Williams, Robert Roberts and Gareth Davies. Replacements were Iwan Hunt, Glyn Thomas and Roger Perry. Hunt replaced injured Roberts in the final. (Photo: Richard Firstbrook, Manordeillo)



Llandovery were desperately unlucky to lose their District F semi final match against Gorseinon by nine points to eight through a last-gasp penalty goal by John Lewis. Llandovery's seven were: Eddie Morris, Wyn Morgan, Nigel Clarke,

Carwyn Williams, Geraint Williams, Alan Morgan and Gareth Davies. Replacements were Alan Thomas, Ken Milton and Noel Jones.

(Photo Richard Firstbrook, Manordeillo)



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s CGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

THURSDAY, MARCH 4th, 1982

GERAINT HITS FORM IN THRILLER

LLANDOVERY 12pts., AMMANFORD 9

GERAINT Williams turned in a fine performance to inspire Llandovery to this surprisingly narrow win over much improved Ammanford.

Williams scored eight of his side's 12 points with a couple of penalties and a conversion as Llandovery found the Section E pacesetters something of a handful.

The Ammanford pack performed really well in the early stages particularly in line outs and loose play. However the back division lacked both sparkle and penetration. Llandovery had little trouble quelling their efforts.

Ammanford took the lead when stand-in scrum half, Lyn Evans, popped over a simple drop goal from 15 metres.

This came after a period of Ammanford pressure.

Llandovery struck back five minutes before the interval when Geraint Williams kicked a simple penalty from 20 metres out.

MISSED

Much of the second half was deadlock with both sides cancelling each other out effectively. But the Llandovery threequarters all the time looked capable of producing something special.

Before they could Clive James, who missed five half penalty beforehand, finally found his line and length and kicked Ammanford into a 6-3 lead.

The lead was short lived. A loose kick was picked up on half way by Geraint Williams. He brushed aside some feeble attempted tackles to split open the Ammanford defence and give a scoring pass to Wyn Morgan.

He ran around behind the posts to give Williams the simplest of conversions.

Five minutes later the teams were level again. Clive James banged over a penalty from 40 metres.

But it was not to be Ammanford's day. A pile up offence right in front of the posts gave Williams the opportunity to clinch the match for Llandovery which he promptly did.

Although Wayne James gave Burry Port the lead with a superb 45 yard penalty goal, Llandovery came storming back to win comfortably 24-9. Carwyn Williams and Eirian Jones got two tries each, Dewi Evans got one, with Williams also adding two conversions. But it was the weather

By Ian Davies

Llandovery also kept themselves very much in the championship picture with a 15-7 victory at Penclawdd.

Noel Page, Dilwyn Augustus and Dewi Evans all scored tries, with Carwyn Williams chipping in with a penalty goal.

The games involving Bonnymaen and Tumble were

Sch!—you know who are out

Llandovery nil,
Bonnymaen 4

Llandovery were knocked out of the Schweppes Cup by West Wales Section B promotion rivals, Bonnymaen.

They were beaten by a solitary try by Derek Haste in a match they should have sewn up by the interval.

Bonnymaen started well and pressurised Llandovery with their fine forwards to the fore. The Bony front five made a fearsome spectacle as they drove into the rucks and mauls.

Llandovery seemed to stand back and watch in the early phases but suddenly discovered they could match them and began to make ground.

Carwyn Williams, surprisingly choosing a big match to wear new boots, was miles away with two early penalty kicks.

A clever kick led to Llandovery being presented with a four to one situation but amazingly they failed to take the chance.

Bonnymaen took the lead early in the second half when their backs stormed to the Llandovery line. The forwards won quick ruck ball and a quick pass to the narrow side saw Haste over unopposed.

Promising Llandovery attacks were led by wingers Dewi Evans and Eirian Jones but the defence held out each time.

The game finished when Llandovery took a slick short penalty near the Bonnymaen line and were held up just short.

Llandovery stake a claim

Llandovery 36pts.,
Cwmavon nil

Llandovery strengthened their bid for Section A status when they devastated a pretty ordinary Cwmavon team last Saturday, more than making up for the disappointments of the previous week.

At the hub of this points bonanza was Carwyn Williams who rattled up 20 points with a couple of tries, a drop goal, penalty and three conversions.

The other tries were shared by the wingers with Eirian Jones scoring three and Meirig Davies one.

The performance was sparked by a full strength pack which hammered Cwmavon out of sight. The backs took advantage of the glut of possession to run in the six tries — which was gratifying for the selectors who had picked a new look threequarter line.



David Wigley — Fine display at centre.

David Wigley, making his return at centre after being dropped for the Ystalyfera match, gave a marvellous display of running. Alan Morgan and new full back Tony Williams were also outstanding.

The pick of the pack was wing forward Eddie Morris who was everywhere.

But they will be without the services of skipper Stuart Fry this weekend as he suffered a burst blood vessel in a leg during last weekend's match.

Ironically it was Llandovery's hero Carwyn Williams who caused the injury as he collided with Fry on his way to a try.

They should be strong enough to beat Penclawdd though.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s CGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

QUINS PACK FOILED IN THE MUD

Jan
1982

LLANDOVERY 9 pts., CARMARTHEN NIL

Llandovery overcame a forward battering to beat Carmarthen Quins in this Section B clash.

The game was played in heavy rain and the mud caked players became almost indistinguishable from each other and to the referee.

After 20 minutes of attack and counter attack, Eddie Morris, the home lock, brightened up the gloom by scoring a try which was converted by Carwyn Williams. He also kicked a penalty goal before half-time, to give Llandovery a 9-point lead.

After half-time both packs became embroiled in a muddy battle for supremacy. The Quins were winning the majority of the lines-out but Llandovery hooker Wyn Morgan was successful in winning possession against the head on a number of occasions.

An incisive break by ex-all white Steve Langdon almost led to a try for the Quins but Dewi Evans brought off a tremendous tackle to save his line.

Although the Quins held a territorial advantage in this half, good defensive play by the home side, with pack

leader Stuart Fry in the thick of the forward battle, prevented a score.

In the final stages the Quins, with their forwards rampant, pinned Llandovery to their line for long periods, but fierce tackling on the one hand and good line kicking by young scrum-half Gareth Williams on the other, held them at bay and prevented the visitors from breaching the home defences.



Llandovery miss out

Mumbles turned up trumps in the final of the Llandovery sevens, with a resounding 22-6 win over the hosts who were trying to win the title for the third year running.

Regardless of the constant rainfall and strong wind the first round group matches provided plenty of good sevens rugby to keep a small but enthusiastic crowd well entertained.

The sixteen teams were divided into four groups. A noticeable fact was the failure of Ammanford to turn up, their place being taken by a scratch side from Halfway.

There were notable performances from young teams such as Amman United, and the speedy sides of Cwmllynfell, Seven Sisters, and Newcastle Emlyn. But it was Llandovery, Lampeter, Mumbles and Llandybïe who won through to the semis.

The first semi-final

between Llandovery and Lampeter brought two young Llanelli prospects into opposition — Carwyn Williams of Llandovery and Carl Douglas.

On the day Williams and Llandovery took the honours with a 20-10 win with Williams providing two tries.

Llandovery took the upper hand immediately from the kick-off and after constant pressure raced into a 20-0 lead, with Wyn 'Chippo' Morgan and Nigel Clarke adding two converted tries to Williams' scores.

A flurry by Lampeter provided two late tries, but the game had already been won with Llandovery proceeding to their third

successive final.

The other semi-final brought together a young Llandybïe side and the strong Mumbles seven.

After an early strike, with Wyn Williams scoring a fine try for Llandybïe, Mumbles, inspired by Guy Lelue, stormed to a convincing 28-4 win scoring five tries in the process.

Two from Lelue, and two from Russ Huxtable, one a 100m. dash from his own line, were followed by the final score from scrum-half and captain Peter Smith.

Some good work by Anthony Evans provided Williams with his second try for Llandybïe. But time ran out as Mumbles marched into the final.

The first half of the final provided those spectators who braved the lashing rain, with an end to end battle.

It was Mumbles who scored first through Mike Davies, Lelue missed the conversion.

After a constant barrage on the Llandovery line, it was they who broke to score.

This came following a penalty awarded against the Mumbles scrum-half for off-side.

Geraint Williams was the scorer, he also converted to make the half-time score 6-4 to Llandovery.

The second half provided a different story with Mumbles gaining in confidence and superiority and running in two quick tries to race clear of Llandovery.

The scorers were Mike Davies, Russ Huxtable and a conversion by Lelue.

Llandovery fought hard to make up lost ground, and only a fine tackle by Huxtable prevented Williams from grounding in the corner.

However, with minutes left, Smith and Rowe ran in two more unconverted tries to make the score 22-6 and Mumbles had won the Hugh Le Mont cup! - R.T.



The Llandovery seven-a-side team who were runners-up in their annual sevens competition. It is the first time since the competition's inception three years ago that the host team has failed to win the title.

(Photo: John Jenkins, Llandovery)

Game won and lost in loose

Crynant 10 pts.,
Llandovery 3

Llandovery slipped to their first championship defeat of the season at the hands of relegated Crynant on Saturday.

The Towry Valley side never really recovered from finding themselves seven nil down within five minutes of the kick-off.

Andrew Hawkes took advantage of a Llandovery infringement at the kick-off to put Crynant into a three-nil lead with a penalty.

Then Llandovery, still a little shell-shocked perhaps, went further behind when Howard Thomas crossed from a line-out close in for a try which Hawkes failed to convert.

Llandovery, topping the Section

YSTALYFERA CRUSHED IN TRY-BLITZ

LLANDOVERY 33,
YSTALYFERA NIL

Scrum half Gareth Williams, lesser known elder brother of schoolboy fly-half Aled, really stamped his authority on this West Wales Section B match.

His clever distribution had Ystalyfera nonplussed and as a result Llandovery were able to take advantage of the ball won by their pack.

They ran in six tries without reply to put themselves squarely on top of Section B.

It was a fine, all-round display of attacking rugby which was obviously a delight for the supporters in the first home match of the season.

And on the evidence of this match Llandovery look a fair bet for promotion.

The basis of victory was the work of the forwards, who completely dominated Ystalyfera, and the young Williams at scrum half.

Nigel Clarke took most of the useable possession in the line-outs and Llandovery had the edge over Fera at the scrummages — enough of an edge to enable them to score a pushover try.

The tries came from Noel Page, Carwyn Williams, Dewi Evans, Elrian Jones, Stuart Fry and Nigel Clark. Carwyn Williams converted three and slotted a penalty.

This result is a bitter disappointment for Ystalyfera following their famous victory over Section A Vardre in the Schweppes cup a week previously.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s CGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2nd, 1982

Llandovery edge nearer the top

Fogbound at Llandovery

Llandovery 13pts, Pontardawe 9

Llandovery edged a little nearer Bonynmaen at the top of section B but they had to labour hard to gain victory over lively Pontardawe.

Three penalties by left wing Martin Davies and a steam rolling try from Dillwyn Augustus helped them scrape home.

Really their second half superiority should have carried them to a comfortable win.

Pontardawe, who arrived late having found difficulty negotiating the low lying fog, met with the same problems on the field.

Their early eager attempts were soon swallowed up as Llandovery slowly took control and calmly strode into a 6-0 lead after Davies' first two penalties.

However, as Ponty settled down, outside half Julian Bracey began causing Llandovery a few problems, and full back Peter Knight shortened the deficit with a simple penalty.

Llandovery began to falter slightly, but were fortunate that Ponty scrum-half Ian Evans was having an 'off day.'

His poor distribution and apparent inability to clean up any loose ball were causing his own team as many problems as Llandovery were.

When he failed to clean up from a line-out ruck No. 8 Augustus pounced, and surged through to make the score 10-3.

However, Ponty were still kept in the hunt with another penalty from Knight.

The second half though, was all Llandovery, time and again they made light of the slippery conditions to put together some fine running moves.

King-pin of the second half barrage was outside half Dewi Griffiths, who jinking runs and delicate chips had Ponty defending desperately.

But for all their pressure

and excellent line-out ball, particularly from Eddie Morris, they couldn't breach the Ponty line; and it was Knight, again, who with his third penalty, brought Ponty within a point.

Llandovery were in danger of paying for not disposing of Ponty earlier.

Bracey and Roger Davies threatened late on, but good tackles by Dai Wigley steadied the hard-pressed Llandovery defence.

As the fog descended though Martin Davies sealed the match for Llandovery with his final penalty. — R.T.

Five try Llandovery

Burry Port 9 pts.,
Llandovery 24

Llandovery scored five tries in this spectacular win over struggling Burry Port in Section B of the West Wales Rugby Union on Saturday.

The pitch held up despite the weather and those not attracted by the Scarlets' encounter with the Maoris saw Llandovery produce some sparkling stuff.

First half tries by Carwyn 'Caws' Williams (2) and Eirian Jones gave Llandello a big interval advantage which they saw gradually whittled away by penalty kicks.

These gave Burry Port an outside chance of victory and had Llandovery, whose goalkickers are not finding the mark, just a little worried.

Their challenge was finally killed off by that most potent and impossible to counteract weapon — the interception. Dewi Evans late ed on to a pass meant for a Burry Port back and ran over between the posts.

Burry Port lost heart after this and Eirian Jones ran in for a second try to make it a comfortable win for Llandovery.

Llandovery still in touch

Penclawdd 8 pts.,
Llandovery 15 pts.

Llandovery notched a valuable win at Penclawdd on Saturday to keep themselves in the hunt for honours in Section B of the West Wales Rugby Union.

They did it thanks to a try by Noel Page and a Carwyn Williams penalty during a first half when they played into the teeth of an honest to goodness Autumn gale.

These were in reply to Penclawdd's two first half tries from winger Paul Jones and centre David Fletcher. That gave the cocklemen a one point interval lead which was never going to be enough to see them safely through a second half

Llandovery delight supporters

Llandovery 14 Pts.,
Crynant 3

Llandovery delighted their supporters with this spirited defeat of Crynant on Saturday and so kept up their challenge at the top of Section B of the West Wales Rugby Union.

Crynant needed to win to keep up their challenge and complete a double over Llandovery who they beat a few weeks ago.

But it was not to be. Llandovery went off with a bang, driving Crynant back up to ten yards at each scrum and dominating the line outs through Noel Page and Nigel Clarke.

Carwyn Williams slotted an early penalty and was follow-

ed up by a try scored by flank forward Alan Walters who pounced on the ball as it ran loose from a scrumage on Crynant's tryline.

Walters dealt Crynant's hopes a second blow when he burst through a line out to snap up a second try and just about seal the match for Llandovery.

Llandovery continued their siege in the second half but Crynant stubbornly refused to yield. They deserve a lot of credit for this. But so did the Llandovery eight who repeatedly drove to within feet of the line.

Their only second half score was a penalty from Carwyn Williams while Crynant did manage a penalty themselves.

This result places Llandovery second behind Bonynmaen who comfortably disposed of Ystalyfera last Saturday and have yet to drop a point.

All of this makes the Schweppes cup clash between the sides on November 20 a big attraction. There is certainly more at stake than a place in the second round.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9th, 1982

Pack power sinks Llandovery

'FERA UPSET FORM BOOK

YSTALYFERA 14pts., LLANDOVERY 7

Llandovery paid for complacency when they ran out to face Ystalyfera in Section B of the West Wales Rugby Union on Saturday.

Following their 30 point thumping of 'Fera at home Llandovery were clearly of the impression they had a right to win this one. Ystalyfera, never a team to be underestimated on their notoriously mucky home ground, had other ideas.

The result was a boost to 'Fera's hopes of staying in Section B and a blow to Llandovery's dream of joining the ranks of Section A.

Ystalyfera took command up front right from the kick off and kept Llandovery back-peddalling for the whole eighty minutes.

It was Llandovery who scored first though. Following a period when they had been pinned in their own half Llandovery broke out and Noel Jones crossed in the corner.

Their celebrations were short-lived. 'Fera's centres executed a well rehearsed move to send Paul Watkins in for a try.

Llandovery's problems were not helped when they lost Gareth Williams at half time suffering from a neck injury.

The further re-organisation this led to caused more problems for Llandovery and the rampant

Ystalyfera pack tightened their stranglehold on the game.

The 'Fera backs ran at Llandovery and when the visiting winger opted to go for an interception rather than go for the man 'Fera's Andrew Williams was set clear and he brushed off the full back's slack tackle to score a try.

A try from Michael Williams soon after set Llandovery an insurmountable problem. Noir James converted one.

But to their credit Llandovery did manage a spirited fight back in the later stages of the game. They could have just snatched a point had their goalkicking been more accurate — but that would have been tough luck on Ystalyfera.

Carwyn Williams did manage one penalty but the loss of two points at this stage is a crucial and possibly critical blow to Llandovery.

Augustus puts Llandovery back on course for glory

Robert Davies converted. Terry Rumble and Huw Williams added further tries and Davies landed a second conversion.

Llandovery boomed out a warning at the weekend with a 13-9 victory over Pontardawe. Llandovery, beaten just twice in ten outings, are now within a point of the Section B leaders. Bony-men, but have Seven Sisters and Crynant breathing down their neck.

Dilwyn Augustus was the try scoring hero of the cut and thrust duel. Wing Martin Davies chipped in with three penalty goals to seal the points.

In Section D, Carmarthen Athletic crossed for six tries in their 28-3 win over Bynae, and Pontyberem moved smoothly into second place behind them with a superb 16-0 success at Cwmigors.

All the points came in the first half. Keri Jones shot Bont ahead with a 5th minute try which

Penygroes were also on form and defeated third placed Ammanford 14-0 with tries from Kevin Jones, Mike Baker and Keith Price. Phil Chandler landed a conversion.

Tumble, struggling fourth from bottom in Section A, went down 23-12 to New Dock Stars. Steve Lewis banged over four penalties in a match that has effectively crushed Tumble's title hopes.

And there was misery for Carmarthen Quins. After their epic Welsh Cup struggle against Neath they surrendered their nine match unbeaten record in Section C. Llansamlet piped them 6-0 thanks to two penalties from former Aberavon and Llanelli star Keri Coslett.

Llandovery through

Llandovery fully deserved their 24 points to 12 Schweppes Cup win at Llandybie, and their performance augurs well for a good run in the competition and the West Wales Rugby Union championship.

Again it was the boot of Carwyn Williams that secured victory with three penalty goals and a drop-goal. The fly-half also crowned a great performance by scoring a superb try.

Llandybie lacked the forward power to match the Llandovery eight, who, apart from a 10 minute period in the first half when Llandybie were right on top, dominated in the loose.

However, Llandybie fielded some promising young players who obviously have the potential to move the club out of the doldrums in which they are now becalmed.

For the record Llandovery held a 14-6 lead at half time through a drop-goal and penalty goal by Williams and tries by wings Eirian Jones and Dewi Evans to two penalty goals by flanker Steven Jones.

Williams added two penalty goals and try in the second half and Llandybie got a try in the last few minutes when scrum half Phil Gealy broke wide before sending Chris McAvoy over in the corner. Clive Roderick converted.



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THURSDAY, JANUARY 13th, 1983

Ammanford brave but well beaten

LLANDOVERY ON SONG

LLANDOVERY 14pts., AMMANFORD 6

Both sides were below full strength but this game still served to emphasise the difference between Sections B and D of the West Wales Rugby Union.

The superior technique and strength of Llandovery meant they were in control for most of the WWRU Cup preliminary round match and saw them race to a ten point lead at the interval.

The Llandovery pack, weakened by sendings off and injuries, gave a fine display of ball winning and released the backs who troubled Ammanford.

Llandovery, with the breeze at their backs, took the lead after 15 minutes when Handel Davies scored his first try for Llandovery this season. It followed a line out near the Ammanford line which had somehow survived intact until then — but only just.

BEHIND

Llandovery kept up the pressure with half backs Davies and Williams in fine fettle and centre David Wigley producing good attacking form. Ammanford centre Martyn Edwards tackled stubbornly during this period.

But Ammanford went further behind after 25 minutes when Carwyn Williams kicked a straight forward penalty.

Llandovery kept up the pressure but found the Ammanford defence well organised and determined. They increased their lead just before the interval when Williams kicked his second successful penalty.

Ammanford were helped by a couple of forward passes which robbed Tony Williams of certain

tries.

With Clive James such a fine place kicker Ammanford still had a chance, especially with the wind behind them in the second half.

James was just short with a long range kick early in the second half as Ammanford found new life and gave Llandovery plenty to think about. He reduced the arrears after twenty minutes with a penalty wide out from nearly 40 metres.

Following this the Llandovery back row, with former skipper Alan Walters in fine form, took things into their own hands and drove Ammanford back on their heels.

A mistake by Ammanford released the Llandovery three quarters and they sent winger Eirian Jones in at the corner to put the result beyond doubt.

Wyn Evans revived flagging Ammanford hopes with a drop-goal from 15 metres but it was too late to stop Llandovery proceeding to the first round proper where they will meet Llandybie.

It was a good match in the wet conditions and one in which Ammanford, who had already lost 5 in their original pack before the game, lost the services of scrum half Allan Williams and lock Wyn Jones through injury.

There were no additional injury troubles for Llandovery's stretched squad and the news that Section B promotion rivals Crynant slipped to another defeat made Saturday's success doubly sweet.

Llandovery bury Port

Llandovery 14pts., Burry Port 4

Three tries, one of them converted, earned Llandovery two valuable points in their fight for promotion to Section A of the West Wales Rugby Union.

Fielding a team short of four regular pack members and match-winning fly-half Carwyn Williams, Llandovery, understandably perhaps made a poor start.

They were behind when slack marking allowed Burry Port right wing in for a try which went unconverted.

Having chosen to play with the wind behind them in the first half Burry Port should have gone flat out to build up a big interval lead.

But although keeping Llandovery under pressure for most of the half they could not add to their score before half time.

This was due mainly to good play by the home flankers and full back Tony Williams.

He took some time to settle down following a lightning journey which saw him breakfasting at Heathrow at midday, eating lunch at Bridgend at 2.00 p.m. and pulling on his jersey at 2.35.

The second half was all Llandovery. Wingers Eirian Jones and Martyn Davies crossed for tries following initial drives by the rejuvenated Alan Walters.

Centre Alan Morgan also crossed for a try after fine interplay between him and winger Martyn Davies.

Once again it was the Llandovery pack who marked the difference between the sides. Morris and Williams made a fearsome sight as they drove forward relentlessly.

Young second row, Stephen Knight, in his first year out of youth rugby, gave a good account of himself and Llandovery must be thankful to have him on call at this time of crisis.

With promotion now a probability following yet another defeat for Crynant, Llandovery must beat Seven Sisters this weekend to maintain their interest in the title.



West Wales
Rugby Focus

Llandovery

Following a season of consolidation in Section B Llandovery are out to gain promotion to the top flight of the West Wales Rugby Union, writes RICHARD WILLIAMS.

"We were unlucky to miss out on promotion last season and were all disappointed about it," said secretary Mr. Rowland Griffiths.

"But looking at it now many people are a little glad because it gives us a chance to consolidate and strengthen our team in Section B rather than struggle in Section A where the going is much harder.

"But we are definitely aiming at Section A now," he promised.

Immediate disappointment aside, it certainly looks now as if their failure to gain promotion by a measly two points was a blessing in disguise.

They have won six out of seven matches and lie second behind Bonymaen who have not yet dropped a point. Their latest win, against Crynant

last Saturday, avenged their only defeat of the season which was at the hands of the Dulais Valley side.

What is more their good start was achieved without three of last year's stalwarts in the pack.

"Gareth Williams (Charlie), Tony Williams and Eddie Morris were all missing from the team in early matches because they were working away. They are back now though," said Mr. Griffiths.

Their return has strengthened the team but Mr. Griffiths was full of praise for the players who came in to fill their places: "They all played marvellously."

The cornerstone of their success so far has been the work of the pack which is led by new skipper Stuart Fry at number eight. He has last

year's captain Alan Walters playing alongside him and they form part of the experienced core of this useful outfit.

"Everything starts from the pack but the backs are going well too.

"Wingers Dewi Evans and Eirian Jones, who is back this season after twice breaking a leg, have run in for some fine tries which is really gratifying," Mr. Griffiths added.

Llandovery face their toughest test when they meet Bonymaen for the first time this season in the first round of the Schweppes Cup on November 20th.

It is an ironic draw and promises to be a full blooded tie with a lot more at stake than a second round game with Newbridge.

Whoever wins this one will have a big psychological advantage when the teams meet in the championship — and that is as important as anything in this game.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1970s/1980s CGW02

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



Llandovery's selected nine pose for the camera after their side had beaten Llandeilo in the first round of the Amman Valley seven-a-side competition at Llandybie last Friday.

Photo: Richard Firstbrook, Manordeilo.

Forward blow for Llandovery

Lampeter 12 pts., Llandovery 13

Promotion chasing Llandovery will be forced to make changes for the crucial weeks coming up following the sending off of two forwards in their Bryn Jones Cup win over Lampeter.

Gareth Williams and Nigel Clarke were both given their marching orders in this Boxing Day clash and seem likely to miss the rest of the club's West Wales Section B programme.

And to add to their dilemma second row stalwart Noel Page broke an arm in a fall at work on Monday — so they will be forced to make changes for the clash with Ammanford on Saturday.

It was a measure of Llandovery's character that they were able to overcome the handicap of being two short to clinch a last gasp win over Lampeter.

With 13 men and 12 points down, Llandovery staged a remarkable come-back. Two

fine tries by left wing Dewi Evans and a conversion by Carwyn Williams put them within striking distance.

Then Williams slotted a drop-goal with seconds left to seal a remarkable win.

To make things worse Monday's scheduled match with Brynaman was rained off, further congesting Llandovery's busy run in to the end of the season.

First of all they have to overcome C. C. Evans cup holders Ammanford, who are likely to provide stiff opposition on Saturday.

Section B swansong

**Llandovery 7 pts.,
Bonynmaen 17**

Llandovery suffered an unnecessary defeat at the hands of Bonynmaen in this top of Section B match on Saturday.

It is a result which just about put paid to the Towy Valley side's faint hopes of lifting the Section title though they were already safe in the knowledge of having gained promotion to the top flight.

Llandovery had a side capable of beating Bonynmaen but played into their hands by adopting a tight approach to the game — right up the big Bonynmaen pack's street.

The first half was hard and rugged with, if anything, Llandovery creating the more chances. They missed two sitters thanks to forward passes at the crucial moment and when Bonynmaen were given a chance they grabbed it with both hands.

Clive Warlow got the try which went unconverted.

Carwyn Williams reduced the

lead when he kicked a penalty just before the interval.

Bonynmaen, always ahead in the battle up front, began to make their dominance pay in the second half as they disrupted and spoilt Llandovery's possession and made good use of their own.

They finally scored two tries in quick succession to clinch the game and held out despite a late Llandovery flurry in which Nigel Clarke scored a try from a tapped penalty.