



Llandoverly RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

September 6th 1986

PAGE THIRTY-TWO

SOUTH WALES GUARDIAN

Guardian rugby ... Guar

Llandoverly's late saver

Llandoverly 12, Hendy 12

TWO minutes from time with the home side trailing 12-6 Hendy were penalised thirty yards out and Llandoverly quickly swung the ball out left to their threequarters moving at speed.

Crisp and skilful handling enabled centre Allan Thomas to swerve through a bemused defence for an excellent try, and Carwyn Williams' successful

goal kick from the edge of the touchline was enough to guarantee the Towy Valley side a share of the spoils.

Unfortunately, this one skilful movement was an all too rare occurrence in a mistake-ridden encounter, that neither side deserved to win.

During the opening quarter the visitors had threatened to

take the game by the scruff of the neck.

They crashed over the line twice in as many minutes, only to be brought back for five yard scrummages. But by and large Hendy's scrummaging was far from solid at this early stage and their attempted scoring ploys close to the line were comfort-

ably held by the home defence.

Pre-match discussion had suggested that the home eight would be hard pressed to keep the strong Hendy eight at bay, but this did not prove to be the case.

Ian Jones, Chris Davies and Nigel Clarke were prominent in a hard working home pack which for very long periods gave as good as they took.

Late in the second half, the only points registered were from the boot — a brace of penalty goals for the homeside by Carwyn Williams cancelled out by a Peter Rees penalty goal and an Andrew Davies drop goal.

But then came what looked like being a match-winning score. The Hendy forwards were quick to support a surge down the right hand touchline, Wyn Matthews drove on to the line and scrum half Hugh Jones crashed over under the posts.

Peter Rees' conversion made it 12-6, but on an afternoon when neither side could be entirely happy with their performance it was only fitting that Llandoverly should emerge with a draw.

Neither side were keen to release their backs, although Hendy's Nigel Howells occasionally looked dangerous.

Sept. 13th

Ystalyfera 6
Llandoverly 10

TERRITORIALY the visitors fully deserved their first win of the season, but the result was in doubt right up until the final whistle.

Ystalyfera dominated the line-outs with second row forwards Des Thomas and John Myers in tremendous form but it was Llandoverly who were the better scrummagers often pushing the home pack yards back towards their own line.

Poor handling, however let the visitors down, and it was a drop goal by Eifion Hughes midway through the second half which gave Llandoverly the decisive lead.

Llandoverly, playing up the slope and into the wind scored the first try after 25 minutes.

The movement began well in their own territory with scrum half Carwyn Williams cleverly moving round the blind side and feeding left wing Eirian Jones.

A mazy run took the winger into the Ystalyfera 22 before a forward pass brought Llandoverly to a halt. The home side's half backs failed to clear from the ensuing scrum and following a ruck Elfyn Jenkins went over in the corner.

But Ystalyfera came right back into the game and on the stroke of half-time took the lead.

Outside half Noir James kicked into space behind the Llandoverly threequarters, the ball was hacked on and wing Huw Perry won the race for the touchdown. Ryan Jones made it 6-4 with an excellent conversion from the touchline.

Llandoverly's followers were confident that their side could take full advantage of the wind and slope in the second half but mis-handling and poor control proceeded to let the visitors down.

They failed to capitalise on their forward power when several times they had scrums near the Ystalyfera line.

When the ball was moved out vital passes went to ground, and it was full back Hughes, fielding a kick ahead who ended the stalemate with a drop goal.

That, and a Carwyn Williams penalty were the only scores of the second half.

So while Ystalyfera slipped to their second narrow defeat, Llandoverly remain unbeaten. It was an encouraging forward performance from them, and the return of Elfyn Jenkins to the back row provided extra pace.

No. 8 Chris Davies was also conspicuous in the loose and exercised control at the rear of the scrum, while Ian Coldwell at loose head prop scrummaged effectively.

On Saturday Llandoverly face a tough trip to Waunarlwydd in the Schweppes Cup while Ystalyfera tackle Alltwn in the same competition.



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



So close...Llandovery's Tim Williams is stopped just short of the line in his bid for a third try during Llandovery's convincing 20-0 victory over New Dock Stars.

Sept. 27th (Picture: Peter Evans)

It's robbery!

Carmarthen 16 Llandovery 15

LLANDOVERY already pushing hard for promotion from Section B were struck a body blow on Saturday, going down to a try six minutes into injury time at Carmarthen.

The visitors had been in front throughout the game — Carwyn Williams four penalty goals and dropped goal had kept them marginally in front, but a defensive error in the dying seconds of the game saw Carmarthen charge down a kick and score the vital try.

The pattern of the game was set early on with the heavier Carmarthen pack giving the visitors a torrid time in the scrums.

The Quins pack, a combination of youth and experience were regularly able to push their opponents back at the scrums making life difficult for the Llandovery half-backs, and open side wing forward Phil Beynon was first to the loose ball all afternoon.

Llandovery attacked from the start and twice in as many minutes wasted good scoring opportunities, first through a forward pass and then through poor handling after a good move down the left hand side.

Llandovery's 9-3 half time lead was down to Williams' three penalty goals to Anthony Dragoni's one for Carmarthen.

Carmarthen opened the second half with far more aggression and within five minutes had drawn level.

The scrums were continuing to be a problem area for the visitors and following a five metre scrum No. 8 Howard Iles picked up and scored on the blind side. Dragoni levelled the scores with the conversion.

Within minutes, Carwyn Williams restored the visitors lead with a 35 metre penalty only for Nigel Langdon to kick a long

range penalty for Carmarthen.

Llandovery were territorially on top at this stage and on several occasions were desperately close to scoring when both Noel Page and Chris Davies were held up inches short of the line.

Once again it was Carwyn Williams who came to Llandovery's rescue with a drop goal following an indirect free kick.

So as the game entered injury time the visitors appeared to have taken a winning lead, but with virtually the last move of the game Carmarthen pounced on a poor kick ahead to score in the corner and take away Llandovery's unbeaten record.

Carmarthen Quins defeated Llandovery 16-15 after trailing 12-15 in injury time.

Morlais Evans crossed for the winning try in that period and earlier scores came from No 8 Howard Iles with a try, Nigel Langdon with a penalty goal and Anthony Dragone with a conversion and a penalty goal.

It was a sad day for fly half Carwyn Williams who scored all his side's points with four penalty goals and a dropped goal.



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Carwyn sinks 'Bont

11.10.86

**Pontarddulais 8
Llandovery 13**

AFTER getting the better of the first half Pontarddulais ran out of steam in the second and were fortunate not to lose more heavily.

Territorially and tactically the 'Bont were on top in the opening stages, and were deservedly ahead at half time.

Llandovery were stronger in the scrums and Ian Jones won decent lineout ball, but in the loose the home side were superior and used the ball intelligently to release their backs.

Scrum half Graham Alexander was always dangerous and full back Alun Roberts ran strongly with his threequarters.

The visitors were guilty of some basic handling errors, and kicks were poorly directed. Consequently good attacking opportunities were wasted.

But what a change in the second half! 'Bont rarely managed to force their way out of their own half and for long periods they were forced to defend desperately.

On a glorious autumn afternoon both sides immediately showed they intended to run the ball.

Pontarddulais made good use of some poor Llandovery kicking to set up dangerous attacking positions but it was the visitors who were the first to score.

After a passing movement involving most of the team the ball came back to Huw Thomas whose inside pass gave Elfyn Jenkins an opportunity to score in the corner.

The score seemed to galvanise the 'Bont into action. Full back Roberts broke through the middle and Darren Jenkins was only stopped a yard from the line.

From the scrum Alexander spread the ball along the line and when full back Roberts came into the line left wing John Goss was left to score virtually unopposed.

Within minutes Pontarddulais took the lead after some very slack defence by Llandovery. From fully 80 metres out Graham Alexander broke through the lineout, kicked ahead and scored an excellent opportunist try to follow the four he bagged last week.

'Bont had the sun on their backs in the second half but they were a spent force and gradually Llandovery moved ahead to win the game rather comfortably with three penalty goals from Carwyn Williams.

Without taking anything away from the visitors they once again failed to make the most of their chances. Scoring opportunities were wasted and some good possession was kicked away aimlessly.

Llandovery are going well, and they moved into third spot after a splendid 13-8 success at Pontarddulais.

Elfyn Jenkins went over for the solitary Llandovery try, while the ever reliable Carwyn Williams kicked three penalty goals.





Llandover RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Over the hill!

AN inspired performance from Llandover ended Kenfig Hill's sequence of nine successive wins, took their ground record and carried the Towy Valley side into the first round proper of the Schweppes Cup.

The game sprung to life in the final quarter, and Llandover, after dominating territorially for so long almost threw it away

Kenfig Hill 6, Llandover 7

when centre Phillip Jones put Kenfig in front with a breakaway try following an interception late in the second half.

But Llandover dramatically bounced back and bulky prop Phil Davies forced his way over following a ruck to give the visitors a slender lead.

Llandover defended desper-

ately over the final few minutes under increasing pressure — twice the posts were shaved with drop goal attempts and prop Clive Howell dropped the ball with the line at his mercy.

But the visitors hung on and the final whistle was greeted by a huge sign of relief from the Llandover faithful.

The Llandover pack was dominant in the set pieces — Kenfig's scrum was often pushed back yards, and in the lineouts second rows Page and Jones and No. 8 Clarke won the lion's share of the ball.

In the rucks and mauls however the home side won some useful ball — but both sides were hampered by a strong wind blowing across the pitch.

Although there were no points scored, territorially Llandover were well on top in the first half. Carwyn Williams was wide with a drop goal attempt and Elfyn Jenkins, Nigel Clarke and Chris Davies all went close to scoring.

The second half was barely three minutes old when Carwyn Williams kicked Llandover into the lead.

Following an offside infringement Williams slotted over an excellent penalty goal from 30 metres, judging the strong cross wind to perfection.

Even with such a slender lead the visitors looked a good bet to hang on for victory — the pack continued to dominate and Kenfig Hill struggled for the possession they so badly needed.

But Llandover so nearly threw it away in that dramatic final quarter.

While the forwards continue to prosper the backs seem to have lost their early season confidence and that will need to be put right for Saturday's vital league clash with Section B leaders Dunvant.



Llandover R.F.C. — into the first round proper of the Schweppes W.R.U. Cup. (Back row, left to right), Elfyn Jenkins, Chris Davies, Phil Davues, Mike Page, Tim Williams, Nigel Clarke, Carwyn Jones, Chris Davies, Noel Page, Ian Caldwell, John Williams. (Front row, left to right): Kline Morris, Carwyn Williams, Alun Thomas, Eifion Hughes, Geraint Williams, Wyn Morgan, Huw Morgan.

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Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Port sunk

Burry Port 9,
Llandovery 23

LLANDOVERY maintained their Section B promotion charge against a disappointing Burry Port side, but with a little more discipline the margin of victory could have been much wider.

Burry Port took the lead within two minutes when Steve Ruddell kicked a fine long range penalty and a second penalty ten minutes later gave the home side a 6-0 lead.

Llandovery's reply was a Tim Williams try following a lineout on the Burry Port line. Ian Jones who won good ball at the lineouts fed Elfyn Jenkins who was stopped short of the line — the ball was well rucked by Llandovery and left wing Williams scored in the

corner.
Carwyn Williams soon kicked the visitors into the lead but right on half-time Ruddell's third penalty restored the lead for Burry Port.

With the wind advantage and a tiring Burry Port pack Llandovery began to dominate the second half, and took the lead within five minutes.

No. 8 Nigel Clarke controlled the ball well at the back of a scrum and a quick blind side break provided the chance for scrum half Eifion Hughes to cross unopposed. Carwyn Williams converted.

This try preceded a period of concerted pressure by Llandovery but only an Eirian Jones try resulted from it.

Although Burry Port rallied well late in the game they failed to score again and Tim Williams registered his second try of the afternoon in injury time with Carwyn Williams converting from the touchline.

Saturday sees the visit of Carmarthen Athletic and this will be a useful test before the Schweppes Cup game at Trimsaran next week.

SECOND PLACED
LLANDOVERY cruised to a 23-9 win at Burry Port, this despite trailing 9-7 at half-time.

Two penalty goals from Steve Ruddell pushed Burry Port into a 6-0 lead after 15 minutes, before Tim Williams struck back with an unconverted corner try.

Although a Carwyn Williams penalty goal put Llandovery in front for the first time, Ruddell regained the advantage for Burry Port with his third such effort of the match just before the interval.

The second half belonged to Llandovery, who eventually had little difficulty in picking up maximum points.

Eirian Jones went over for a further try, while Carwyn Williams added the conversion and two penalty goals.

LLANDOVERY'S 7-6 win at Kenfig Hill was a fine effort, and by far the best performance of the round.

Although it took a try three minutes from time by Phil Davies to give Llandovery their victory, the local heroes had done enough to deserve their success. Carwyn Williams had landed an earlier penalty goal.

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BOWEN IN FOR THE FINALE

By Harry Davies

AFTER missing the last seven matches through injury Geraint Bowen is expected to return at full-back for Llanelli when they end the season at Coventry tomorrow.

His understudy, Martin Gravelle, is unavailable as he will be playing cricket for Llangennech.

Mark Douglas is unfit and Carwyn Williams, the Llandovery scrum-half, is Kevin Thomas' new partner.

Derek Quinell returns at lock and is joined by David Mathias, on permit from New Dock Stars.

In the back-row Alun Davies resumes at No. 8 but one of the flank positions has yet to be filled.

Llanelli: G. Bowen; B. Taylor, R. V. R. Gravelle (capt.), P. Hopkins, R. Rees-Evans; K. Thomas, C. Williams; L. Delaney, H. Thomas, C. Thomas, D. Quinell, D. Mathias, N. Sanders, A. Davies, A. N. Other.

Morgan sinks leaders

25-10-86

Llandovery 7
Dunvant 4

A BREAKAWAY try midway through the second half by Section B pacesetters Dunvant brought the game to life after Llandovery had dominated the game territorially.

Fly half Andrew Snell intercepted a pass virtually on his own line and kicked downfield. Llandovery managed to scramble the ball into touch just short of their own line but following a lineout and scrum scrum half Mark Gallagher worked his way over for a try on the blind side.

For the first time in the match Dunvant were ahead but this galvanised the home side into greater efforts and within minutes Llandovery regained the lead.

From a scrumage 15 metres out they worked the ball to the blind side and a move involving Elfyn Jenkins and Chris Davies ended with Eifion Hughes giving right wing Huw Morgan a scoring pass.

The game was played under difficult conditions, with a very strong cross wind and rain, although the pitch was in excellent condition under the circumstances.

Llandovery held the advantage at the scrums and lineouts but Dunvant's forwards had the better of the rucks and mauls.

The Dunvant back row combined cleverly with scrum half Gallagher, and showed why they are regarded as one of the best forward units in West Wales.

Left wing and former youth player Richard Sutherland who has scored regularly for the visitors rang strongly and defended well and it took an excellent cover tackle by Carwyn Williams to stop him scoring late in the game.

Within minutes Carwyn Williams gave Llandovery the lead with his second penalty attempt but goal kicking was to prove difficult all afternoon.

After the break Llandovery remained marginally on top territorially until Dunvant's breakaway try and Llandovery's reply.

The game then became tense as the fitter Dunvant forwards began to establish their superiority.

Elfyn Jenkins in the rucks and mauls and Chris Davies with his defensive tackling were easily the pick of the home side's forwards.

Dunvant squandered a chance to level the scores when a penalty from in front of the posts went just wide, and as injury time approached both Carwyn Williams and Alun Thomas put in match saving tackles.



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Crest of a wave

8-11-86

**Llandovery 27
Carmarthen Ath. 3**

LLANDOVERY leapt to the top of Section B of the West Wales Rugby Union thanks to a crushing second half display which brought them five tries.

The game was won and lost in Athletic's inability to take advantage of the wind in the first half — they had plenty of possession but squandered it with some aimless kicking and indecisive running.

The dangerous Mike Owens on the wing hardly received a decent pass all afternoon, and when hooker Mike Morris had to leave the field injured their flow of possession dried up.

Gradually Llandovery took control in the loose, but at half-time it was 3-3 with penalties from Carwyn Williams and Robbie James.

After the break it was one-way traffic. Chris Davies charged down an attempted clearance kick and from the five yard scrum that followed No. 8 Nigel Clarke gave a scoring pass to scrum half Eifion Hughes on the blind side. Carwyn Williams converted.

Minutes later the game was all but wrapped up for Llandovery when Huw Thomas scored following a ruck close to the Carmarthen line.

Shortly afterwards a driving run from Nigel Clarke set up a try for flanker Eifyn Jenkins, and although Carmarthen put together one or two neat passing movements, Llandovery had the last word with two further tries.

Centre Alun Thomas got the first after Athletic scrum half Simon Rogers had failed to clear and then Noel Page added another in injury time which Geraint Williams converted.

Both sides are in Schweppes Cup action on Saturday — Llandovery at Trimsaran and Carmarthen Athletic at home to Cross Keys.

Llandovery jump to the top of the Section B table after a quite superb 29-3 win over morning leaders Carmarthen Athletic.

The Athletic had little answer to Llandovery's power, conceding five tries. Llandovery's efforts came via Hefin Jenkins, Eifion Hughes, Huw Thomas, Alan Thomas and Noel Page. Carwyn Williams converted three and kicked a penalty goal. Robbie Jones landed a penalty goal for the Athletic.

Athletic's expensive warning

**Llandovery 29
Carmarthen Athletic 3**

Top of the table, Carmarthen Athletic, found themselves being heavily defeated by the second placed Llandovery in the Section B, West Wales League, on Saturday.

At half-time, the teams were neck and neck at 3-3, with Athletic Captain Ian Jones and his brother Keith dominating certain phases of the game.

After the interval, poor tackling allowed Eifion Hughes and Huw Thomas to score tries, boosting the morale of the home side.

Further tries were scored by Eifyn Jenkins, Alun Thomas and John Davies, and a further six points came from conversions.

Athletic will be meeting Cross Keys at the Park tomorrow in the first round of the Schweppes Welsh Cup, and Athletic captain Ian Jones will be looking for 100 percent improvement from his team in this match.

Victory for LLANDOVERY against Trimsaran could possibly set up a clash against Glamorgan Wanderers, but it won't be easy for the Towy Valley side on Saturday.

Useful

For years, Trimsaran have been forced to play under the shadow of near neighbours Burry Port, Kidwelly and Pontyberem but now that they have obtained W.R.U. status they have been able to field a more than useful first fifteen, playing non-league rugby.

Llandovery skipper Geraint Williams and his colleagues won't need reminding that on their last visit to the Green and Blacks, they were soundly beaten.

Llandovery and Whitland are through to the second round of the competition after respective 26-0 and 25-15 away victories over Trimsaran and Pembroke Dock Quins, qualifying them for money-spinning home ties against the big fish on Saturday, December 20th. Llandovery entertain Glamorgan Wanderers, while Whitland play host to Pontypridd.

Llandovery crossed for four tries at Trimsaran through centre Alan Thomas, wing-forward Cliff Davies, No. 8 Nigel Clarke and full-back and skipper Geraint Williams. Carwyn Williams added two conversions, a penalty goal and dropped goal.

The victory made...

penalty goal and dropped a goal.

Llandovery are at home to Glamorgan Wanderers in the next round after their 26-0 success at Trimsaran. At half time the visitors were just four points in front thanks to a try by centre Alun Thomas in the first minute.

The remaining points came from tries by full back Geraint Williams, No 8 Nigel Clarke, flanker Chris Davies and fly half Carwyn Williams converted two, put over a



Llandoverly RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Cup fever!

15-11-86

Wanderers are next

**Trimsaran 0
Llandoverly 26**

CUP fever has once again gripped Llandoverly — the West Wales Section B pace-setters confidently brushed aside the challenge of Trimsaran on Saturday to earn a plum Schweppes Cup second round tie at home to Glamorgan Wanderers on December 20th.

Another outstanding performance from their heavyweight pack paved the way for victory, and you can be sure that the

Llandoverly eight will pose many a problem for their first class visitors in the second round.

The game was effectively won and lost in the first half when Trimsaran, with the advantage of the wind and the slope failed to score. It was Llandoverly who changed over in the lead and they went on to completely dominate the second half.

Trimsaran however never gave up with Simon James the pick of their forwards and right wing Tyrone Hughes a tireless tackler. On several occasions Hughes prevented Llandoverly scoring further tries and his sterling work kept his side in the

game in the first half.

Llandoverly won the toss and elected to play into the wind and up the slope but within minutes they were ahead. Alun Thomas split the Trimsaran defence with a devastating break down the middle and followed up his kick ahead to score.

That was the way it stayed until half-time, and with the elements in their favour Llandoverly took control in the second half.

Outside half Carwyn Williams put the Trimsaran defence under pressure with some high up-and-unders and from a scrum five metres out Chris Davies picked up and scored.

Minutes later a misplay in the centre saw full back Geraint Williams running through to score.

Brother Carwyn converted and added a penalty goal ten minutes later.

Carwyn Williams increased the lead with a drop goal, before Llandoverly wrapped it up with the best try of the game.

Following some powerful scrummaging the ball was moved quickly out to Alun Thomas, and the centre once again broke through to score near the posts. Carwyn Williams converted.

All in all it was a good team effort by Llandoverly but at forward Chris Davies and Nigel Clarke were especially prominent and centre Alun Thomas was the best attacker on view. Bring on the Wanderers!



No way through...Trimsaran's Will Evans is thrown high into the air by some solid Llandoverly tackling.



There's no stopping Llandoverly flanker Chris Davies as he forces his side's second try following a five yard scrum.



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Late flourish does justice

Llandovery 26
Ystalyfera 9

FIVE tries without reply indicate a comprehensive victory, but Ystalyfera, fresh from their annihilation of Carmarthen the week before, were in contention until well into the second half.

Poor handling and indecision close to the Ystalyfera line had prevented Section B leaders Llandovery from wrapping the game up much earlier, and if it hadn't been for one magnificent tackle from Alun Thomas on visiting wing Noir James following an interception in the second half, Ystalyfera would even have come within a single point of Llandovery.

It was only in the closing stages that the home side emphasised their superiority with a burst of scoring.

Once again the Llandovery eight were dominant — they scrummaged solidly, Ian Jones controlled the lineouts and the back row of Nigel Clarke, Elfyn Jenkins and Chris Davies were everywhere. No. 8 Clarke's two tries were a fair reflection of his efforts.

Within ten minutes of the start, Ystalyfera, with a strong wind behind them were six points in front — Meyers and Perry both kicking penalties.

Llandovery replied midway through the half when Clarke picked up at the back of a scrum to score with Carwyn Williams converting. They went in front five minutes after the interval with Clarke's second try, again converted by Williams.

Huw Perry brought Ystalyfera back into the game with a penalty and the visitors were looking dangerous.

But scrum half Eifion Hughes scored an opportunist try when Ystalyfera heeled the ball over their own line and failed to clear.

Two tries in injury time gave the scoreline a respectable look.

Wyn Morgan gathered a loose ball at the front of the lineout

before racing in from 25 yards and Tim Williams scored the best try of the game right on the final whistle.

A mismove at threequarters gave the wing a 40 yard run to the line. Carwyn Williams converted.

Lucky stars

New Dock Stars 10
Llandovery 10

NEW DOCK could thank their lucky stars for the point they took from this top-of-the-table Section B game.

They were completely outplayed in the set pieces by a formidable Llandovery pack — and that's quite a feather in the league leaders' cap. Only a couple of weeks ago the New Dock eight held their own against the formidable Neath scrummaging machine in the Schweppes Cup.

Llandovery took half a dozen strikes against the head while the lineouts Ian Jones was supreme.

Both sides began at a crackling pace and after Llandovery missed two kicks at goal New Dock went three points in front with an Adrian Stuart penalty.

Llandovery could feel aggrieved at falling behind after having so much of the early play, but they were soon in the lead. Carwyn Williams chipped into space and after good work by Alun Thomas and wing Huw Morgan No. 8 Nigel Clarke scored a try.

Williams' conversion put the league leaders 6-3 in at half-time.

The second half began promisingly for Llandovery with Huw Morgan grabbing a second try. Following a scrum 30 metres out No. 8 Clarke and scrum half Eifion Hughes combined to put Morgan over.

For long periods New Dock were pinned back and Clarke and Hughes both went close to increasing the lead. But the home side were frequently rescued by some long Adrian Stuart kicks.

Llandovery were then rocked back on their heels as the home side threw caution to the wind and grabbed two late tries. It could even have been defeat, but thankfully for Llandovery Stuart's last-gasp conversion attempt sailed just wide.

6-12-86 Crashed

Fly-half Carwyn Williams contributed 23 points for section B leaders Llandovery, who defeated Carmarthen by 1-20. Williams fired over four penalties, two conversions and crossed for a try. In reply, centre Anthony Dragoni rifled over four penalties for the visitors.

Classy Carwyn

Llandovery 31, Carmarthen 20

AN OUTSTANDING points scoring display by Llandovery outside-half Carwyn Williams gave the home side victory over the Quins.

After Williams had opened the scoring through a dropped goal, he and Quins centre Anthony Dragoni swapped penalties before Phil Davies touched down for the first try of the game, converted by Williams.

Just on half-time Carmarthen hit back through a Nigel Langdon try. And they continued their revival in the second half with Dragoni answering another Williams penalty with two successful attempts of his own.

But then came the turning point of the match when Llandovery scrum-half Eifion Hughes went over from close range. A poor

drop-out from the re-start was picked up by prop Phil Davies who passed on to Chris Davies and when he was tackled, Carwyn Williams was inevitably on hand to dive over for a try which he converted.

Despite the game being virtually over as a contest by this time Carmarthen, to their credit, never gave up and their pressure was rewarded with a consolation try by left wing Colin James.



Llandover RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

13-12-80 Casual Llandover so nearly let it slip

SECTION B leaders Llandover seemed to have their minds fixed on next Saturday's big cup clash and they were fortunate to escape with a point after a lack-lustre display against the 'Bont.

Llandover dominated the first half but in a dramatic about-turn Pontarddulais spent most of the second half in their opponents' 22 and only some desperate Llandover defence stopped them from scoring.

Scrum half Graham Alexander was the man who posed most of the

problems with his darting runs and accurate kicks, while prop Huw Roberts was also conspicuous with some charging runs from the back of the line-outs.

Llandover 9 Pontarddulais 9

But all in all Llandover were held up simply because, for once, they were matched up front by the 'Bont eight.

The game began with Llandover comfortably in control, and after a couple of misses Carwyn Williams kicked the home side into

the lead with a penalty following a line-out offence.

That lead was increased to 9-0 before half-time when Elfyn Jenkins was pushed over the 'Bont line following a maul, with Williams adding the extra points.

But the second half was almost a direct reversal of the first with the 'Bont continually on the offensive. Early in the half Steve Bowling reduced the arrears with a penalty but Llandover held out until five minutes from time.

From a scrum ten metres out, outside half Bowling dummied his way over under the posts, and Gary Richards' conversion levelled the scores.

The 'Bont face another tough test at New Dock Stars on Saturday, while Llandover will be battling with Glamorgan Wanderers in the Schweppes Cup.

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five yard penalty. Amman could have doubled their tally during the opening half, but some stubborn defending, from Cefn's Mills, Peter Woolard and ex-Welsh Cross Country schoolboy champion Nigel Price kept the score down.

But the visitors' defence was breached once again ten minutes into the second half when Alan Davies' tremendous solo break provided the opening for Dai Evans to notch his second try. Unfortunately there was an ugly outbreak of violence on the hour, prompting the referee to give both sets of players a stern lecture. Some were lucky to stay on the field.

Amman increased their advantage and broke the 20 point barrier for the second week when coach and full back Colin Matthews burst into the line to take a pass from Kevin Lewis and dive over in the corner.

Llandover stretched their advantage at the top of Section B, despite being held to a 9-9 draw by visiting Pontarddulais. Second placed Loughor and third in the table New Dock Stars lost.

It wasn't one of Llandover's best displays, and as I suggested last week some of the players may have had one eye on the Schweppes Welsh RU Cup second round tie with Glamorgan Wanderers tomorrow.

Elfin Jenkins went over for the solitary Llandover try, Carwyn Williams converted it and kicking a penalty goal.

Burry Port changed places with bottom of the table Ystalyfera after a 23-10 defeat against their rivals.

Trailing 19-0 at one time, Burry Port fought back well but the deficit proved too big.

Les Williams and John Rees grabbed a try apiece for Burry Port, Kevin Bowen adding one conversion.



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Warning for Wanderers

GLAMORGAN WANDERERS can be sure of one thing when they visit Llandovery in the Schweppes Cup on Saturday — Jock Watkins will have done his homework on them.

The former Pontypridd hooker who coached the West Wales side to an historic cup win over Pontypridd two years ago has assessed the Wanderers and made plans to counter them.

As a result Llandovery, beaten only once this season, have altered their forward formation and plumped for a "horses for courses" pack.

Weight and experience is given priority in the front row where 31-year-old policeman Dai Thomas is recalled to share the propping duties with Phil Davies. Between them they provide a 33-stone cornerstone for the Llandovery scrummage unit.

"Dai the Book" and "Phil the Beast," as they are locally known, are a formidable pair. Dai cut his teeth as a scrummager with Abercrave and New Dock Stars while Phil, slightly the heavier of the two at 17 stone, learned his trade with Waunarlwydd.

Unlike his teammate Davies was not a member of the side that beat Pontypridd, but since joining Llandovery last year he has added a considerable physical presence to the pack.

The second row is also readjusted by the reintroduction of the 6ft 4in, 16½ stone Wyn Williams to provide extra height and bulk in the line out.

This means sacrificing 37-year-old veteran Noel Page, a great stalwart who shared the second row with Williams in the cup two years ago. This time Williams is partnered by Ian Jones who has already made a couple of appearances for Ebbw Vale, and is considered a fine prospect.

"We have the strength in our line out," explained the Llandovery coach. "The Wanderers have three rather tall

By **MALCOLM LEWIS**

forwards, and we have to do something to try to combat them.

"The front row had to be changed to give us the weight and strength we need. We must aim for at least 50 per cent of the ball. Then we have got a chance of taking them on.

"I think our pack will give them a go. We shall do our best to live up to the West Wales tradition."

Llandovery include seven of their cup heroes of two years ago. Two notable absentees are no longer with the club. Carwyn Davies has become one of Llanelli's top try scoring wings and David Wigley is now with Aberavon as a back row forward.

However, the coach is confident that the players who have replaced them will not let the side down.

Tim Williams, on the wing, is a product of Llandovery College and Nigel Clarke is a well built six-footer at No 8 with plenty of experience. He was on the reserves bench for the visit of Pontypridd.

The talented Geraint Williams, with Newbridge experience, is still captain but is no longer at centre, having switched to full back. His brother Carwyn remains at outside half as a leading scorer who could make a significant contribution at the Wanderers expense.

Secretary Roland Griffiths admits to being a bit apprehensive about the outcome but chairman Ernie Prosser is full of optimism.

"We are doing very well in the league where we are top of the B Section, and the boys are confident," he said. "They know they are up against a good side, but our pack of forwards is as good as any in West Wales. I have great faith in the boys to do well."

Llandovery: G Williams (capt); H Morgans, A Thomas, H Thomas, T Williams; C Williams, E Hughes; D Thomas, W Morgan, P Davies, I Jones, W Williams, E Jenkins, N Clarke, C Davies.

West Wales RU

SECTION A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yardre	12	11	0	1	222	134	22
Seven Sisters	13	9	0	4	190	97	18
Ystradgynlais	13	8	0	5	167	159	16
Fumble	11	7	0	4	174	102	14
Llangennech	12	6	1	5	149	121	13
Kidwelly	11	5	1	5	109	134	11
Bryncoch	12	4	1	7	115	134	9
Wunarlwydd	11	3	1	7	117	188	7
Bonymaen	11	2	2	7	111	183	6
Gowerton	12	1	0	11	98	210	2

SECTION B

Llandovery	12	8	3	1	203	106	19
Loughor	12	8	0	4	182	128	16
New Dock Stars	10	7	1	2	196	85	15
Dunvant	12	7	0	5	188	148	14
Pontarddulais	12	6	1	5	209	159	13
Garmarthen Athletic	12	6	0	6	140	204	12
Garmarthen	13	5	0	8	169	215	10
Hendy	11	4	1	6	149	167	9
Ystalyfera	13	3	0	10	167	243	6
Burry Port	13	3	0	10	146	204	6

SECTION C

Mumbles	11	11	0	0	227	71	22
Morriston	12	8	1	3	154	118	17
Laugharne	11	8	0	3	220	132	16
Felinfoel	13	7	0	6	196	139	14
Gorseinon	12	7	0	5	163	129	14
Brynamman	12	5	0	7	163	162	10
Ammanford	13	4	1	8	103	200	9
Cwmilynnell	13	4	0	9	142	234	8
Cwmavon	13	4	0	9	139	228	8
Furnace United	14	2	2	10	121	215	6

SECTION D

Amman United	13	10	0	3	209	130	20
Abercrave	14	10	0	4	193	166	20
Llandeilo	13	8	0	5	150	147	16
Trebanos	12	7	0	5	131	114	14
Skewen	12	6	1	5	193	138	13
Llanelli Wanderers	12	5	1	6	150	179	11
Llandybïe	11	5	1	5	169	134	11
Crynant	13	4	1	8	150	173	9
Cefneithin	14	3	0	11	139	229	6
Penclawdd	10	2	0	8	80	154	4

SECTION E

Tonna	12	11	0	1	179	95	22
Bynea	12	9	1	2	236	104	19
Cwmgor	13	8	1	4	247	131	17
Glaes	9	8	0	1	219	82	16
Pontyberem	11	6	0	5	241	101	12
Swansea Uplands	11	5	0	6	119	137	10
BP Llandarcy	13	5	0	8	113	234	10
Swansea	13	3	0	10	114	280	6
Swansea	13	2	0	11	103	217	4
Swansea	13	2	0	11	106	296	4



• The Llandovery side which beat Pontypridd 21-6 in the Schweppes Cup last season. That feat earned them a place in the first round proper this season.

(Photo: Peter Evans, Llandybïe)



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



● He's over! Llandovery No 8 Nigel Clarke (above) reaches the Wanderers' line to put his side ahead, while Eifion Hughes (below) sets the Llandovery back-line in motion.



● Wanderers No 8 Owain Williams, supported by scrum half Gerald Williams, probes the blindside of a scrum at Llandovery



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

James pays his debt

By ROBERT COLE

Llandovery 9 pts, Glamorgan Wanderers 19

ACCORDING TO Wanderers skipper Paul Prickett, second row Lyndon James owed him a good game. But what the promising young lock served up was beyond all expectations.

His exceptional lineout work was the platform on which his side built their win and fittingly it was his try which eventually put the Wanderers back into the lead.

Quite simply, he had the sort of game that dreams are made of. He took a dozen or more two-handed catches in the middle of the line, was never far from the ball in the loose and found energy to sprint away for the crucial try.

It certainly needed an inspired effort to steer the Wanderers through to the next round of the Schweppes Cup and James's performance made the difference between the two sides.

The lineout apart, in every other phase of the game the well-drilled Llandovery side were every bit as keen and competitive as their visitors. On the same pitch where they defeated Pontypridd two years ago, thoughts of another famous victory were very much in mind.

Having been beaten only once in the build-up to the cup game, Llandovery were quite rightly full of optimism. The Wanderers' first-minute try knocked their hopes somewhat, but even so they battled back magnificently to put themselves ahead four minutes into the second half.

Their front row of Dai Thomas, Wyn Morgan and Phil Davies stood up resolutely to the pressure put on them at the scrums and back row men Nigel Clarke and Elfyn Jenkins were a bundle of trouble in the loose. Behind the scrum, the two Williamses — outside half Carwyn and skipper and full back Geraint — master-minded the rear-guard action.

With their guidance, the home side were able to turn a seven-point deficit into a 9-7 lead by the early stages of the second half and at that stage there were some anxious looks on the faces of Wanderers supporters.

But whereas a few years ago the side might have dropped their heads and let the game slip away from them, these days they are blessed with a far stronger constitution. There was no panic and by concentrating on what they do well they were able to retrieve the situation.

In fact, their preparations for one of the most daunting cup trips of the day

were meticulous. They watched Llandovery twice, gave themselves plenty of time to travel and change and exempted themselves from the preliminary rounds next season by sticking to their game plan.

They got off to a flying start thanks to two mistakes by the home side. Mark Hembury's deep kick-off was fatally retrieved infield and that allowed the visiting full back to kick to the opposite corner and force Llandovery to throw in to a lineout a yard from their line.

Ian Jones failed to catch cleanly at the front and quick as a flash hooker Mark Shugar was there to pick up the tap and claim a sucker-try. Hembury's conversion attempt went wide, but 10 minutes later he punished another home mistake with a penalty.

Those seven points must have settled the visitors' nerves, but they failed to rattle Llandovery. They finally managed to set up a position in the Wanderers' 22 and from a rare lineout win Carwyn Williams dropped a goal.

That at least gave them some hope of getting back into the hunt and when Wyatt had a kick charged down behind his own line a five-yard scrum gave the home side the opportunity they had been waiting for.

To add to the situation, Wanderers hooker Shugar surprisingly left the field with a knee injury at the crucial moment, forcing them to pack down a player short. Prickett dropped the first scrum, but at the second attempt No 8 Nigel Clarke was able to pick up and drive over for a try.

Carwyn Williams's conversion took Llandovery into the lead and the battle was really on. For quarter of an hour they kept their noses in front, but with the canny Gerald Williams constantly inching his side forward the Wanderers were able to hit back.

Using their back row of Paul Marley, Owain Williams and Huw Thomas to spearhead their attack they first combined to send James racing clear for his try and then worked Owain Williams away for an injury time score. Two Hembury conversions added to the relief and Llandovery were left to dream of what might have been ... and what nearly was.



Llandoverly RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

in vain

20-12-86

**Llandoverly 9
Glamorgan
Wanderers 19**

DESPITE a magnificent effort from their pack Llandoverly bowed out of the Schweppes Cup, but the West Wales side emerged with great credit.

In the end it was the Wanderers' greater experience and tactical awareness that made all the difference — but Llandoverly ran them closer than the final scoreline suggests.

The home side were ahead for a period in the second half and a shock looked a distinct possibility.

The dominant feature of the game was Lyndon James' line out play. The six feet eight inch forward gave as good a display of line out jumping as has been seen at Llandoverly, but the Wanderers also had a controlling influence at scrum half.

The former Welsh international Gerald Williams is still a class player and his kicking late in the game kept Llandoverly on the defensive.

The visitors threequarters were a disappointment — the two wings had so little possession they must have thought they were playing for Pontypool! The centre combination of Eamon Holland and Nick Ward produced nothing of note.

The class player was full

back Mark Henbury who was very effective when he ran into the threequarter line, and had the ability to kick the ball enormous distances.

In the scrummages Llandoverly easily held their own. Props Dai Thomas and Phil Davies held their opponents comfortably, while in the back row Elfyn Jenkins was again in excellent form and was awarded the National Westminster Bank Trophy as Llandoverly's 'man of the match'.

Llandoverly had the worst possible start conceding a try within forty five seconds of the kick off.

Wyatt kicked off for the visitors but Llandoverly failed to return the ball to touch and full back Henbury kicked the ball deep into Llandoverly territory.

Llandoverly put the ball into the lineout, the ball was tapped back and the Wanderers hooker Mark Shugar was through in a flash to touch down.

This was the start Llandoverly didn't want — hardly a Llandoverly player had yet touched the ball.

Henbury's conversion was wide but he soon stretched his side's lead with a penalty from 35 metres.

To their credit Llandoverly came roaring back into the game — their forwards produced a fine display and Carwyn Williams reduced the arrears with a drop goal minutes later.

Llandoverly had just the tonic they needed shortly after half-time. Nigel Clarke scored from a pushover and Carwyn Williams converted to give the home side a 9-7 lead.

But shortly afterwards, with the Wanderers pack in retreat near the half way line danger suddenly emerged.

The scrum wheeled slightly towards the touch line and No. 8 Owain Williams picked up before flicking the ball to Gerald Williams.

He returned the ball to the No. 8 who made progress towards Llandoverly's line. Full back Williams took the No.8 out but Lyndon James was up in support to score. Henbury converted.



• Gerald Williams clears as the Llandoverly eight pile on the pressure.

Pack excels



• Clap hands!...Wanderers' giant Lyndon James wins the ball once again at the lineout.



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

ian rugby... Guardian rugby...

²⁷⁻¹²⁻⁸⁶ Llandovery 19, Loughor 9

THIS top of the table clash was a triumph for the Williams' of Llandovery. The nineteen points were all scored by the Williams' — left wing Tim scoring two tries, second row Wyn a third try and outside half Carwyn adding two conversions and a penalty.

Loughor on their first visit to Llandovery for many a year could only reply with three penalty goals, but the result was in doubt up until the final Llandovery try scored ten minutes before the final whistle.

Loughor, led by the former Llanelli scrum half Selwyn Williams showed themselves capable of open rugby.

Gareth Banfield was the instigator of several promising moves in the centre and Williams showed his class with the quality of his passing.

Right from the start, right wing Geoff Mills showed good footballing sense and was a danger to the Llandovery defence all afternoon.

At forward the Loughor back-row was prominent and none did better than No. 8 Steve Howells whose driving runs was a source of inspiration to his team.

Both sides showed their intentions to play open attacking rugby and after ten minutes the home side went ahead.

Llandovery gained possession on the half-way line and Elfyn Jenkins drove forward committing the Loughor defence. The move was carried on by Kline Morris before Tim Williams crossed the line. Carwyn Williams converted.

Loughor came right back into the game and outside half Huw James reduced the arrears with a penalty.

But it was Llandovery who looked the more dangerous and one magnificent three-quarter move was only held up by a forward pass.

But right on half-time, from an indirect penalty Carwyn Williams hoisted an 'up and under' right onto the visitors line. The ball was taken by Chris Davies and his pass put second row Wyn Williams over. Carwyn Williams converted.

The second half began with Loughor dominating. The scrums suddenly went Loughor's way and within minutes Gareth Banfield reduced the arrears with a penalty.

Carwyn Williams kicked a penalty goal for Llandovery, but again Banfield replied with a penalty.

The game was finally sealed with Llandovery's third try. Full back Geraint Williams opened up play from a Loughor kick ahead, Wyn Williams handed on to centre Alun Thomas on the half-way line and a glorious outside break took the centre right up to the Loughor line. His pass to Tim Williams saw the winger juggle the ball and score the decisive try.

This victory stretches Llandovery's lead at the top of Section B but with only one home game remaining there are several difficult away matches remaining before the league championship is decided.

The return game at Loughor could well decide the league championship.

¹⁰⁻¹⁻⁸⁷ Carwyn saves the day

Llandovery 18 Carmarthen 16

Apart from Glamorgan Wanderers, the only side to have beaten Llandovery in a competitive match this season have been Carmarthen, and in Saturday's West Wales Cup clash they once again pushed the Towy Valley side close.

Both sides had opportunities to win the game but Llandovery edged home with a late dropped goal to book a first round trip to all-conquering Mumbles.

Both sides opted to run the ball from the outset, but from one over-ambitious threequarter breakout Llandovery went behind.

Working the ball along the back division inside their own 22 Llandovery were guilty of a dropped pass and recent Welsh Youth skipper Anthony Dragone pounced to score for Carmarthen.

But going behind was just the spur the home side needed. From a scrum five metres out No. 8 Nigel Clarke fed Eifion Hughes and the scrum half scored in the corner. Carwyn Williams converted.

A forward pass robbed Carmarthen of a try shortly afterwards, and the visitors were then guilty of conceding a soft try shortly before the interval.

A lineout tap-back went over the head of scrum half Malcolm Rees and Elfyn Jenkins was on hand to make the touchdown. Williams again converted to give Llandovery a 12-4 half time lead.

But the game was far from over and with the wind behind them Carmarthen responded with a try from prop Kevin Bowler which Dragone converted.

With the home crowd wondering whether the slender two point

lead would be enough to see Llandovery through disaster struck.

Carmarthen's Nigel Langdon made a dramatic interception and raced half the length of the field to score, with Dragone adding the goal points.

But Llandovery showed their character when it was most needed — Carwyn Williams kicked a penalty to reduce the deficit to a single point and then dropped a late goal to steer his side into the next round.



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

3-1-87 great escape!

**Dunvant 8
Llandovery 10**

LADY LUCK smiled on champions elect Llandovery on Saturday when they were fortunate to beat Dunvant and complete the double over the Swansea side.

Too often the Llandovery forwards were slow to the breakdowns with the exception of the two wing forwards Eifyn Jenkins and Chris Davies who produced their usual brand of tireless tackling and covering.

Dunvant were impressive in the loose play, particularly the back row combination of Phil Lloyd, Mark Perdue and Nigel Burgess and it was a blow for the home side when Burgess had to leave the field with a shoulder injury.

Captain Mark Gallagher at scrum half played an aggressive game, but kept the ball too close to the forwards.

In right wing Richard Sullivan Dunvant clearly had a match winner but Gallagher's tactics meant he was starved of the ball and it was an hour before the skills and speed of Sullivan were used.

The result of the game however depended on full back Huw Davies — the usually dependable Dunvant full back not only missed two kickable penalties but missed two simple conversions.

He had the simplest of chances to draw the teams level with a conversion from in front of the posts but his kick barely left ground level.

Llandovery withstood the initial Dunvant pressure and were fortunate not to be three points adrift when Davies missed the first of his penalties.

Carwyn Williams soon showed Davies how to do it to put Llandovery 3-0 in front.

The Dunvant forwards swarmed over their opponents for 20 minutes and after several escapes Llandovery were unable to prevent prop Gary Price scoring when the ball popped out of a ruck near the line.

But Carwyn Williams again responded with a penalty and was then the architect behind his side's try.

Williams hoisted a high up and under which was not cleared and a knock-on gave the visitors a scrum on the Dunvant 22.

No. 8 Clarke directed the ball cleverly to scrum half Eifion Hughes whose pass allowed right wing Eirian Jones to cross the line virtually unopposed.

Fifteen minutes into the second half Dunvant scored their second try with the best move of the game. From a two man lineout 30 metres out, close interpassing saw Nigel "Budgie" Burgess cross near

the posts.

With an easy conversion to come it appeared that the scores would be level.

Unfortunately in scoring Burgess was injured and it was some time before the conversion could be taken. This clearly unsettled full back Davies who missed the easiest of kicks.

Both sides had chances to win the game, but it was Llandovery who showed them-

selves the steadier under pressure with full back and captain Geraint Williams rallying his team when the Christmas excesses seemed to be having their effects.

Centres Alun and Huw Thomas showed up well defensively — Alun on more than one occasion cutting off Richard Sullivan's speedy runs, but once again it was Carwyn Williams' kicks that proved decisive.



Carwyn Williams ... once again Llandovery's match-winner.



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Back in top flight



PICTURED left are the victorious Llandovery side after they had beaten Burry Port 22-7 to bounce back into Section A of the West Wales Rugby Union just a year after being relegated.

The difference between the two teams was Llandovery's powerful scrummaging and their first two tries both came from five yard scrums.

Eifion Hughes and Ian Jones were the scorers after they had been fed by No. 8 Nigel Clarke.

A splendid move involving Chris Davies, Eifion Hughes and Geraint Williams resulted in a try for wing Tim Williams, and the fourth try fell to Carwyn Williams following a heel against the head. Carwyn also converted three times.

Burry Port's points came via a Steve Ruddall penalty and a late try from scrum half Anthony Rees.

14-2-87 Rusty Llandovery sent tumbling

Mumbles 10, Llandovery 3

LACK of match practice over the last three weeks left Llandovery struggling for the last quarter of the match and Mumbles were able to take control and secure their place in the next round of the cup.

It was a game that Llandovery could have won — they did everything but cross the Mumbles line towards the end of the first half when they trailed 6-3 — but on balance the home side just about deserved the victory.

For once Llandovery were second best in the lineouts where

former Glamorgan Wanderers man John Davies excelled for Mumbles and with such a steady supply of possession fly half Phil Gravelle was able to keep Llandovery pinned back with some accurate punts.

Llandovery went ahead when Carwyn Williams kicked a penalty

but Mumbles took a first half lead courtesy of a Richard Greenwood try converted by Gravelle. Greenwood charged down a drop-out to score an opportunist try.

The visitors looked well placed with the wind at their backs in the second half, but despite the efforts of Nigel Clarke up front they failed to take advantage.

They lost Chris Davies through injury and simply ran out of steam in the last 20 minutes.

The clinching try came when Mumbles scrum half Simon Evans made a blindside break and David Longdon went over in the corner.

Llandovery can now concentrate on making a bid for the championship title. A point at Hendy on Saturday will give them the Section B crown and put them into the play-offs, the draw for which was made yesterday (Wednesday).



Llandover RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Ammanford 18 Llandover 40

ALUN THOMAS bagged five tries as Llandover easily overcame Ammanford in Saturday's friendly.

Guesting for Ammanford was their former fly half Clive James, and although he brought the best out of the home backs Llandover were able to show just why they are heading straight back to Section A at the first time of asking.

Although Ammanford went close early on when wing Shaun O'Malley was held up on the line, Llandover were soon into a ten point lead with two tries from Alun Thomas, one of which was converted by Carwyn Williams.

Llandover dominated with their pack winning good ball and their backs spinning the ball at every opportunity but Ammanford were still able to score a fine try on 25 minutes through Shaun O'Malley.

Scrum half Alan Davies split the Llandover defence and after the ball had been moved wide O'Malley went over in the corner.

By half time, however, Llandover had added three more tries

through Huw Thomas, Alun Thomas and Carwyn Williams with Williams converting once.

The entertainment continued in the second half and Ammanford clawed their way back to within 12 points with tries from full back Lyn Evans and Clive James, Lyn Evans converting the latter.

The next three tries all fell to Llandover. Wing Tim Williams followed up a chip ahead to score before Alun Thomas bagged his fourth and fifth tries following some impressive threequarter work.

Ammanford had the final word when Clive James' long pass put Paul Rees over in the corner.

All in all the Ammanford pack held their own in the scrums and took one or two strikes against the head while Llandover ruled the lineouts and showed far more class in the back division.

Llandover still need one more point to be certain of the Section B title and will then meet the winners of the Section D versus Section E clash in the championship semi-final play-off.

Llandover and Amman take Section titles

Loughor 7, Llandover 10

VICTORY for Llandover brought them the Section B title on Saturday, but for Loughor their season could be turning sour right at the death.

Just a few weeks ago Loughor looked well set for promotion, but a string of defeats has pushed them into the danger zone, and if they lose at Carmarthen in their final game of the campaign they could well be relegated just a year after coming up from Section C.

But Saturday's game could have gone either way — thanks to some excellent tactical kicking from Frazer Lloyd and a series of long touch finders from full back Kevin Lewis Loughor were in contention right up until the final whistle.

EXCELLENT

Llandover dominated the line-outs courtesy of some excellent jumping from Wyn Williams, but the Loughor pack were always quick to pounce on any untidy possession, and No. 8 Steve Howells and flanker Roy Clarke were constantly in the thick of the action.

Llandover took the lead early on when Carwyn Williams slotted two penalties, the first from fully 40 metres, and although Loughor had their chances, Gareth Banfield was unable to match the accuracy of Williams.

Loughor, however came back strongly towards the end of the first half and following a scrum

close to the Llandover line outside half Frazer Lloyd made a break on the blindside to score a fine try. Unfortunately for Loughor the conversion attempt bounced back of the upright.

Right on half time Llandover scored one of their best tries of the season. The move began well inside their own half, and after a series of probing runs and some neat inter-passing Wyn Williams broke through several tackles to score.

PENALTY

So Llandover lead 10-4 at the turn-round but minutes after the restart Loughor had reduced the deficit to three points with a second penalty.

The home side then pressed for much of the second half but lacked the spark to break down a solid Llandover defence. The visitors' scrummaging remained steady and hooker Wyn Morgan took several strikes against the head to ease the pressure.

Llandover now have a real chance of reaching the championship final at Stradey Park in April. In the semi-final they will meet the winners of Section D (Amman Utd.) versus Section E clash (Tonna or Bynea).

Llandover enjoy freedom of frolic

Hendy v Llandover

There was little at stake at Hendy Park last Wednesday night when Llandover were the visitors.

All 30 players therefore took full advantage of the absence of the customary pressures to involve themselves in a typically end-of-season frolic under the floodlights, with the champions eventually running out worthy winners by the convincing margin of a goal, three tries and a penalty goal, to a goal and two penalty goals.

Fly-halves, Andrew Davies and Carwyn Williams immediately indicated that they had locked their kicking boots in the dressing rooms and attack and counter-attack became the order of the night as both sets of threequarters were continually brought into action.

In the care-free atmosphere however, the final pass invariably went to ground, while tired and over-worked defenders seemed to have the uncanny knack of foiling the vital thrust for the line.

During the final quarter the Towy Valley side eased away to a comfortable victory. Eifion Hughes, Nigel Clarke, Chris Davies and Carwyn Williams were their try scorers with the latter also converting one and kicking a penalty goal. Lock Ian Jenkins was Hendy's try scorer with the remaining points coming from the boot of full back Peter Rees.

Spirit

Llandover, the Section B champions, were good value for their 21-12 success at Hendy.

In an open game played in excellent spirit only two points separated the teams at the interval with the visitors leading 8-6.

Llandover had the better of the forward exchanges in the second-half and full-back Carwyn Williams contributed nine points with a try, a penalty and a conversion to hoist his points for the season to 189. Other tries came from Eifion Howells, Nigel Clark and Chris Davies.

For Hendy Ian Jenkins scored a try and Peter Rees fired over two penalties and a conversion.

In a match that the late John



Llandovery RFC Team Records CGW05

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



*Captain ... Geraint Williams, captain of the Llandovery side expected to leave the field victorious, but Athletic had other ideas.
(Picture by Ralph Carpenter)*



*Mine ... Athletic's Simon Rogers tries to wrestle the ball from one of Llandovery's forwards.
(Picture by Ralph Carpenter)*

Athletic it with

**Carmarthen Athletic 15
Llandovery 0**

Needing to win against the champions in order to survive in Section B of the West Wales League, next year, the Athletic produced their best performance of the season before a partisan home crowd.

The Reds could not have wished for a better start as they immediately pressurised the Llandovery line, forcing a five metre scrum.

A cohesive forward drive against a heavier visiting eight enabled scrum-half, Simon Rogers, to touch down for the pushover try. Robbie Jones added the extra points with an angled conversion into the strong wind.

Richard Lewis' pack continued to dominate throughout the half with Keith Jones and Anthony Bassett winning impressive line-out ball, for half-backs, Rogers and Mike Owens to kick their team down the touch-line.

Another attempt at a pushover try resulted in a

Llandovery player infringing and Robbie Jones kicked the penalty for a comfortable nine point interval lead.

In the second-half the expected Llandovery onslaught was countered by crunching tackles by centres, Carwyn Harries and Robbie Jones, and good covering by wingers, Jonathon Lewis and Rhodri Lewis.

Full-back, Anthony Maynard, had another solid game, catching and kicking efficiently.

Michael Morris took six strikes against the head in the scrums with the help of props, Rick Stone and Richard Lewis, whilst the back row of Meredydd Davies, Malcolm Morse and number eight, Malcolm Lennard were outstanding.

The game was made safe with another push-over try, this time on the Llandovery put-in. The scorer was Simon Rogers. Another magnificent touch-line conversion by Robbie Jones wrapped up a good afternoon's work for his team.