

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Champs fail

YSTRADGYNLAIS 16 LLANDOVERY 3

LLANDOVERY, last season's Welsh Brewers West Wales Rugby League champions found themselves trailing by three points to nil after twenty minutes of their game at Ystradgynlais.

The visitors were guilty of missing four very kickable penalties one 25 yard effort from Phil Davies, and they fell behind when home centre Alan Parsons put over a long angled kick.

over a long angled kick.

On the stroke of half-time
Ystradgynlais increased their lead

when wing Lyn Thomas crashed over for an unconverted try in the corner.

In injury-time, Llandovery reduced the deficit as outside-half Carwyn Williams fired over a 30 yard penalty.

Ystradgynlais led at half-time by a very useful 7-3, with wind advantage switching to their favour after the break.

Indeed, Ystradgynlais continued to dominate as the match wore on and underlined their superiority on the way with a further try from Kevin Davies, converted

by Gary Jones, who also kicked a

penalty.

#### Williams

#### missed

Llandovery 10 Llangennech 22

The scoreline flatters Llangennech, who were on the receiving end for threequarters of the game.

Mark Dow, Alwyn Bowen and Iwan Hunt went over for the Llangennech tries, Dyfrig Clement kicking two conversions and two penalties.

two penalties.

Wyn Williams crossed for the Llandovery try, with Carwyn Williams kicking two penalties. It was 6-6 at half-time.

Secretary Roland Griffiths isn't too down hearted about Llandovery's early season form and explained, "We're still without skipper Geraint Williams who was injured in pre-season training, while prop. Dai Thomas is sidelined."



• The Llandeilo team that took on a Carmarthenshire Select XV in last week's celebration game.



• The Carmarthenshire Select XV.

Sept. 87.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## eback

KIDWELLY 13 LLANDOVERY 16

LLANDOVERY staged a rousing comeback in their relegation duel with Kidwelly on Saturday to snatch victory in the second half and keep alive their hopes of avoiding the drop from Section A.

Kidwelly, with just three wins to their credit all season made the more promising start to the game, and with just ten minutes play having elapsed were already 10-0 in the lead.

The first score came after a game in the opening seconds.

scrum five in the opening seconds, flanker Nigel Williams crashing through the Llandovery cover to touch down

Kidwelly 13

WELSH BREWERS CHAMPIONSHIP SECTION A 12 - 12-17]

scrum-half Charlie Jacob sent cap-tain Peter Williams over for a try, successfully converted by Julian Edwards.

Having built up such a commanding advantage so quickly then, Kidwelly attempted to kill off their fellow-strugglers with further waves of strong attack towards the

Llandovery line.
The visitors held firm from any further break however, and were finally able to reduce the arrears when full-back Carwyn Williams sent over a straightforward

Kidwelly remained 10-3 in front with the half-hour however, when Williams took the opportunity to peg them back still further with a smartly-taken drop goal.

Williams extend their lead with a dropped goal, but there was little respite, as Llandovery stormed back to within a point of their hosts at the interval, Carwyn Williams dropping a goal, and converting a good try by Eurig Evans.

The second half proved to be a far tighter affair, Kidwelly seeming content to protect their slim

With Llandovery now at last advantage against strong Llandov-really beginning to flow, Kidwelly ery raids, but the visitors weren't were relieved to see their captain to be denied, and capped their Williams extend their lead with a stirring revival with a fine Nigel dropped goal, but there was little respite, as Llandovery stormed a victory that propels them up back to within a point of their form inint to sixth place in the Section A table.

## overv

Llandovery 16
A cracking game was a credit to both sides, and could have gone

All Kidwelly's points came in the opening half, Nigel Williams and Peter Williams crossing for tries. The latter dropped a goal, while Julian Edwards added one

conversion. Llandovery's hero was Nigel Llandovery's hero was Nigel Clarke, who was given room to to dive over from a line-out for the winning try midway through the second half. Eurig Evans got the other try, Carwyn Williams putting over one conversion, a penalty and dropped goal. defeat of Bryncoch.

Llandovery did however make a slow start, and found themselves trailing 6-4 at the break.

Bryncoch seized the initiative with a converted try, and Llandovery only score before turning round was a try by Hugh Thomas.

In the second half however, they gradually began to piece their game together, Wyn Morgan crossons.

Carwyn's brother Geraint was not to be outdone, landing a drop goal to underline his side's second half revival and claim the points. Llandovery now move off the bottom of the table to be replaced there by Kidwelly.

Ystradgynlais pushed themselves into third place with a well-scarned 15-10 victory at New Dock 1 and 1 STRUGGLING Llandov-

for a try, as did Carwyn ams, who also added two Williams,

the shape of a drop goal from outside-half David Love.

#### Section

New Dock though rallied strongly, Richard Davies' penalty striking an upright, and their per-sistence paid off with a try from Lucio De Fillipo to give them the interval advantage.

Tumble travel to Bryncoch knowing that seven points from their last five matches will earn them a fourth West Wales RU (Welsh Brewers) Championship Section A title in five years.

It isn't plain sailing by any means, and it's important they kick-off the run-in with max-

imum points tomorrow.

The Magpies walloped the opposition 26-7 at Parc Y Mynydd Mawr earlier in the eason, and recorded the dou-

ble over them last winter.

I don't anticipate a landslide, but it would be a major surprise if Tumble slip-up.

Survival is the name of the ame for Llandovery and game for Llandovery and Kidwelly, who are at present on the right side of the relega-tion zone. But it's a thin line which divides them from the bottom three — Bryncoch, bottom three Seven Sisters and Dunvant.

Llandovery aim to complete the double over visiting New Dock Stars, having already beaten them 20-8. The Dock crashed 20-0 at Llandovery last time around, and their record there is poor.

yards.

In Section A of the West Wales Championship, Ystradgynlais beat Llangennech 18-7, scoring three tries, while Vardre's hopes of retaining the Section title all but disappeared as they lost 20-7 at Llandovery.

as they lost 20-7 at Llandovery.
Llandovery scored tries from Alan Thomas and Nigel Hughes, while Carwyn Williams put over three penalties and his brother Geraint

In Section A of the West Wales Championship, Dunvant crept up to third place as they beat Llandovery 11-7. Dunvant's Frank Hayler and Richard Sullivan crossed for unconverted tries, With the Dunvant pack in command, Andrew Snell put over a penalty to build their interval lead to 11-0. Llandovery rallied well in

Llandovery rallied well in the second period.

LLANDOVERY took another important step for-ward in their battle to avoid relegation from Section A on Saturday as they entertained the New Dock Stars and ran out winners by 14 points to 7.

Llandovery led by just a single point at 8-7 following a tight and competitive first period, lock Wyn Williams and Wyn Morgan both crossing for tries, while Mike Han-well scored a try for the Stars, with Jeff Williams adding a penalty.

In the second period however, Llandovery made full use of wind advantage, running in further tries through Chris Davies and Carwyn Williams to seal their success and consolidate their sixth position in the table. the table.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

THURSDAY, March 17th, 1988

## **Destroyer Davies**

Seven Sisters 24 Llandovery 16

DESPITE a gritty and hard-working per-formance which kept them in contention throughout match, Llandovery bowed out of the Tovali Challenge Cup competition on Saturday, beaten 24-16 on their visit to Section A rivals Seven Sisters.

Llandovery made a strong and lively opening to the game, and were afforded an immediate opportunity to move in front as fly-half Carwyn Williams went close with a penalty in the opening minutes. With Llandovery con-

tinuing to control the overall pattern of the game, centre Alan Thomas brought off an in-stinctive interception

around the half-way line which enabled left wing David Giles to accelerate clear to touch down for the corner try that opened the scoring

With Seven Sisters looking a little disjointed and a little disjointed and unable to find a really convincing attacking gear, Llandovery bol-stered their points cushion as Carwyn Wil-liams put over a neat penalty

Gradually however, Seven Sisters began to shake off their indifferent start to the game, and with former Maesteg scrumhalf Alan Davies beginning to have an in-creasingly dominant influence on proceedings, a splendid drop goal by Phil Pugh brought them

back into the game. Davies then darted over for a crisply-worked try, and as the initiative continued to shift in favour of the home side, they

went in front for the first time just five min-tues before the break by way of an opportunist try from full-back Gwyn Thomas, converted by Davies.

Llandovery then trailed 13-9 at the start of the second period, but they remained in close con-tention, Carwyn Wil-liams taking his indi-vidual points tally for the afternoon to 12 with two further penalties two further penalties and a drop goal.

Seven Sisters however continued to fashion an im-pressive selection of attacks, and Davies attacks, and Davies guided them to a hardguided them to a hard-fought success with another try and two penalties, giving him 16 points on the day and a total of 69 in his last

four games.
Seven Sisters now travel to play Bonymaen tomorrow (Friday).

In the only game played in the West Wales Cham-pionship, Llandovery greatly increased their chances of avoiding relega-tion from Section A as they overcame Ystradgynlais 10-



Wing Eirian Jones scored the Llandovery try, with Carwyn Williams kicking two penalties, while the one Ystradgynlais score was a try from number eight Les Rutherford.

Llandovery's victory moves them up to fifth in the Section A table, easily their highest position so far this season.

#### Section

Llangennech got their attacking effort into gear early in the game, and were rewarded with tries from Ieuan Howells, Dyfrig Clement and Lee Williams, while Mark Doran added to his try by also kicking two penalties and two conversions.

Bottom-of-the-table Llandovery had little answer to Llangennech's all-round power and coordination, and were restricted to a lone Carwyn Williams penalty. Ystradgynlais showed little

#### CARMARTHEN TIMES, Friday, February 19th, 1:

Half of the Tovali West Wales R Cup first round ties were called off because of waterlogged grounds, while only two of the seven championship matches survived.

All four outstanding four Llanelli and District RU Cup first round games were postponed for a second time, and only two championship matches got the go

TOVALI WEST WALES RU CUP

1ST ROUND Abercrave Llandovery 14

Llandovery powered their way into the next round with an impressive display in atrocious conditions

All three visiting tries came in the opening half, with lock Wyn Williams, prop Phil Davies and flank-er Chris Davies crossing. Carwyn Williams con-verted one, while Paul Wil-

liams replied with an unconverted try. Car

#### Weish Brewers Championship (Sec. A) Llandovery look tired

Llangennech 26 Llandovery 3

Feeling the effects of a hard Schweppes Welsh RU Cup tie at Rodney Parade the previous week, a tired looking Llandovery were well beaten.

Icuan Howells, Dyfrig Clement, Lee Williams and Mark Doran went over for the Llangennech tries, the latter adding two conversions and two penalties. Carwyn Williams replied with a penalty.

2-1-88

Only eleven of the 28 West Wales (Welsh Brewers)
Championship fixtures survived the weather, while
only three Llanelli and District (Buckleys) Championship matches were
given the go ahead.

#### Welsh Brewers Championship

Section A Llandovery 14 New Dock Stars 7

Llandovery completed the dou-ble, easing their relegation worries as a result.

as a result.

Wyn Williams, Wyn Morgan
and Chris Davies crossed for the
Llandovery tries, Carwyn Williams converting one.

Micky Howelts replied with a
try, while Jeff Williams kicked a

penalty.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

# Llandovery undaunted

LLANDOVERY HOLD no fears of Newport in their Schweppes Cup tie at Rodney Parade on Saturday.

The men from mid-Wales hope to catch the Black-and-Ambers on the rebound after their recent poor form and player problems.

"We are going there with an open mind and the attitude that we have nothing to lose," said coach Jock Watkins. "They can do the worrying, not us."

us."
With 33 years first-class experience as a hooker and administrator with Pontypridd and Glamorgan, Watkins has transformed Llandovery into a formidable cup fighting outfit.

"We have not been playing two games the same this season," he went on. "but we hope to put it together for this match, knowing that Newport are not playing very well and that morale is fairly low.

"These are plus signs for us although at the same time we realise they are a very capable side with a pretty powerful front row.

"The scrum is one phase where we need to tighten up. We have not done so well there this season and rather than mix it with them in that area we would hope to run at them."

Since Watkins arrived in the quiet mid-Wales market town four years ago and took over as coach, Llandovery have been buzzing in the Cup.

They have beaten Pontypridd and also gained useful experience by entertaining Llanelli and Glamorgan Wanderers. In the process the players have, more or less, remained the same to become fairly seasoned cup campaigners.

Full back Geraint Williams is cap-

#### By MALCOLM LEWIS

taining the side for the fourth successive year, while his brother Carwyn remains in the key role of outside half where he continues to exercise a considerable influence.

The only two recent newcomers are wing David Giles, a former Llandovery Town goalkeeper, and prop Eifion Davies, who has taken over from the injured David Thomas, a local policeman better known as 'Dai The Book.'

Both clubs have recently spied on each other to assess form and it is likely that neither of them have been very impressed by what they saw.

While Newport were held to a dismal draw at home to Aberavon last Saturday, Llandovery were helping to give Seven Sisters a lift off the bottom of Section A by going down to a 12-4 defeat.

"We have not done so well in the league," admits their coach, who is being assisted this season by ex-captain Alan Walters. "But we have had a couple of notable achievements in beating Tumble in the league and in the Cup."

Tumble, as every West Wales league fan knows, concede defeat as rarely as Liverpool do in the Barclays League. To beat them home and away in a matter of weeks is the pinnacle of achievement.

For that reason Llandovery are not to be under-estimated. They seem to suggest that when the pressure is on they can reproduce the form which has made them the current West Wales RU Welsh Brewers champions.

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



key scorer. Jonathan Callard, top I cup action against Llandovery.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Cardiff cru

By J B G THOMAS Cardiff 22pts, Llanelli 6 CARDIFF CONTINUED along their winning way with a good display against Llanelli at the Arms PArk last night when they succeeded comfortably by two goals, two penalties and a try to a goal.

However, while they were glad to win, right at the end of the match, their try scoring right wing, Derek Preece, was injured in a late tackle and suffered a

wing, Derek Preece, was injured in a late tackle and suffered a damaged cartilage in his knee.

He is likely to be out for some weeks and the club consultant, Harold Richards, will make a further examination today. Preece has been in outstanding form and would certainly have been included in the National squad had he not suffered injury.

Lianelli, lacking several of their leading players, were forced through withdrawels, to field four new players and this weakened the experience, if not their spirit. Cardiff were the more efficient side and the additional quality to finish off their approach work but Llanelly never gave up trying.

Conditions were not easy since the atmosphere was damp and the pitch soft and the referee sadly inconsistant throughout, a factor which considerably disturbed the approach of two sides who have always enjoyed happy games together.

A lack of consistancy on the referee's part in offside play and at the pile-up could not have improved the players' temper but all went well until the end through genuine self-control on their part.

The five National selectors watched the match and to check on several players including David Nicholas of Llanelli, who had to withdraw before the start What they did see was a fine controlled display by outside half Gareth Davies who collected another 14 points nad a wholehearted performance by Derek Quinnell, playing at No 8 for Llanelli.

#### Pressure

Quinnell revealed that he is still very much in the hunt to retain his Weish team place. He towered above the young players around him and mothered them like a hen without sparing himself in the tight and losse play, and he would certainly be a member of my Weish side.

The young Llanelli backs may have lacked in experience but they made up for much of this in their spirit. Kevin Thomas, at outside half, was effortless in his attempts to create openings nad two young wings Owen and Evans were always ready to run.

In the centre, British Lions Ray Gravell and Peter Morgan, defended strongly under pressure and attempted to punch their way through the middle. Of the forwards, Charles Thomas and eter May gave Quinnell good support but Paul Ringer was a little lost in the first half and recovered some of his form in the second although rather undecided about

### PREECE IS CARRIED OFF AFTER A LATE TACKLE

whether to play in the loose or the tight.

Once again, John Scott, the Cardiff captain, and No 8, gave a polished performance and as one official told me afterwards, "Scott is now playing like a Weishman." This means that he is the obvious choice for England in this position and he receives able support for Cardiff from his two flankers, the much improved Bob Lakin and Brian Lease, while two props John Whitefoot and Ian Eldman continue to improve.

Unfortunately for Cardiff, in addition to the injury to Preece, full back Chris Webber, after revealing some of his best form, was forced to leave the field with injury in the second half which must be daunting for the young player.

Trevor Lee worked hard at scrum half while replacing the injured Terry Holmes, who travelled to London while the match was being played and will have an "exploratory operation" in London today.

Cardiff took the lead after 10 minutes when Webber joined the threequarter line and the ball was moved quickly to Preece on the wing. He accelerated and got into the Llanelli 25 where he went inside to Phillips and Burcher who put Gareth Davies over under the post for the outside half to kick the goal.

Six minutes later, John Scot charged away from the end of a lineout on the Lianelli 25 and when challenged, put the supporting Lakin over under the posts for Davies to kick his second goal.

It looked at this stage as if Cardiff would

second goal.

over under the posts for Davies to kick his second goal.

It looked at this stage as if Cardiff would run away with the match but Quinnell got his pack to settle down and Gravell steadled the defence. Thus Cardiff, although scrummaging well and winning good ball, were not able to score again in the first half.

Both Gareth Davies and Martin Gravelle failed with penalty attempts and it was 16 minutes in the second half before Alan Phillips scored Cardiff's third try. They were attacking outside the Lianelli line when awarded a short penalty and from this a "wall" of Cardiff forwards drove over the Lianelli goal line for Phillips to get the touchdown although Davies could not convert the try.

Lianelli were still undaunted and came back with a series of brave attacks. When in the Cardiff 25 the Lianelli front row broke away from a mawl and Charles Thomas, the bearded and powerful prop, charged over for a try which Kevin Thomas converted.

At 16-6 Lianelli had an outside chance of getting back into the game but they reckoned without the good place kicking of Gareth Davies, confident and comfortable as the Cardiff controller.

He kicked two 40-yard penalty goals to put the game well beyond Llanelli's reach at 22-6 and that was how the match ended.

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

CARMARTHEN TIMES, Friday, March 25th, 1988

AGE TWENTY-FOUR

with Vardre losing to Kidwelly, the title would have been theirs anyway. In an evenly fought first half Llandovery played with the wind on their backs and gave the home side plenty to think about, not only dominating the line outs but also forming a solid scrummaging unit. W.W.R.U. Section A champions. On Tuesday evening in a game transferred at the last minute to the Gwendraeth School pitch, they even-tually overcame difficult opponents who had twice Llandovery 3

The scoring in the first half was restricted to a penalty apiece with Wynford Lewis replying to a Carwyn Williams effort. Tumble started the match with the knowledge that they needed only to draw to seal the title, beaten them this season.

Llandovery continued to battle hard in the second half making their presence felt in the set pieces, but Tumble were looking the stronger in the loose and began to assume greater territorial control.

The Tumble backs were presented with the opportunity to run at Llandovery and constantly pegged them back with some in-

telligent kicking.
With quarter of an hour into points Tumble finally pressure remaining

when Errol Price ripped the ball loose from a Llandovery player in a maul and forced his way over for a try. Wynford Lewis demonstrated one of the qualities his side will miss next season, when he landed a superb touch-line conversion.

Speaking after the game Tumble secretary Nigel Thomas was able to say: "Obviously we are delighted to have sealed the title with games in hand, but will not be taking our remaining league games

"Landovery always give us a hard game, and today was no exception," he said. Tumble have now won Section A four times in the last five years, their only hiccup being last year when they were second to lightly. We will, of course, be concentrating our efforts in the Tovali Cup and looking for the Club's first ever grand slam of major titles." Mr. Thomas went on to pay tribute to Llandovery's

Gareth Davies prepares

"No it's mine". Two Tumble forwards reach for the same (Picture: Peter Evans

Liandovery and Tumble forwards contest a line-out.

(Picture: Peter Evans



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Top battle at Tumble

THE Schweppes Cup has a habit of pairing old adversaries

On the day when 180 teams get into action in the first round the draw could not have come up with a better game than the one in store at Tumble today (3.00).

The proud home side are steeped in cup tradition and last season captured the West Wales Tovali Cup for a record ninth time and also went on to win the President's

Cup.

In that game it took a conversion in the fourth minute of injury time to clinch victory over championship winners Lland-overy, 14-12, and it is the same outfit they will face as they take the first step on the road to the National Ground and next May's cup final.

The last time the two sides met in the Schweppes Cup vas three years ago when Llandovery tri-umphed at home despite having a prop sent off at

That victory set them on their way to a famous cup run which included a giant-killing act against Pontypridd.

If that was Llandovery's greatest Schweppes Cup moment, Tumble's came in the third round in 1976 against Newport. The Black and Ambers were held to a 12-all draw and only went through to the next round on try count.

Another battle will take place in Wrexham where the North Wales champions take on Silver Ball and Central Glamorgan title League holders

That will take top billing in the North with Bangor Normal College's game with Penarth and Mold's match with Cross

The only other senior side in action are Tredegar, home to Caldicot, and their game will be followed by Tredegar Ironsides' game with Skewen.

des' game with Skewen.
Tumble: W Lewis; M Willams, E Morgan, J Davies, P
Owens; W Richards, A Davies
(capt); R Williams, E Price, I
Flear, D Evans, B Hughes, G
Davies, M Griffiths, M Lewis.
Replacements: W Edwards, A
King.
Llandovery: T Williams, D
Giles, H Thomas, A Thomas,
H Morgan; C Williams, R
Jones; D Thomas, W Morgan,
P Davies, I Jones, W Williams,
E Jenkins, N Clarke, C Davies.

TLANDOVERY 10 SEVEN SISTERS 11 Scrum half Alun Davies destroyed Llandovery with a couple of tries and a

penalty. Chris Davies and Eifion Hughes crossed for the Llandovery tries, with Car-Williams converting

#### Pack storm in Rhondda

. 1 - 1-

Tylorstown 6 Llandovery 9 The Llandovery front eight gave

a storming performance to lay the foundation for victory.

Both defences remained firm throughout, and it took three penalties from the boot of Carwyn Williams to win the day.

### revenge

sh

WELSH BREWERS WWRU Llandovery champions gained an excellent 20-7 victory over Vardre to avenge an earlier defeat and move up to fourth place in the table.

Alun Thomas and Hughes scored tries and the Williams brothers - Carwyn (3) and Geraint - kicked penalty goals.

Ystradgynlais completed the double over Llangennech 18-6 with tries from Andrew Soroka, Carwyn Hopkins and Les Rutherford, all converted by Alan Parsons.

Trebanos, the Section D pacesetters, were forced to come from behind to avenge their solitary championship defeat at Cwmllynfell back in October, this time winning 10-6.

Andrew Thomas scored a try. Steve Farthing got a dropped goal, and Danny Watkins kicked

Lampeter, too, had to fight back to win their rearranged fixture 12-11 at Alltwen with tries by John Morgan, Alec Page and David Evans, who grabbed the winner

Cwmgwrach did exceptionally well to lose only 14-0 to likely Section F champions Glynneath since they had conceded a total of 113 points in their previous three meetings.

Try scorers were Mike Morgan, Steve Bennett and Neil monde, Phil Evans converting

Sport 1

Newport 41, Llandovery 6

LLANDOVERY'S CUP INTEREST ended at Rodney Parade on Saturday where they were outplayed by a strong and determined Newport side badly in need of a cup run to boost their patchy season.

Newport went in front in the seventh minute after some quick handling and a burst from full-back Jonathan Callard laid the ground for an unconverted try in the corner by centre Chris Manley.

Much of the early play was concentrated in the Llandovery half, and Callard added a 15th minute penalty when the visitors

were caught offside.

Soon after, the Newport skipper Roger Powell dummied to pass outside and squeezed in for another try.

Llandovery, however hit back smartly, number eight Nigel Clark grabbing a touchdown which was converted by a splendidly-judged kick from Carwyn Williams.

The Newport forwards though continued to win the bulk of the loose possession, and scrum-half Tony Coombs went over for an unconverted try after a further period of pressure.

As half-time approached, Llandovery were pinned back by a series of close-up scrummages which resulted in Coombs taking his second try.

As the second half began, Llandovery continued to contest everything, but any thoughts of a cup upset were quickly receding, and Jonathan Callard went over for a try on the burst early in the second half following a scrummage ten yards out.

out. similar scrum led to Newport's sixth try. Coombs completing his hat-trick, and Callard this time slotted over the conversion to put the home side 29-6 in front. The closing stages, wingers Guy Putland and Mare Batten added tries for Newport and Chris Manley got his second try in the last minute to round off a comprehensive Newport victory. Llandovery though never stopped trying, and can take great satisfaction from their level of effort and work-rate.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Sport 3

#### Action at Llandovery



• The Llandovery President's XV during their game against Bryncoch at the Llandovery Sevens. Seen in action is Aled Williams.



 Hugh Thomas of Llandovery chases a loose ball during his side's game against Llandybie at the Llandovery Sevens.

Newport ...... 41 Landovery ..... 6

LLANDOVERY'S hopes of springing a cup upset against Newport at Rodney Parade suffered an early set back when the Black and Ambers took the lead with a seventh minute try.

Newport were penalised in several untidy early lineouts but the Newport pack went on to win significant second phase ball and quick handling and a thrusting run by full-back Jonathan Callard pierced the Llandovery defence for centre Chris Manley to score an unconverted try in the corner.

But worse was to follow for Llandovery, who were caught offside and in the 15th minute Callard slotted over a penalty.

Most of the play at this stage was in the Llandovery half and Newport stretched their lead with a second try, this time, from skipper and flanker Roger Powell. He dummied to pass outside but made for the line.

This gave Newport an 11-0 lead but Llandovery bounced back and No. 8 Nigel Clarke grabbed a try which outside half Carwyn Williams converted.

Newport made their pressure pay off again in the 28th minute when scrum half Tony Coombs squeezed in to get the touch down for a try, which again went unconverted.

Llandovery scrum half Randall Jones rescued them with a touch finder from a close up lineout but his relieving kick was short on distance.

Sustained pressure from a series of scrums near the Llandovery line finally paid off when Coombs swooped for his second try on the stroke of half-time.

Half-time: Newport 19pts., Llandovery 6



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Tumble 12 Llandovery 17

last two years have demons- partner Huw Thomas. trated an ability to rise to the

committed of the two sides, and after had pulled level through a Wynford Lewis Tumble crashed out of the penalty, they deservedly refirst round of the Schweppes gained the lead when centre W.R.U. Cup, going down to a Alun Thomas outpaced the Llandovery side who, over the defence to set up a try for his

Carwyn Williams then kickcarsion.

Carwyn Williams then kicked his second penalty to exed his second penalty to exed his second penalty to extend the lead, before Lewis
did likewise to set things up
liams put over a massive
penalty from the halfway line.
For most of the first half
Llandovery looked the more many were expected to see

Tumble gather their momentum and stage a fight back. But it was Llandovery, who carrying on where they left off in the first half, quickly seized the initiative.

Williams kicked another penalty and almst immediate-

penalty, and almst immediately Llandovery Hookel Morgan raced over for a fine Llandovery hooker Wyn opportunist try.

At this stage Llandovery held the advantage of an 11 point cushion — a gap, even allowing for the extra quarter of an hour added for injury, which proved to be insurmountable, through a Brian Hughes try converted by Warn Hughes try converted by Wynford Lewis with over ten minutes of normal time left, gave the visitors an anxious finale.



Llandovery launch on attack as centre Alun Thomas makes a break and sets fly half Carwyn Williams clear.

(Picture: Alan T. Richards

men a semi et a	SECTION	A.					
Tumble Dunvant Ystradgynlais Vardre Kidwelly Llangennech Seven Sisters Llandovery New Dock Stars Bryncoch	P 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	W 16 11 10 9 8 8 8 8 6 4	D 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 1	L 2 7 7 7 9 9 10 10 10 11 13	F 316 217 202 232 238 260 204 171 207 148	A 1 165 197 160 262 256 219 190 205 265 276	Pts 32 22 21 18 17 16 16 16 13 9
Bonymaen Pontarddulais* Carmarthen	SECTIO 18 18 18	14 14 10	1 0 0	3 4 8	324 364 272	130 181 253 254	29 26 20 19
Carmarthen Ath. Waunarlwydd Hendy Morriston Laugharne* Mumbles Gowerton	18 18 18 18 18 18 18	9 8 7 7 6 3	1 2 0 1 2 0 1	8 10 10 9 12 14	260 242 203 201 242 274 190	237 283 268 285 309 372	18 16 15 14 12 7
Felinfoel Abercrave Ammanford Llandybie Brynaman Loughor Ystalyfera Amman United Burry Port	SECTIO 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	N C 16 10 11 9 9 7 6 3 2	1 4 2 1 1 1 2 0 2 2	1 4 5 8 8 8 9 12 13 14	405 254 215 214 216 193 212 207 167 170	150 174 182 174 228 170 235 292 364 284	33 24 24 19 19 19 16 12 8
Gorseinon  Trebanos Llandeilo Skewen Cwmllynfell Tonna Llanelli Wdrs Bynea Glais Cwmavon Furnace Utd	18 SECTIO 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	N D 16 11 11 9 9 9 8 4 4 2	1 3 2 2 2 0 1 1 0 2	1 4 5 7 7 9 9 13 14 14	350 237 213 242 263 254 228 221 209 173	162 131 156 264 196 251 198 343 289 400	33 25 24 20 20 18 17 9 8 6
Cwmgors Pontyberem Crynant Penclawdd Resolven Penygroes Swansea Uplands Cefneithin Pontardawe BP Llandarcy	SECTIO 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	N E 15 12 12 12 10 9 7 4 4	0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	3 5 5 6 8 9 11 14 14 14	387 334 264 337 196 186 145 164 133 158	143 193 198 146 221 232 287 281 300 313	30 25 25 24 20 18 14 8 8
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Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

#### DISTRICT F SEVENS

LLANDOVERY made it two in a row when they added the District F Sevens to the C. C. Evans Sevens they had won only two days earlier.

But they had to overcome a determined challenge from host club Waunarlwydd who lasted the distance rather better than Llandovery in an injury strewn final last Saturday.

In fairness Llandovery did things the hard way — through no fault of their own. The withdrawal of Ammanford meant Waunarlwydd had a bye into the quarter final so only had to play two games o reach the final.

d Llandovery, on the other hand, is bught through a preliminary hand and tough matches against yowerton, Loughor and yborseinon to reach the final. At the kick-off for the final then Llandovery had played 58 minutes of breathless sevens compared with Waunarlwydd's 24 minutes. It would have been a crying shame if Llandovery, easily the best team on view, had succumbed to fatigue in the final — the fact is they very nearly did!

But the class of man-of-the-

But the class of man-of-thetournament Carwyn Davies and top points scorer Carwyn Williams eventually carried them through.

Sadly one of the features of this competition was the number of withdrawals and the failure of Penclawdd to turn-up without warning.

Ammanford, Llandeilo and Pontarddulais all withdrew beforehand and when Penclawdd did not arrive it meant Waunarlwydd and Gorseinon reaching the semi-finals after playing one game each.

This apparent disinterest is something the organisers need to look at. Sevens at its best is a wonderful spectacle which gives players like Carwyn Davies, for so long in West Wales Rugby left on the wings waiting for a pass, a chance to show their abilities.

Davies' first try in the final was a peach which brought spontaneous applause from all spectators — how often does that hap-

## LLANDOVE BEAT THE TIRED LEC

pen in the 15 man game in these parts?

Happily Llandovery lifted the gloom which withdrawals and lack of interest cast over the proceedings. Even an ugly punch-up in the

#### BY RICHARD WILLIAMS

semi-final between Hendy and Waunarlwydd could not overshadow the skills of Geraint Williams and his colleagues.

Results: Preliminary round: Loughor 12, Brynaman 6; Llan-



IT'S Champions Llandovery! Back row: Huw Morgan, Eifion Hughes, Chris Davies, Nigel Clark and Colin Henry. Front: Alan Thomas, Carwyn Davies, Geraint Williams (capt) and Carwyn Williams.

(Photo: Alan Richards



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## LLANDOVERY AMMANFOR

defenders for Ammanford's second try which Jeff Roach converted on the stroke of half time.

Roach, Ammanford's outstanding player, was himself over midway through the second half for a try which big Carwyn Jones converted and Lyn Evans rounded off the game with his second try and a superb touchline conversion.

#### Brynaman 10pts., Llandovery 16

Brynaman, with Cerith Tho-mas, Keith Hopkins and John Beynon showing real class, were perhaps the most technically proficient sevens outfit on show.

And they gave Llandovery conoie trouble although the speed of Davies finally told. Alan Thomas opened the scoring when he ran clear for a try which Carwyn Williams converted.

Carwyn Davies then jinked through Brynaman ranks on his own 22 and ran 70 yards for the touchdown. Williams again converted.

Anthony Davies struck back for Brynaman early in the second half but within a minute Llandovery had worked Carwyn Davies clear on the left and he made light work of crossing in the corner. Brynaman fought back again

and this time it was Andrew Roberts who broke through the cover to score a try which Hopkins converted with the last kick of the

#### FINAL

#### Ammanford 6pts., Llandovery 30

If Ammanford were to upset Llandovery in the final they had to deny them possession. But it was clear from the start that Llandov-

ery had saved their best till last. Within minutes Carwyn Davies, having discovered Paul Rees was harder to run around than anyone else he had encountered in the competition, showed his true class by jinking inside the Ammanford winger for the opening try which Carwyn Williams converted.
Paul Ladd Thomas drove

through the Llandovery defence to score a try which Jeff Roach converted to equalise but a magnificent bounce from a Carwyn Williams kick ahead gave Alan Thomas the first of a hat-trick. Carwyn Williams converted to make it 12-6 at the interval.

Paul Thomas led an Ammanford charge early in the second half when Paul Rees was grounded inches short. From the resulting penalty Alan Thomas waltzed through the Ammanford ranks and raced 70 yards for the decisive score which Williams again converted

Carwyn Davies followed suit a minute later and Thomas completed a memorable hat-trick near the end, Carwyn Williams converted both.

Carwyn Davies scored a total of seven tries in the three matches. Alan Thomas scored four and Carwyn Williams top scored with 30 points from 11 conversions and two tries.



Smiling winners Llandovery after winning the C. C. Evans sevens at Cwmaman Park last week. They went on to win the District F sevens two days later. Photo: Sportopic



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

(Photo: Alan Richards



Tumble centre Eurig Morgan breaks clear against Llandovery with Wayne Richards and Mark Lewis up in support.

(Photo: Alan Richards)



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Tumble just miss out

By ROBERT COLE

Tumble 12 pts, Llandovery 17

THE NERVOUS twitchings of the Llandovery fans as this first round Schweppes Cup match went into injury time were quite understandable.

Their side had been in front all the way, put recent indifferent form behind them and set themselves up for a satisfying revenge win over the West Wales Cup holders.

But as the game went second successful goal, into injury time at the end of the second half, doubts suddenly began to creep in as the Llandoverians recalled a similar situation in last season's President's Cup final at Stradey Park.

The scenario was the same - Llandovery ahead all the way to the death, but losing the game in injury time as persistent Tumble finally wore them down.

So it wasn't difficult to understand the worries of the Llandovery followers as the extra minutes rolled on and on and on.

In fact, referee Mike Crouch extended the game by some 12 minutes in the second half, causing no end of watch-checking and whistling on the bank.

But this time the extra minutes weren't enough to deny Llandovery victory in their revenge mission. In the end, they survived and were full value for the win.

A dream start in the shape of a Carwen Williams penalty from the half-way line, awarded against Tumble loosehead Rob Williams for pulling down at the openbut another Williams penalty and an opportunist try by hooker Wyn Morgan at the start of the second half really put Llandovery on the road to victory.

From then on, it was a matter of survival as Tumble, with skipper and scrum half Arwel Davies bringing his back row more and more into the game, as he tried to salv age something for the home side.

It was a time for steri defence and good disci pline and on this occasion Llandovery managed to stay the course. The only lapse came when second Brian charged over for a try which Lewis converted.

That brought Tumble to within six points of victory with 12 minutes of normal time left to play.

Nearly half-an-hour later, Mr Crouch finally brought the game to a close and put the Llandovery fans out of their misery.

Tumble -- Try: Brian Hughes. Pens (2), Con (1), Wynford Lewis. Llandovery

- Tries: Huw Thomas, Wyn Morgan. Pens-Carwen Williams (3).

ing scrum, set them on their way. A good ending to the first half put them in complete control.

Tumble were surprisingly slow and quiet in the beginning and it was the visitors' pack who held the edge early on. It wasn't until half-an-hour had ticked by that the home side began to come

Full back Wynford Lewis brought them back into contention with a simple penalty, but then found himself quickly involved in a score at the other end as Williams chipped into space ahead of him on the home 22.

Lewis lost the race for the catch and was left the helpless as bounced past him and allowed Alun Thomas to hack on for co-centre Huw Thomas to score.

At that stage, the breaks were all going Llandovery's way and another penalty by Williams put them further ahead.

Lewis replied on the stroke of half-time with a



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

#### Tylorstown 6 Llandovery 9

DESPITE THEIR IN-DIFFERENT start to the League season, Llandovery are enjoying a fine Cup run, and they moved into the third round of the Schweppes Welsh competition on Saturday with a well-earned victory in the Rhondda Valley.

All the scoring came in the first period, as Llandovery en-joyed the benefit of a slight wind at their backs. An early penalty gave Tylor-

stown the lead, but the score was quickly back to 3-3 as Carwyn Williams replied in similar style.

In general, the game was one of sound defences, with little being control of the state of the state

tle being given away, but some controlled tactical kicking by outside-half Willy to take a hold. The cru-cial score of the game came just two minutes from halftime, Williams slotting over his third penalty, and that was to remain the way of things until the end.

Llandovery began the second

#### Wyn Evans

liams ensured Llandovery maintained a good degree of pressure on their hosts, second penalty took the home side back in front only for Williams to level again, and with centres Hugh and Alan Thomas moving through powerful-ly, Llandovery began slowhalf well, number eight Nigel Clark narrowly fail-ing to go over for the first try, and flankers Chris Davies and Elfin Jenkins tackled hard and effectively, along with the backs, to prevent Tylorstown making any genuinely menacing progress forward.

Overall, the second period proved to be an evenly-contested one, Llandovery building a line-out sup-remacy through the efforts of second-row men Wyn Williams and Ian Jones, but Tylorstown gradually work-ed their way back into things, and Llandovery were forced into some Tita-nic defensive work in the closing stages to hold their lines.

In the final analysis however, Llandovery were more than good value for their success, and will look to produce a display of similar resolve and character away at New Dock Stars on Saturday.



· Llandovery First XV Rugby squad.

(Photo: Keith Lewis

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Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Liandovery great chance

Ystradgynlais 9 pts., Llandovery 6

No side will have a better chance of beating Ystradgynlais on their home ground this season than Section A newcomers Llandovery had last Saturday.

But Ystrad, indecisive and looking unusually frail up-front, finally won through thanks to better tactics and stubborn defence.

Despite missing several of last year's pack Ystrad still had enough wordly-wise indi-viduals to make good use of a strong wind which Llandovery completely wasted in the first half

half.
Players like full back Graham Williams and scrum-half
Charles Jenkins who smacked
the ball high into the air and
let the strong South Westerly
do its best to confuse Llandovery's defence.
Llandovery, given the first
chance to use the wind, simply
did not. Despite shoving
Ystrad at several scrummages
and doing pretty well in the

and doing pretty well in the loose Llandovery's possession was, on the whole, scrappy and difficult for talented half-backs Davies and Williams to exploit to their advantage.

And the line-outs were disaster - not helped by mischievous gale

Several times on Ystrad's line Llandovery throw-ins went to Ystrad's Eifryn Davies or Lillicrap. Llandovery even failed to fully exploit Ystrad's lack of a hooker after Wynford Davies had been forced to leave the field with an injured shoulder.

Skipper Kevin Edwards took over the job and after loosing the first two heads largely held his own.

Llandovery had their the first half.

Elfyn Jenkins, popping up on the right wing, took full on the right wing, took full on the right wing took full wook and the work each as takking to give Llandovery the lead with a try wide on the right. Williams canvered with a try wide on the right wing took full on the right wing took

#### WWRU success for Llandovery

Tries from flanker Elfyn Jenkins, scrum half Eifion Hughes and lock Wyn Williams gave Llandovery their first major WWRU title in the Welsh Brewers Championship final at Stradey Park, Llanelli, last night.

They had a huge share of the set pieces and also took the territorial battle.

Yet they almost surrendered these advantages with occasional loose play that might have given Vardre victory.

A feature of the contest was the striking of the uprights by three drop goal attempts, one by Lland-overy's Carwyn Williams in the opening minutes and the other two in the space of a minute midway through the second half.

At the interval the score was 4-4 after prop Malcolm Perkins had forced his way over for a try for Vardre and it was a penalty goal from Jamie

Llandovery 12pts Vardre 7

Richards which brought Vardre to within a point of Llandovery's score some six minutes from the end.

Neither set of backs showed their usual form and Llandovery suffered most because of the larger amount of possession they enjoyed.

Both sets of forwards played exceptionally well and Llandovery full back Geraint Williams in par-

ticular had a fine game. Llandovery will now challenge Tovali Cup holders Tumble for the All Winners Cup at Stradey Park next kick off (6.30.) Wednesday

LLANDOVERY Tries: E Jenkins, W Wil-

VARDRE -Try: M Perkins; Pen Goal, J Richards.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

# Push-over gives minnows no chance

By JOHN BILLOT Newport 41 pts, Llandovery 6

PERHAPS ONE day the push-over try will be outlawed like the flying wedge. It is not so much that the push-over is dangerous to life or limb, but it is about as creative as an incinerator.

Furthermore, it will always give the heavier packs of most of the major clubs an enormous advantage against the minnows of the Schweppes Cup. Newport exemplified this in overpowering Llandovery at Rodney Parade in the third round.

Certainly there is a real danger that someone one day could suffer very serious injury when front rows collapse and the momentum of the drive rolls on over them. Not all scrums are collapsed deliberately as the reluctantly retreating pack attempt to resist the pressure.

There is no doubt that spectators enjoy a scrum drive as much as the driving forwards. But we also enjoyed the flerce aggression of the flying wedge.

As a variation to the subtle skills of the elusive runner or the charge of the physically strong attacker on the burst, the scrum drive has it moments, to be sure; and Newport are among the teams who have employed it extensively over the years.

They used it to destroy Llandovery and now Bedwas can expect to experience it in the next round. Scrum half Tony Coombs pounced for two of his three tries from irresistible shove power as Roger Powell's pack took complete command.

David Waters, as ever, was a source of regular lineout possession while his scrummaging and open drive is never less than selflessly directed. Flying Glenn George, excellent No 8 Paul Roberts and purposeful props Frank Hillman and Rhys Morgan all contrived to exect total supremover.

to exert total supremacy.

Llandovery's Wyn Williams refused to recognise that Newport's pack were in command. Maybe he has seen service with the Foreign Legion because 'March or Die' appeared to be his motto and midway through the second half this second row stalwart went on a lone, long charge-about that really rocked the home defence.

#### ARE TOPPLED

TWO OF last season's semi-finalists were knocked out in Saturday's second round of the Welsh Brewers Cup. Fleur-de-Lys lost at home 16-6 to Panteg while Newbridge United went out 13-10 at Whitchurch. Markham defeated former cup-holders Caerleon 13-10.

No 8 Nigel Clarke surged across from a close-up lineout for the visitors' only try and Carwyn Williams added the goal points. Scrum half Randall Jones was a tireless tackler and coverer while wing forwards Chris Davies and Elfyn Jenkins never relaxed their harrying.

David Pitt caused the Llandovery defence considerable concern with his midfield energy while full back Jonathan Callard produced one burst of bewildering dodging and swerving that had us thinking nostalgically of some such marvellous moments by Roy Burnett of yesteryear.

nett of yesteryear.

Alas, the golden days of Newport's brilliant back divisions are long gone and until they return we must expect the forward steamroller to see them through as the caretakers of a oncegreat team.

Coombs (3), Chris Manley (2), Roger Powell, Jonathan Callard, Guy Putland and Marc Batten scored the nine tries and Callard converted one and put over a penalty goal. But goal-kicking is another lost art at Rodney Parade these days — so they won't want any legislation curbing their push-over power.



Moment of glory. Llan try at Newport. Jonathan





Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Carwy for top



## Injury time killer blow

Tumble 14, Llandovery 12

AN INJURY time touchdown by Mark Lewis converted by replacement Steve Lewis, clinched the President's Cup for Tumble.

In a magnificent match which was a fine advert for West Wales rugby it was a pity that there had to be a losing side, particularly as Llandovery had dominated long periods of the game.

It was Tumble who opened the scoring when left wing Mike Lewis gathered the ball in a rare venture into the Llandovery half.

He chipped ahead and when the ball bounced off a Llandovery player he collected the loose ball to race over for an unconverted try.

soon rewarded when full back and they were rewarded in the Geraint Williams slotted over a last minute of injury time when penalty followed by another Mark Lewis crossed the line to from prop Phil Davies, to give set up Steve Lewis' match winthe Section B side a 6-4 half ning conversion.
time advantage.
Full credit to both sides for

Williams claimed his second ing final. try. But yet again Llandovery hit back when Geraint Williams, who had an outstanding match, and Phil Davies each kicked a penalty.

With time running out Tumble, for the first time in the

Llandovery's pressure was match began to take control

After the interval Tumble gracing Stradey Park with went back in front when Mike such an entertaining and excit-

## <u>Flying</u> spor

LLANGADOG's wyn Davies has be Sports Personality o record breaking se RFC.

The young winger, who started his career with Llandovery RFC, has ended this season with Llanelli's try scoring record under his belt and a place in the Welsh squad for the forthcoming tour of New Zealand.

Carwyn is the top try scorer in Welsh first class rugby this season and is also looking forward to playing in his first WRU Cup Final at the National Stadium next month

Stadium next month.

The Dinefwr Sportswoman of the Year award
went to Coralie Roach, of Caerbryn, who was a mem-ber of the Welsh senior netball team last season.

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



Try No. 1 . . . and Llandovery centre Hugh Thomas bursts through the Bynea cover.

## Llandovery owe it to Geraint

WEST Wales R.U. Section B winners Llandovery will struggle in the championship final on the evidence of this showing at Cefneithin last night.

Battling Bynea, the Section E winners, gave them a fright and the scoreline is hardly a true reflection of the difference between the sides.

Had Bynea taken their chances — and they had plenty with fly-half Dai Richards missing four penalty attempts — it could have been a different story.

Llandovery looked distinctly uncomfortable under Bynea pressure and it was only the settling presence of captain and full-back Geraint Williams that prevented them from throwing the semi-final away.

Llandovery's bid for a final

By ROBERT LLOYD

Llandovery ..... 15 pts., Bynea ..... nil

place got off to the best possible start with centre Hugh Thomas scoring a try on the superb Cefneithin pitch after five minutes.

The ball was fed back neatly from a line-out near the line and Thomas found the gap in the Bynea defence to storm over and give full-back Williams the easiest of conversions.

That score failed to rally Llandovery's weightier pack and the Towy Valley side looked decidedly ragged as Bynea's superior technique and motivation came into play.

Flankers Rob Pattison and Mark Cook were the tireless

Bynea pack heroes but their side failed to chalk up the necessary points.

But much of the Llanelli team's possession was wasted away by the unusually inaccurate Richards and when indiscipline crept in Llandovery full-back Williams was able to take advantage with a penalty kick from the 25-yard line midway into the second-half.

Llandovery sealed the match in the dying minutes when No. 8 Nigel Clarke collected from a line-out and stormed across for a try which Williams was able to convert.

Llandovery now meet the winners of tonight's clash between Section A winners Vardre and Section C title holders Mumbles at Waunarlwydd.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Stradey bound!



 LLANDOVERY, pictured after the 15-0 victory over Bynea on Monday night which carried them through to the West Wales Championship Final at Stradey Park.

## referees

## **Welsh Brewers** Championship

The final results of the Welsh Brewers Championship have been announced this week and are as follows: Section A was won by Vardre. Bonymaen, Waunarlwydd,

Section A was won by Vardre. Bonymaen, Waunarlwydd, and Gowerton are going down.
Section B was won by Llandovery. Llandovery, Dunvant and New Dock Stars are going up, whereas Loughor, Burry Port and Ystalyfera are going up, whereas Loughor, Burry Port and Ystalyfera are going down.
Section C was won by the Mumbles. Mumbles, Laugharne and Morriston are going up, but Cwmllynfell, Cwmavon and Furnace United are going down.
Section D was won by Amman United. Amman United, Abercrave and Llandybie are going up and Penclawdd, Crynant and Cefneithin are relegated.
Section E was won by Bynea, and they will be joined by Tonna and Glais in their promotion.
However, Glais have won the WWRU Cup with 77 tries where only tries count, and also the Eurof Davies Memorial Cup with 398 points where only points count.

#### FINAL LEAGUE TABLES

SECTION A										
Vardre Tumble Seven Sisters Ystradgynlais Bryncoch Llangennech Kidwelly Waunarlwydd Gowerton	P 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	W 15 14 12 10 9 8 8 4 3	D 0 0 0 1 1 1 1	L 34 66 88 9 9 13 15	303	222 144 186 208	F 39 47 38 26 25 27 21 22 18	A 25 19 15 22 31 29 29 42 45	Pts 30 28 24 20 19 17 17 9 6	THE P
SECTION B Llandovery Dunvant New Dock Stars Pontarddulais Carmarthen Ath. Hendy Carmarthen Loughor Burry Port Ystalyfera	18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	13 12 11 11 11 9 8 8 8 8 4 3	3 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 0	2 6 6 6 9 9 10 10 14 15	285 277 333 296 223- 236 237 227 189 208	164 194 194 207 264 271 272 201 381 363	41 42 56 50 32 30 36 33 24 28	18 24 27 26 43 43 35 32 65 59	29 24 23 23 18 17 16 16 8 6	

#### Llandovery 15 Bynea 0

SECTION B champions Llandovery made sure of their place in the West Wales Championship Final on Monday night when they overcame sec-tion E winners Bynea at Cef-

Bynea had hoped to continue where they left off in last week's preliminary semi-final victory over Amman Utd, but Llandovery, de-spite being without key men Car-wyn Williams, Tim Williams and Dai Thomas did just enough to sourceze home.

squeeze home.

Bynea had the best player on the field in outside half David Richards but all too often he lacked support.

#### DISAPPOINTING

All in all however it was a disappointing semi-final with Landovery quite content to do the bare minimum — the second half in particular deteriorated into a slow, uninspiring forward grind.

The only excitement of note came in 12 minutes when Llandovery scored an excellent opening try.

try. Elfyn Jenkins, Llandovery's best Dight nicked up a palyer on the night picked up a loose ball from a line out, Alun Thomas made a lightning break through the Bynea cover and Huw Thomas was able to take the scor-ing pages.

from was and to lake the scor-ing pass.

Geraint Williams, handed the kicking duties in the absence of the injured Carwyn Williams made no mistake with the conversion.

#### PENETRATION

Bynea contested well up front with Dai Mathias and Peter Tho-mas showing strongly, but apart from David Richards they didn't have the penetration behind the scrum.

Llandovery's second try fell to Nigel Clarke following a short line out close to the Bynea line, con-verted by Williams, and Williams then wrapped it up with a penalty.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## A super combination



Super-team ... The C.C. Evans combination side is made up of star players from around the local clubs. Pictured here: Mark Howells, Llandybie; John Llewellyn, Cwmgors; Alan Thomas, Llandovery; A. Willard, Cefneithin; Gary Davies, Cwmllynfell; Carwyn Williams, Llandovery; Richard James, Llandybie; Peter Smith, Cwmgors; Darrell Campbell, Amman United; Phil Evans, Penygroes; Steve Jones, Penygroes; Shaun Thornton, Cwmllynfell; Meurig Evans, Llandeilo; Nick Jones, Brynaman; J. Smith, Cwmgors; Huw Williams, Brynaman; Geraint Williams, Llandovery; N. Miles, Cefneithin; Kevin Edwards, Llandybie; Nigel Yelland, Llandeilo; Peter Smith, Cwmgors.

(Picture by Peter Evans



ON THE CHARGE . . . Llandovery prop Phil Davies, who kicked two penalties for his side.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Tumble clinch it in a thriller

TUMBLE clinched their second successive double of President's and Tovali Cups in a remarkable and rousing finale to the West Wales rugby season at Stradey Park last night.

The Section A side snatched victory from the jaws of defeat in the final minute of a thrilling fast and flowing game.

It was Steve Lewis, a secondhalf replacement for captain Wynford Lewis, who proved to be Tumble's version of the Super Sub, slotting over vital conversion points in injury time.

That chance to go into the lead was set up by a superb try by right wing Mark Lewis, sent racing in by scrum-half Arwel Davies after good second-phase possession following a desperate tap penalty.

#### Handicap

Up until that last-gasp move, Llandovery had looked the more likely to have their name inscribed on the cup, enjoying most of the territorial advantage despite the handicap of never By ROBERT LLOYD

Tumble ...... 14 Llandovery ...... 12

crossing Tumble's try line.

The first-half was very much a nip-and-tuck affair, Tumble opening in rip-roaring fashion with their forwards in rampant mood and providing the platform for left wing Mike Williams to chip ahead, take advantage of a defensive fumble and score near the posts.

Llandovery quickly replied with a 22-metre kick by captain Geraint Williams and two further penalty successes by prop Phil Davies, whose oldfashioned toe-kick method proved to be highly effective.

Tumble's Mike Williams added to his try tally in the second-half combining well with his power pack in a maul to surge over for a score.

Llandovery, however, still held the upper hand and looked to have sealed the match with another penalty by the composed Geraint Williams, the outstanding player on the pitch.

That pulsating final minute in which Tumble had a series of tap penalties and scrums near the Llandovery line swung things out of the Towy Valley side's grasp in the end, and it was sad that there had to be losers in a clean game that was a credit to the West Wales Union.

Score summary: Tumble tries, Mike Williams (2), Mark Lewis; con, Steve Lewis. Llandovery — pens, Geraint Williams (2), Phil Davies (2).

TUMBLE: W. Lewis (capt); M. Lewis, P. Thomas, I. James, M. Williams; J. Davies, A. Davies; G. Thomas, E. Price, R. Williams, D. Evans, B. Hughes, G. Davies, P. Williams, R. Roberts, S. Lewis (replaced W. Lewis second-half).

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



GOTCHA . . . Eifion Hughes is pressurised by Tumble's all-action flanker Robert Roberts.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

# Llandovery are just champion!

#### By Ian Davies

NOT EVEN the premature departure of key fly-half Carwyn Williams with a first half injury could prevent Llandovery from winning the West Wales RU (Welsh Brewers championship title for the first time.

They beat Section A kingpins Vardre 12-7 in an evenly contested Final at Stradey Park, Llanelli.

With the teams locked at 4-4 with eight minutes to go the final looked to be heading for extra time, but Llandovery No.8 Nigel Clarke had other ideas. The outstanding Clarke broke away from a five yard scrum to send scrum-half Eifion Hughes over for a well worked try.

Although Vardre hit back almost immediately with a huge 50 yard penalty goal from Welsh Schools senior squad fly-half Jamie Richards, Llandovery wrapped up the title with a third try from lock Wyn Williams after being fed by deputy fly-half Alan Morgan.

#### Corner try

Llandovery scored first with a corner try by flanker Elfin Jenkins, only for Vardre to level matters with a similar effort from prop Malcolm Perkins.

It can't be denied that Vardre were unfortunate to see flanker Martin Probert drop the ball with the line at his mercy and on the couple of occasions fly-half Richards hit the post with dropped goal attempts from 45 yards out.

But despite these close shaves, I thought Llandovery just about deserved the glory at the end of 80 rousing minutes.

Fourteen points from the boot of full-back Eurig Morgan put Tumble on the road to an 18-10 win over Pontyberem in the final of the Amman Valley and District RU Youth Cup at Cae Carwyn James, Cefneithin.

A penalty goal by Morgan was the only score of the opening half, and Tumble stretched their lead soon after the break with a fine try from fly-half Wayne Richards. Morgan converted.

Morgan added two penalty goals to make it 15-0, before Pontyberem struck back with an Eifion Lewis unconverted try.

Any thoughts of a comeback were dashed with Morgan kicked his fourth penalty goal, but Bont fought to the end and were rewarded with a second try from right wing Lewis. Scrum-half Richard Hardy converted.

It means that Tumble have completed an unique treble, with the firsts, seconds and youth winning the respective League Cup competitions.



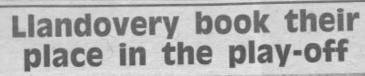
Page 22



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



THE U. U. EVANS CUP tournament is about to begin, and as a curtain raiser, Ammanford (pictured top) took on a select C. C. Evans side (pictured above) last Sunday.





Break away . . . Iefion Hughes of Llandovery breaks away from his opponents in the match against Bynea this week. His team went on to win by 15-0.

(Picture by Peter Evans

Llandovery are through to the final play-off of the WWRU Welsh Brewers Championship after defeating Bynea 15-0 at Cefneithin.

Both sides employed the unproductive tactics of keeping it tight and denying their threequarters opportunities of running with the ball.

The Section B champions led 6-0 at the interval following an early Huw Thomas try converted by Geraint Williams.

In the last quarter Williams put over a penalty goal and then three minutes from the end converted a try by No. 8 Nigel Clarke.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

PORT, EDITED BY GREG BEVAN-JONES

CARMARTHEN TIMES Friday, May 8th, 1987

## Injury time Cup winners

By Ian Davies Tumble 14 Llandovery 12

An injury time try by right wing Mark Lewis, converted by substitute Steve Lewis, gave Tumble a hard earned 14-12 win over Llandovery in the West Wales RU Presidents All-Winners Cup encounter at Stradey Park, Llanelli, last week.

Cup holders Tumble made a rip-roaring start with the front eight in rampant mood, and were rewarded with an early try from left wing Mike Williams. His chip ahead forced a defensive error, and he took advantage to cross near the posts.

Champions Llandovery came back strongly, and surged in front thanks to three penalties. Full-back Geraint Williams kicked the first from 25 yards range, while prop Phil Davies followed up with a couple of excellent efforts.

Although Mike Williams scored his second try after the break, Geraint Williams countered again with a penalty to make it 12-8.

In a dramatic finish, Lewis dashed over for the equalising score after being fed by scrum-half Arwel Davies following an initial tap penalty. It all depended on the simple conversion, and replacement Lewis made no mistake. Steve came on in the second half for his injured brother Wynford Lewis.



Man of the match . . . Llandovery's captain, Geraint Williams, gets the ball away from behind his own line as Tumble pile on the pressure.

(Picture by Peter Evans



Second phase . . . Setting up the second phase ball is Tumble's hooker, Errol Price, ably supported by the rest of his forwards. (Picture by Peter Evans

#### **Grass track**

The organising Vale of Towy Motor Cycle Club are pleased to report an exciting prospect with the Solo entry list headed by the current 500 cc National Champion, Andy Phillips plus one of the few riders to have headed him across the line so far this season, Sean Burton.

Local representative, Aberporth Haulage Contractor Brian Rees, will again take on some very tough opposition in the Supertrike class and the 'Demonstration' event by the Gwent Youth Grass Track Club will include some of the top Schoolboy riders, including another British Champion in his class. Phillip Morrie

top Schoolboy riders, including another British Champion in his class, Phillip Morris.

Racing starts tomorrow (Sat) at Carmarthen at 6,00 p.m. after a practice period so come early for the best viewing positions.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



ON THE ATTACK . . . Llandovery centre Alan Thomas tries to shake off a tackle by Vardre's Jamie Richards.

## The late

WITH 10 minutes left it looked as though Llandovery and Vardre, level at 4-4, would be forced to settle the Welsh Brewers West Wales Rugby Union championship final in extra time at Stradey Park last night.

But Llandovery No. 8 Nigel Clarke engineered the try that broke the deadlock to give his club a first title success. He tore away from a five-metre scrum to draw the defence and send scrum-half Eifion Hughes over.

Vardre hit back with a

By GARETH ROBERTS

VARDRE ...... 7, LLANDOVERY ...... 12

superbly struck 55-metre penalty goal by polished Welsh Schools senior squad member Jamie Richards, but Llandovery stretched their lead with the score that sealed victory.

#### Unlucky

Ironically, it came from the only mistake Vardre scrum-half Nigel Garland made all night. His wayward pass was snapped up by hooker Wyn Morgan, who drove deep into Vardre territory where he was halted to

give the impression that danger was at an end.

But replacement fly-half Alan Morgan won possession to send lock Wyn Williams, the game's outstanding forward, on an unstoppable run to the line.

It was impossible to choose between the two sides, but taking their opportunities proved to be Llandovery's ace. Even so, Vardre can consider themselves desperately unlucky



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



TRY . . . . LLANDOVERY'S ELFRYN JENKINS crosses for the first of his side's three. Pictures: Ian Kennedy

## clinche

not to have added the measure to a pulsating hardchampionship to their section A

Flanker Martin Probert lost the ball over the line after a 20-metre dash, but fly-half Richards must consider himself the unluckiest player of all.

#### Matched

Two successive dropped-goal attempts, from 55 metres and 45 metres, bounced off the posts as the rousing battle was still tentatively balanced at 4-4.

It was action all the way with both sides contributing in equal fought but clean encounter.

Llandovery opened the scoring from a scrum close-in, flanker Elfyn Jenkins crashing over at the corner.

Vardre fought back tenaciously to send prop. Malcom Perkins over in a rousing forward drive, but, after starting the game at what seemed to be a suicidal pace, Llandovery somehow maintained the tempo and matched the Swansea Valley side all the way until the decisive strikes by Hughes and Williams.

Vardre - try, M. Perkins; pen, J. Richards. Llandovery, tries, E. Jenkins, E. Hughes, W. Williams.

VARDRE: A. Francis; M. Garland, I. Jones (capt.), A. Walters, R. John; J. Richards, N. Garland; M. Perkins, M. Thomas, J. Manorek, E. Jones, I. Davies (replaced first half by R. Walker), A. Davies, K. Williams, M. Probert.

LLANDOVERY: G. Williams (capt); H. Morgan, H. Thomas, A. Thomas, T. Williams; C. Williams (replaced first half by A. Morgan), E. Hughes; D. Thomas, W. Morgan, P. Davies, I. Jones, W. Williams, E. Jenkins, N. Clarke, C. Davies.

Referee: L. Peard, Cardiff.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Rogers turns on magic to save Reds



Action man . . . two-try hero Simon Rogers heads for Pictures: Ralph Carpenter.

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.

Carmarthen Athletic 15, Llandovery 0 NEEDING to win against the champions

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 penalty for a comfortable against a heavier visiting nine point interval lead.

eight enabled scrum half In the second half the Simon Rogers to touch down expected Llandovery onslaught for the push over try. Robbie Jones added the extra points with an angled conversion into the strong wind.

Richard Lewis's pack con Jonathan Lewis and Rodri

Richard Lewis's pack con- Jonathan Lewis and Rhodri tinued to dominate throughout Lewis. the half with Keith Jones and Full back Anthony Maynard Anthony Bassett winning had another solid game.

impressive line-out ball, for half backs Rogers and Mike Michael Morris took six touchline.

Another attempt at a pushover try resulted in a Llandov-

A cohesive forward drive penalty for a comfortable

Owens to kick down the strikes against the head in the scrums with the help of props Rick Stone and Richard try resulted in a Llandov-Lewis, whilst the back row of player infringing and Meredydd Davies, Malcolm bie Jones kicked the Morse and number eight Malcolm Lennard was out-

The game was made safe with another push-over try, this time on a Llandovery put in, and the scorer was once again Simon Rogers.

Another magnificent touchline conversion by Jones wrapped up a good afternoon's work for his team.





Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Stradey bound!



LLANDOVERY, pictured after the 15-0 victory over Bynea on Monday night which carried them through to the West Wales Championship Final at Stradey Park.

Friday, May 1st, 1987

TIMES-SI

## Llandovery are the champions

By Ian Davies

Not even the premature departure of key
fly-half Carwyn Williams with a first half
injury could prevent Llandovery from winning
the West Wales RU (Welsh Brewers) championship title for the first time last week. They
beat Section A kingpins Vardre 12-7 in an
evenly contested final at Stradey Park, Llanelli.

With the teams locked at 4-4 with eight
minutes to go the Final looked to be heading
for extra time, but Llandovery No. 8 Nigel
Clarke had other ideas. The outstanding
Clarke broke away from a five yard scrum to
send scrum-half Effion Hughes over for a well
worked try.

Although Vardre hit back almost im-mediately with a huge 50 yard penalty goal from Welsh Schools senior squad fly-half

Jamie Richards, Llandovery wrapped up the title with a third try from lock Wyn Williams after being fed by deputy fly-half Alan

Llandovery scored first with a corner try by flanker Elfin Jenkins, only for Vardre to level matters with a similar effort from prop Mal-colm Perkins.

It can't be denied that Vardre were unfortunate to see flanker Martin Probert drop the ball with the line at his mercy and on the couple of occasions fly-half Richards hit the post with dropped goal attempts from 45 yards

But despite these close shaves, I thought Llandovery just about deserved the glory at the end of 80 rousing minutes.



Strategic pass...Llandovery's Nigel Clarke passes to scrum-half, Eifion Hughes, who crosses the line for his team's second try.

(Picture by Peter Evans

#### Llandovery 15 Bynea 0

SECTION B champions Llandovery made sure of their place in the West Wales Championship Final on Monday night when they overcame section E winners Bynea at Cefneithin.

Bynea had hoped to continue where they left off in last week's preliminary semi-final victory over Amman Utd, but Llandovery, despite being without key men Carwyn Williams, Tim Williams and Dai Thomas did just enough to squeeze home.

Bynea had the best planar on the

Bynea had the best player on the field in outside half David Richards but all too often he lacked support.

#### DISAPPOINTING

All in all however it was a disappointing semi-final with Landovery quite content to do the bare minimum — the second half n particular deteriorated into a low, uninspiring forward grind. The only excitement of note ame in 12 minutes when Llandovery secretary are excellent.

alyer on the night picked up a sose ball from a line out, Alun homas made a lightning break brough the Bynea cover and Huw homas was able to take the scor-

Geraint Williams, handed the icking duties in the absence of the njured Carwyn Williams made no nistake with the conversion.

#### PENETRATION

Bynea contested well up front rith Dai Mathias and Peter Tho-nas showing strongly, but apart rom David Richards they didn't ave the penetration behind the

Llandovery's second try fell to sigel Clarke following a short line at close to the Bynea line, con-erted by Williams, and Williams hen wrapped it up with a penalty.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



Almost home...Llandovery's Elfin J enkins covers the last few yards before he touches down for his team's first try.

(Picture by Peter Evans



Final honours...Llandovery captain, Geraint Williams receives the trophy from the managing Director of the Welsh Brewers, J. C. Harries.

(Picture by Peter Evans

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Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

# 

LAST YEAR, Llandovery considered themselves very unlucky to have been relegated from the premier section, but from the evidence of their early-season form they look ready to rectify that injustice at the first-time Hendy 4pts, Llandovery 26pts of asking.

Hendy who were compre-hensively beaten at Hendy Park by the overwhelming margin of a goal, two tries and four penalty goals to a Their latest victims were

The basis of victory was sealed in the first quarter when skipper and flanker Chris Davies spearheaded an allout forward onslunght on the home line and although the early territorial advantage was not immediately converted into points, the unrelenting pressure eventually paid di-vidends.

After the home side had

periods.

been forced to concede penalty goals, scrum half Carwyn Williams duly obliged with a brace of succesful attempts before skills by racing away on the short side from 20 yards for converted try. Although at demonstrating his running super.

ling at speed enabled right wing Martin Rees to sprint away before squeezing in at the corner.

Lock Ian Jones and number eight David Giles started monopolising lineout possession and with the Williams brothers kicking accurately and sensiby in support, the visitors eight continued to rumble fortagonist was undoubtably the older Williams, at fly half — Geraint who. this stage of the proceed-ings, the younger of the Williams boys threatened to monopolise the score sheet, Hendy's main pro-

A fine blind-side break and pin-point accurate grubber kick by Geraint Williams enabled Martin ward. Although Hendy at this stage, through the fine jumping of locks Raymond Davies and Mark Howells were able to control the lineouts for scrum half Phill home side pegged ten yards from their try line for long half - Geraint, whose pin-point kicking kept the Mcquire to clear to touch, they were unable to break the territorial stranglehold and during the initial forty

Rees to take advantage of a hesitant home defence to get his second touchdown and with Carwyn Williams adding the conversion and a further two penalty goals the visitors were as good as past the post.

A tremendous combined downfield move by the downfield move by the home eight enabled flanker Aled Jones to crash over for an excellent unconminute period, Hendy's visit to the Towy Valley side's 22, was limited to two

On the stroke of half-time, the visitors three-quarters suddenly clicked into action and fine hand-

verted try.

15-10

LLANDOVERY owe their place in the third round of the Schweppes WRU Welsh Cup to an injury-time try from right wing Martin Rees, which helped them edge out battling Porthcawl of the Central Glamorgan League 15-12 in a tight

Porthcawl made the early running against a Llandov-ery side currently going so well in Section B of the West Wales Championship, and led 12-6 at half-time, Llan-dovery's points having come from two Carwyn Williams penalties.

penalties.

In the second period, a further Williams penalty brought Llandovery to within three points at 12-9, but despite some determined pressure, they looked to be heading for defeat until Rees dived over during injury time, Williams converted, and Llandovery had been saved at the last possible moment.

Llandovery's Carwyn Williams races away to put his side on attack during the Section 'B' match at Hendy which resulted in another emphatic win for 'Dovery by 23pts to 4.

A try and conversion by and conversion by Williams couldn't high-flying Llan-from crashing to a from crashing to a shock 15-6 defeat at Aber-grave in Section B. crave in Section B.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## 29-10-88

Llandovery 18, Ammanford 0

IMPRESSIVE Llandovery got back on the Section B title trail on Saturday following their surprise defeat at Abercrave the week before as they wore down the challenge of Ammanford to move to victory.

Ammanford were under pressure almost from the start of the game, with the powerful Llandovery eight winning the ball almost at will, and the home side went in front after ten mi-nutes as scrum-half Carwyn Williams kicked a 30 metre penalty.

Ammanford were de-fending with great spirit, but were forced to spend almost the entire opening period inside their own

With Llandovery con-tinuing to dominate, their scoreline advantage steadi-ly grew as Carwyn Williams sent over a further three

penalties in quick succes-

Five minutes before half-Five minutes before half-time, the livewire Williams was on hand to claim a pushover try after more forceful work by the Llan-dovery pack, and when he added the conversion, the home side changed over 18-0 to the good.

As the second half got

As the second half got under way. Ammanford were displaying more vigour and enterprise than or and enterprise than previously, and with an extra degree of good fortune could have scored at least two tries after some fine handling by their backs.

Llandovery failed to add to their points tally after

the break, although their threequarters continued to

receive a good stream of possession from their outstanding forwards.

For Ammanford, Jeff Price, Paul Rees, Paul Watts and Darrel Parkin all enjoyed outstanding games, with wing Paul Rees and scrum-half Lyn Evans both pulling off try-saving tackles.

Ammanford are at home to bottom club Waunarl-wydd on Saturday, and look capable of gaining two valuable points, while on Saturday's form, title-chasing Llandovery should taste success on their trip to struggling New Dock Stars.



#### Nick saves

#### New Lights

Llanelli Presidents XV, put together by Phil Bennett and Gareth Jenkins, visit Llandovery RFC to-day (Thursday), to mark the opening of the latter's new floodlights. Kick off is 7 pm, with the bar open at 5.30 pm. The match has been sponsored by Econ-omic Forestry PLC.

Tries by Elfin Jenkins, Geraint Williams and Carwyn Williams, who kicked two conversions and a penalty, helped Llandovery to a 19-6 victory against visiting Resolven. The teams were level 3-3 at half-time.

Llandovery moved a point clear at the top of Section B after winning 17-8 at Bryncoch, their rivals for the title along with Felinfoel, For Bryncoch, Teiffon Winfield and Alan Jones scored tries, while Arwel Rowlands, and Alan Thomas supplied the Llan-Alwei Kowlands, and Alan Thomas supplied the Llan-dovery touchdowns, with Carwyn Williams kicking three penalties and a con-version. inwhile are re-

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams





last minute p

sailed wide the referee's whistle blew to signal the end of the game in which neither side had been able to impose any authority.

Athletic enjoyed most of the scood half territorial superiority but were frequently frustrated by a series of penalties conceded

fringe of the rucks, mauls and scrums throughout and scrums throughout and scrum and scrum as never in a position to run at the opposition.

Outside half Robbie Jones was content to use the elements and pinned Llandovery in their own half without some long ranging touchfinders.

During the first half when Llandovery had the use of the wind, they took

defensive error in the match when Carwyn Williams, playing at serum half stole round the back of a line out to score a try which he converted him-

After the interval, Rob-bie Jones reduced the de-ficit with a well-taken penalty and Athletic step-ped up their work rate with Richard Byng, Viv Davies

that could have earned
Athletic a draw was
blown wide by the swirling wind, which with
driving rain proved a
major influence on the
Club's first league match

son, at nome to various (see back page), Llandovery too suffered a disappointing afternoon, going down 15-10 at home to Bryncoch in the battle of the sides relegated from Section A last time. In Section C, Brynaman

Page 32



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

# Llandovery

LLANDOVERY led the points-scoring roll of honour in Saturday's first-round Schweppes Welsh Cup matches, swamping visiting Llandudno to the tune of 57-8.

re working hard to put disappointing 15-10 defeat re working hard to put disappointing 15-10 defeat against Bryncoch in their against Bryncoch in overnight solution to the visiting Morriston if they're to agony, but whatever the shortcomings Tumble deshortcomings (calon' from mand a bit of 'calon' from the boys I expect an interpretable of the visiting Morriston if they're to the boys I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expect and I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expect and I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expect and I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expect an interpretable of the boys I expect and I expe

the boys. I expect an improvement at Dunvant Kidwelly in contrast are on Saturday. going great guns picking up maximum points from the opening fixtures against Llangennech and Duny.

They seek to make it three in a row at Bonymaen, never an easy side to overcome on their own

Pointless Carmarthen Quins face an equally difficult task at Pontardulais, but back yard. they won't surrender without Section B title favourites a fight.

Llandovery slumped to a

WAUNARLWYDD 11, LLANDOVERY 33 LLANDOVERY swept to the top of the Section B table in impressive fashion at the weekend as they pulled away from a battling Waunariwydd in the

pulled away from a battling Waunarlwydd in the second period to record a comfortable success.

Prior to Saturday's game, Waunarlwydd were joint leading try-scorers in the section, but it was Llandovery, fresh from their 26-4 defeat of second-placed Morriston the previous week, who deservedly went in front in the tenth minute, capping a period of pressure with a fine drop-goal from outside-half Geraint Williams.

Waunarlwydd though were enjoying a largely even share of the game, two penalty chances from reasonable positions being missed by inside half Steve Vickery, and they were made to rue those misses as Llandovery bolstered their lead by way of a penalty in front of the posts from Carwyn Williams.

Carwyn Williams.

Waunarlwydd eventually got their names on to the scoresheet, but largely due to a misunderstanding in the Llandovery ranks — the visitors thinking a penalty was being taken only to see the ball whipped out to Joe Bendle who ran over to score unopposed in the corner.

With Llandovery still a little rocked by that unexpected setback, Waunarlwydd took the opportunity to go in front for the first time in the game, Stuart Hart being sent over for an unconverted try to make the score 8-6 in the home

Determined Llandovery quickly forced themselves back ahead once again however, number eight David Giles recording their first try and Carwyn Williams slotting over the conversion to give them a narrow 12-8 lead at the end

the conversion to give them a narrow 12-8 lead at the end of an evenly-contested first period.

In the second half, Vickery sent over a penalty for Waunarlwydd, but gradually Llandovery began to take a grip on the game, winning the bulk of quality possession and adding three further tries, Hugh Thomas crossing twice in addition to a penalty try being awarded by the referee.

David Giles meanwhile added a penalty and Carwyn Williams took his points tally to 12 with a penalty and two further conversions. Llandovery then ran out 33-11 winners to move top of the table and serve ample notice of their intention to return to Section A at the earliest possible opportunity. possible opportunity.



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## So close ...

**LLANDOVERY 3, ABERTILLERY 4** 

LLANDOVERY'S BELIEF that they could shock first-class visitors Abertillery in Saturday's third round Schweppes Welsh Cup tie was so nearly borne out as they put up a rousing display to lose by just a single point.

The visitors however began strongly, and Llandovery were forced into some grimly determined defending to hold their lines. The first scoring attempt fell to Abertillery after eight minutes, but fly-half Byron Hayward was wide with his 30-metre penalty.

Abertillery continued to press, and a strong series of drives by Robert Preece and Peter Crane took play near the home line, and only a fine tackle by Llandovery number eight David Giles prevented a try for right wing David Manley.

Manley was at the heart of another Abertillery thrust,

but he spoilt some good build-up by passing to a Llandovery player.

The visitors went ahead when scrum-half Rupert Moon broke on the blind-side and kicked ahead for left-wing David Owen to win the race and score an unconverted try.

Llandovery though started the second half powerfully as they sought a way back, and set up a good attacking base inside the Abertillery 22.

attacking base inside the Abertillery 22.

From a scrum, Eifion Hughes whipped the ball out to outside half Carwyn Williams who coolly dropped a sparkling left-footed goal.

sparkling left-footed goal.

As full-time approached, a by-now buzzing Llandovery had two chances to seal victory with penalties from David Giles and Carwyn Williams, but both fell short of the mark.

Llandovery then bowed out 4-3, but did themselves great credit by their performance, and can confidently return to their task of winning promotion from Section B of the West Wales Championship.

WYN EVANS



 Carwyn Williams, whose drop goal gave Llandovery hope of victory over Abertillery in Saturday's Schweppes Cup tie before they finally went down by a slender 4-3.

(DE)to: Peter Evans

### Good

LLANDOVERY still look good value to gain promotion straight back to Section A as champions just one season after being relegated following their impressive 42-6 demolition of New Dock Stars on Saturday, which took them top of the table on try count and with a game in hand over previous incumbents Bryncoch.

Winger Mark Rees led the Llandovery romp with three tries, David Giles claiming two and Hugh Thomas, Eifion Hughes and Ian Jnes one apiece. Carwyn Williams converted five of the eight touchdowns.

Ammanford

went down by a siender 4-3

#### by Ian Davies

Llandovery are going great guns, and coasted to 36-4 success against visiting Ystalyfera.

Chris Davies led the charge with two tries, and there was one each for Elfin Jenkins, Arwel Rowlands and Martin Rees. Carwyn Williams was spot on with five conversions and two penalties.

man word Cun seems to



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

FELINFOEL 17 LLANDOVERY 11

LLANDOVERY surrendered an 11-4 interval lead to slip out of the Tovali Cup at the second round stage on Saturday, beaten by their great Section B rivals of this season, Felinfoel.

Llandovery made a bright and positive start and moved ahead when they won a penalty, slotted over by the reliable Carwyn Williams. down of the game.
Llandovery continued to The conversion attempt

hold the upper hand as the game developed, and were able to increase their lead to 7-0 as a neat attacking raid sent wing Huw Morgan over in the corner for an unconverted try. Felinfoel were taking a little time to get fully into their stride, and industrious Llandovery enhanced their victory chances still further as try-scorer Morgan swooped

onto a loose ball and sped away past the home cover to notch his second touch-

again went astray, but Llandovery had succeeded in building a promising-looking 11-0 advantage. Having looked sluggish

early on, it seemed inevitable that Felinfoel would begin to come a little more into the reckoning, and so it proved to be as the home backs moved the ball smoothly acrossfield, and speedy wing John Goss was freed to go over in the corner.

With the conversion attempt failing though, Llandovery were still able to

change over 11-4 up, and with every hope of success.

After the break however, a revitalised Felinfoel came increasingly to the fore, and the Llandovery advantage was gradually whittled away.

Number eight Mark Gravelle crossed for a try as did David Nicholas, and with Kevin Thomas landing a penalty and conversion, Felinfoel had by the end thrown off their slow start to the game to run out 17-11 winners.

## Carwyn wins it with 22 points

LLANDOVERY clinched the Section B title in the West Wales Welsh Brewers championship with a fine 22-18 home win against second placed Felinfoel.

In a remarkable encounter, all the points were scored by the opposing fly halves.

The visitors' points by Kevin Thomas included a try, a conversion and four penalty goals.

Llandovery's Carwyn Williams showed his versatility in collecting all three tries, two conversions and two penalties to win the section B shield for his side.

Morriston gained a double over Hendy with a fine 26-18 away win. While Morriston crossed the line five times, Hendy's try scoring weakness was again evident. Peter Rees kicked five penalties in addition to brother Adrian's penalty goal.

Amman United beat visitors Llanelli Wanderers 23-19 thanks to tries by Liam Clancy and Alan Davies. Fly half Rhys Harris collected 15 points with a dropgoal and four penalties.

In the only section A game played, Pontarddulais ended a disappointing season with



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

LLANDOVERY lifted the Section B title in the Welsh Brewers West Wales Rugby Union Championship when they came from behind to beat Felinfoel 22-18.

Felinfoel quickly built up a 9-nil lead but later surrendered that advantage due to some superb play by the Llandovery fly-half Carwyn Williams, who scored all his side's points with a hat-trick of tries, two penalties and two conversions.

Kevin Thomas was

visitors, scoring 18 points with four penalties, a try and a conversion. A body blow to Felinfoel was the sending off early in second-half of equally good form for the visitors, scoring 18 points

tries, the other tries coming from Mike Williams, Mark Davies, Wayne Price and a penalty try. Eurig Morgan converted one. For Pontarddulais, Greg Davey.

At the other end of the table, relegated Hendy went down at home to Morriston by 26-18. Flanker Peter Rees kicked five penalties and Adrian Rees also landed a

Newcastle Emlyn and Kidwelly go into the hat for the Llanelli and District RU Towy Ford Cup semi-final draw which takes place at Penybanc tomorrow.

Morgan, Gareth Evans and Craig Lewis got tries with Gary Richards kicking two

dropped a goal, the tries coming from Alan Davies and Liam Clancy. In the second round of the O.G. Davies Cup Glynneath beat Bryncoch by 15 - nil . Resolven, prompted by half-backs twins David and Richard Williams, defeated

Mannion raced over for a hat-trick of tries for Abercrave who coasted to a wing conversions. Speedy relegated

dovery to a 19-3 win at New Dock Stars, Full-back wing Ned Davies and lock Dafydd Thomas led Llan

penalty, his opposite number

Carwyn Jones

Rhys Harris, the young Amman United fly-half, contributed 15 points to his

A try by hooker Anthon Wyn Thomas replying with similar effort for Dock.

visiting Crynant by 14-3. Ceri Evans, Michael Powell and Richard Williams scored tries for the home team. Centenary-celebrating Briton Ferry, leading by 15-

nil at the inferval, ten arrest, the second-half, losing to Caldicott 28-18.

Llandovery, Tregaron,

Paul's try

Seals win
IN a pre-Easter clash,
the CC Evans XV took on Llandovery and won 14-10. Both sides fully deserved the accolades showered upon them fol-lowing a keenly fought game played on a bitter-ly cold night and in conditions slippery under-foot. Llandovery opened the scoring through second-row Dilwyn Jones who raced in for a try, Carwyn Williams converting.

At 10-10, the Invitation side then won the match with a fine injury-time try, Ammanford's Paul Rees going over following some slick handling.

## Williams.

Morriston, inspired by a fine performance from centre Steve Francis, scored five tries through Graham Stock, Huw Phillips, Billy Hill, Chris Howard and Leighton

Tumble moved up to fourth spot in Section A with a 26-16 win over Pontar-

with Eurig Morgan kicking one conver-Davies, Wayne Price The Pontarddulais tries rose to the occasion in the grand manner, notching all 22 of his and fly-half Williams

Llandovery on Saturday as they scored a thrilling 22-18 victory over visiting Felinfoel to

CARWYN Williams was the king of

Morgan, Gareth Evans and Craig Lewis, Gary came from Greg Section B, relegated Hendy lost 26-18 at Richards converting two of them. came That prolific haul side's points.

旦 via three tries, two conversions and two penalties, the match-clinching kick coming just five minutes from the end. The Felinfoel effort was similarly

Llandovery knew vital victory against Tovali

seal them the tion B title.

# are beater

LLANDOVERY caused an upset in last night's West Wales Welsh Brewers league play-off clash when they won at Section A runners-up Bonymaen 18-3.

Rowlands crossed for the visi-tors, flanker David Giles adding a third and outside half Carwyn Wings Hugh Morgan and Arwel

converting all three



Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

# Llandovery have no fears well in Section B this season and are pushing hard to get back into the top section after losing their place last season purely on try

coming to this part of Mid-Wales but when they do we have a tradition for doing quite well against them.

do so this is as for Two members of Llandovery's again. An occasion such as good for the town as well the rugby club."

With Jock Watkins now taking a back seat on the committee, the senior coaching duties are in the hands of Alan Walters, a primary school headmaster, who formerly captained the side for mary school headmaster, w formerly captained the side three years,

these epic ties of the recent past.

They will have no sense of inferiority in matching up to a leading club, knowing that what they achieved once before can be done again.

"We are not under-estimating Abertillery," said Llandovery secretary Roland Griffiths. "They are having a good season and we know they have a fine pack of forwards but what is encouraging for us is that they have slipped up in their last couple of games. That may be in our favour."

periences have been one to remember. Pontypridd will not readily forget how they were forced to bow the knee and go out of the cup 21-6. Glamorgan Wanderers have all had to make visits to the Castle Field in the last four years.

quite at home in meeting the "big guns" of the Schweppes Cup, writes Malcoln Lewis.

Llanelli, Pontypridd and

that Llandovery are at full strength with a side heavy on those players who have gained invaluable cup experience from

Keeping Clarke out of the side is David Giles, a 6ft.2in. former Llandovery Town goalkeeper who has been converted into M. No. 8 from a wing threequarter. Ilandovery: G. Williams, A. Rowalands, A. Thomas, H. Thomas, M. Rees; C. Williams, E. Hughes; D. Thomas, W. Morgan, P. Davies, W. Williams, I. Jones, E. Jenkins, D. Giles, C. Davies (capt.). Replacements: R. Jones, H. Morgan, G. Lewis, N. Glarke, H. Evans, E. Evans. giant-killing team are on the reserves bench - scrum half Randall Jones and No. 8 Nigel Clarke. "I am confident we can do gain. An occasion such as this

three years,

His side includes such experienced campaigners as full back
williams, his brother Carwyn at outside half, prop David Thomas, hooker Wyn Morgan, locks Wyn Williams and Ian Jones and flanker Elfyn Jerkins, who all played a part in the cup triumph over Pontypridd.

> going equipped to repeat the Flanker Chris Davies leads act which Pontypridd been have

Abertillery to face a searching examination from these country-men of Mid-Wales. Saturday it is the turn of will not help the confidence he Gwent visitors to know

premacy, were forced to struggle hard before coming from behind to win 19-9. Even the Wanderers, who were able to enjoy a big line-out su-

#### London trip

SECTION B promotion-chasers Llandovery took time out from their West Wales Championship programme last Saturday to travel to London for a game against Rosslyn Park.

game against Rosslyn Park.

An official of the English side used to be connected with the Llandovery club, and when Park realised they had no fixture last weekend, contacted Llandovery to see if a friendly could be arranged.

Llandovery sought and obtained release from their scheduled Section B fixture with Hendy, and Rosslyn Park paid their train fare to the Capital.

The game itself was a closely-fought affair, with Llandovery pushing the Courage National League Division Two side all the way before finally slipping to a 22-18 defeat.

#### on Saturday, 19th November, 1988 SCHWEPPES CUP - 3rd Round ABERTILLERY R.F.C 51.00, children & OAP 50p CHURCH BANK FIELDS KICK OFF: 2.30 p.m.

Home 2/11/88 pack on form

Carmarthen Athletic showed glimpses of cohesive play in their Section B West Wales clash with Llandovery, but found the huge home pack in commanding form.

Two tries and a penalty for the home team in the first half, set up a fine platform for enterprising attacking by their speedy three-quarters in the second half.

Llandovery added two converted tries for a scoreline which did not accurately reflect the endeavour of the Athletic side

Clearly, there is a great deal to do before Saturday's away clash at Seven Sisters in the Welsh Cup.

In Section B Llandovery are still up there with eh front runns after their 23-0 drubbing of bottom of the table Carmarthen Athletic.

Eifion Hughes (2), Arwel Rowlands and scrum-half Carwyn Wil-liams claimed the tries and Williams added another seven points with his boot.

LLANDOVERY hit back from their defeat by Felinfoel on Christ-mas Eve to beat Aber-crave 15-3 on Saturday and get their Section B promotion drive firmly promotion drive firmly back on course.

p.m.

1.00

DEN

Martin Rees scored two of the Llandovery tries, with Arwel Rowlands grab-bing one and Carwyn Wil-liams rifling over a penalty. Ammanford's dis-

In Section B, the table-topping battle between Felinfoel and Llandovery went Felinfoel suggested their try, converted by Kevin Thomas, who also Williams try was converted by Kevin Thomas, who also Hendy's hopes of avoiding relegation were boosted as they

Llandovery stepped up their title challenge with a mighty impressive 28-9 victory at Morriston.

Apart from being awarded a penalty try, Arwel Rowlands, Huw Thomas, Alun Thomas and Nigel Clarke crossed for Llandov ery, while Carwyn Wil-liams fired over two conver-

sions and a penalty, 26-11-88