



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



Llandovery RFC's Seven-a-Side team helped to celebrate the club's centenary year by winning their own sevens tournament.

(Photo: R. Firstbrook, Manordello)

Llandovery pulled off something of a pre season coup when they lifted their own centenary seven a side trophy.

And they will, of course, be looking to keep on pulling them off throughout the new season in Section C, but the atmosphere during the league season will be a little different to that "let's have a good time" attitude most teams adopt in sevens.

Mr. Roland J. Griffiths, the club secretary, agrees that the club's performances in the pre season sevens tournaments have already made the season a memorable one. And he explains that last week's trial match suggested that with the youngsters that made up much of their team last year still present, and a few new forwards on the scene, Llandovery may, at last, be able to stop their yo-yoing between Sections D and C.

"I would be happy if the team can stay in Section C this year", said Mr. Griffiths, not putting too much emphasis on the climb to section B. "It would be nice to see us simply consolidate our position, but promotion would be a nice bonus," he added.

Aside from their championship matches, Llandovery also have a number of special matches planned. They play Nuneaton on September 20. Mr. Griffiths explained that ex-Llandovery man, John Davies is fixture secretary there. And on October 1 they take on Maesteg under lights.

During the final days of the season they have a visit from Rugby RFC, and the season is rounded off by a game with Llanelli.



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Courtesy Tony Williams

Club celebrates 100 years of rugby in the town

LLANDOVERY RFC celebrating their centenary season opened proceedings in fine style on August 26 by winning their sevens tournament against some stiff opposition.

It took a certain amount of determination to overcome early frights against Amman United and to end up in the final against Llandybïe, but Llandovery RFC are no slouches when it comes to determination.

The history of the Welsh Rugby Union will show that rugby football was played at Llandovery well over a hundred years ago and the centenary celebrations, perhaps belatedly, commemorate the anniversary of playing rugby in the town.

Controversy exists as to how rugby was first brought to the area. Some say it was the strong links established between Oxford and Cambridge Universities resulted in the game being brought West, whilst others suggest the cattle drovers were responsible.

It is true that the college had established links with the universities in so much as many masters obtained their degrees there.

Similarly, Llandovery was an important stopping point for the drovers, who moved cattle from all parts of West Wales during the middle part of the 19th Century, who took in such notable early centres of rugby as Blackheath and indeed Rugby itself.

One drover gave vivid descriptions of the game as it was played at Blackheath. It is clear, however, that the game

Advertising feature

was not welcomed with wholehearted enthusiasm—a strong puritan element in the town objected to this "barbaric pastime." So as not to offend the town's inhabitants the game was often played by moonlight in "Cae Glas y bwci" a field near the town.

Unfortunately the early club records were lost in the flood of 1926 and since the Welsh Rugby Union do not have records of the pre-1892 era some controversy has arisen over the exact time rugby was first played by the town's residents.

It is likely that the origin of rugby football in Llandovery will remain just as much a mystery as the origin of the games of rugby itself.

One of the first local newspaper reports of a game involving local residents is dated March

23, 1877. The match was played between Carmarthenshire Rovers and Llandovery College. The report shows that the Rovers were a combined team with players from Carmarthen, Llandello, Llanelli and Llandovery.

The Llandovery players were: A Rees, W Morgan, D Jones, H Williams and G Thomas. While this is not specific reference to a Llandovery Town side it indicates that at least five individuals were positively identified as Llandovery Town players.

Llandovery was represented at the inaugural meeting of the Welsh Rugby Union at the Castle Hotel, Neath on March 12, 1881. The town that evening was represented by C P Lewis, later to be capped, who was a master at Llandovery College.

The records show he did not play for the college in the school game against Brecon, during this time.

The clubs represented on that historic occasion were Bangor, Brecon,

Cardiff, Lampeter, Llanelli, Llandello, Llandovery, Merthyr, Newport, Pontypool and Swansea. These teams have become regarded as the founder members of the WRU and were recently presented with plaques from the WRU commemorating the occasion.

Any doubts regarding which team C P Lewis represented in Neath were resolved when his godson Mr Herbert Michael wrote in response to the centenary celebrations "... I am certain in my own mind that he (C P Lewis) represented the town in the first place, with of course, the interests of Llandovery College resulting therefrom."

C P Lewis represented Wales in the second match they played and was a member of the first Welsh winning side in 1882.

C P Lewis in all played five games for Wales between 1882 and 1884, at full back. Although he captained Wales he did not take charge of the Town side. The 1885 team who played Llanelli Tuesdays was captained by D L Davies.

The Town rivals on the rugby field during the early days were the nearby towns of Llandello and Lampeter. Transport to Lampeter was by horse-drawn

coaches and the journey took several hours.

Llandello presented no problem from a transport point of view with the opening of the Great Western Railway link.

The Town team was a frequent contender in the Welsh Cup competition during this time. The Llandovery team appeared at both St Helens and Neath against Newport and Swansea.

Records show the Town reaching the semi-finals on more than one occasion.

The rugby club of Llandovery has been connected with some outstanding players. Harry Watkins and Guy Morgan, who between them won 14 caps from the Llanelli and Cambridge University



● LLANDOVERY Town RFC committee. Back row: David Davies, Ernie Whitney, Donald S Jones, Roy Jones, Rex Jones, Malcolm Page, Milton Jones, Nigel Clark, Neville Morgan, Rusty Jones and Derek Jones. Seated left to right: Idris Morton (fixtures sec), Towyn Morgan (asst sec), Rowland Griffiths (sec), Dr Tyssell Williams (pres), Haydn Hudson (chairman), Eifion Morgan (vice chairman) and Gareth Jones (treas).



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clubs learnt the rudiments of the game with the Town XV.

D R Gent appeared for Llandovery as a full back before playing several games for Llanelli and then Cloucester. Guy Morgan, a nephew of the legendary Teddy Morgan who scored that most disputed of all tries against New Zealand in 1905, was the son of a local practitioner, Dr H Morgan who rendered years of service to the cause of the game in Llandovery.

Llandovery Town RFC have always made every endeavour to play an open game. During the early 1900's and even up to the outbreak of World War I Llandovery continued to produce some impressive performances.

Rugby was restarted in 1920 with such players as Ben and Jack Jackson, Edgar Evans, D J Davies and Tom Lewis returning from the battlefields of France. The 1920's were difficult times, but Llandovery survived.

Due to the inability to obtain fixtures, because they were not affiliated to a Union, the club ceased to function in 1935.

In November 1947 a club was officially formed under the secretary Mr Glyn Jones. To obtain fixtures, the club was affiliated to the Llanelli and District Junior Welsh Rugby Union.

Under the captaincy of Douglas Rees the club soon became a considerable force in the area. Also involved at this time were T R Bebb, Granville Evans, Idris Perrier, Fred Manning and Ernie Prosser.

Ernie Prosser has been active in the club ever since and has been made a life member in this, the centenary year.

During the latter part of the 1952-53 season Llandovery RFC embarked on a club tour to Northumberland. This was the start of a close relationship between the club and Sigehill, who they beat 6-0, which they

have retained to the present time.

The tour had an invigorating effect on the team because in the following season they won the Llanelli and District League President's Cup.

In 1956 the club bought Barlow's Field. In the subsequent two years improvements were carried out including the building of changing rooms.

It was also in 1956 that another milestone was reached in the history of the club. The decision was made to seek membership of the WRU. It was decided by the WRU to admit the club along with four others for a three year period of probation.

In 1965 the club was admitted into the West Wales Rugby Union, which meant that the club was now committed to playing rugby at a much higher level.

In 1968-69 the club finished ninth out of 36

clubs a great achievement under the captaincy of Ken Richards.

In 1974-75 the championship system was changed. Four sections of ten teams—four more clubs had been added by now—each were formed by a draw with promotion and relegation.

In 1978-79 ten more clubs were added making five sections and the idea of four-up, four-down extended for a further period.

Without doubt the 1979-80 season was the most successful with three notable achievements.

They won the championship final, came top of their section in the league and they beat Carmarthen Athletic Druids in the All-Winners final at Tycroes.

It was also in 1979 that the club, with more than one side playing at home, were able to buy two fields in the close proximity to the town.



● LLANDOVERY Town First XV from left to right back row: Elfyn Jenkins, Dewi Evans, Noel Jones, Nigel Clark, Noel Page, Wyn Williams, Tony Williams, John Lilly and Alun Morgan. Seated: Carwyn Williams, Wyn Morgan, Handel Davies, Allan Walters (capt), Geraint Williams (vice-capt), Malcolm Page and Eirion Jones. Kneeling: Michael Williams and Martin Phillips.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

The magnificent

BY RICHARD WILLIAMS

LLANDOVERY BEAT LLANDYBIE IN

Llandovery RFC displaying siftness of foot, slightness of hand and a real sense of history carried off the trophy donated in their honour in a magnificent seven-a-side tournament on Monday.

They overcame early frights against Amman United and their own second team, thinly disguised as Cilycwm, to win the centenary sevens in fine style over a valiant Llandybïe outfit.

Indeed, Llandybïe's semi-final victory over Swansea Athletic may rank as the finest performance of the day, but there was no taking it away from Llandovery on the occasion of the first event of their centenary season.

That the host side should have had the talents of people like the Williams brothers at their disposal on such a historic occasion may be looked upon, especially by the teams they beat, as a fortunate coincidence. Llandovery may consider it a happy one. But in the end there was no denying that they were the best team on show.

And it was fitting that a team celebrating its one hundredth birthday should come up trumps on what was after all, their day.

Victory had, however, looked a long way off when they had struggled to beat Amman United and their own team mates, who were drafted in at the last moment when Llandello had failed to turn up, in the early group matches.

A home victory was made to look all the more remote by the performances of Mumbles and Swansea Athletic in

group four.

SUPERIOR

Both these sides had looked superior to everybody early on but as the rare luxury of a sunny afternoon wore on there was evidence from several local sides that the Swansea boys may not have everything sown up.

In group two, Ammanford had a clean sweep of victories including one memorable one over the South Glamorgan Institute (Cardiff College) who, while not being the strongest outfit that the seat of learning could put out, were a strong one none the less.

Ammanford skipper, Gwynlais Williams, opened the scoring with a nice try and the lead was increased before half-time by an Arwyn Fisher penalty. The Guardian's own Clive James grabbed an opportunistic try early in the second-half to increase the lead to eleven points.

Phil Hamer's excellent try for the institute came too late to save them in that game.

But the Trebanos winger helped to put pressure on Ammanford by getting a couple of the college's nine tries against Cefneithin in a 44-0 trouncing.

However, Ammanford got over a jittery start against Penygroes, to run out 22-18 winners and not have to worry about tries scored.

Llandybïe overcame the challenges of Lampeter and Brynmanan to find their way into the semi-final. They started off with a 22-nil win over Merthyr, with tries by Chris McAvoy, Neil Jones, Wyn Williams and Anthony

Evans.

SCORED

They then scored a fine 20-4 win over Lampeter, with Anthony Evans getting two tries and others coming from Wyn Williams, after a fine break by McAvoy and Neil Jones.

Brynmanan had lost their game with Lampeter but defeated Merthyr by 18 points to 12. So in the final group match they had to beat Llandybïe by three clear tries.

However, Llandybïe put any chance of this to sleep with two swift tries early in the first half through Anthony Evans and Wyn Williams, both of which Chris McAvoy converted.

But resting on one's laurels is not a wise thing in sevens and Brynmanan struck back through a couple of tries by Ian Thomas, which Hopkins converted to tie the scores at 12 all which is how it finished.

Cwmlllynfell and Cwmgors had the misfortune to find themselves drawn in what looked, on paper, at least, the toughest section.

Mumbles, the reigning district E national sevens champions and a big Swansea Athletic side fought out a 12-12 draw early on.

And then the crowd were witness to a remarkable match between the "Cwms."

Cwmlllynfell shot away to a 12 point lead with tries by Mike Lewis and Wynford Jones, both of which Lewis converted.

However, in the second half, seventeen-year-old Huw Williams staged a one man show to rob Cwmlllynfell of victory. He scored three excellent tries and converted them himself to make the final score 18-12 to Cwmgors.

Neither team could maintain consistency though and suffered at the hands of either Swansea or Mumbles. In the end, it was Swansea who went through thanks to their total of 13 tries to Mumbles' eleven.

Llandovery booked their passage to the final with a narrow win over Amman Utd., a drawn game with their own second VII (Cilycwm) and a thirty-point trouncing of Bangor, who travelled a long way to lose three

matches.

Amman Utd. may count themselves unfortunate to go out of the competition while playing some fine sevens, but at least the group system had given them the chance to pounce if Llandovery slipped up.

Final group positions.

Group 1	F	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Llandovery	3	2	1	0	10	4	5
Amman Utd.	3	2	0	1	10	4	4
Cilycwm	3	1	1	1	5	7	3
Bangor	3	0	0	3	2	12	0
Group 2	F	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ammanford	3	3	0	0	12	4	6
Cardiff C.	3	2	0	1	13	4	4
Penygroes	3	1	0	2	11	2	2
Cefneithin	3	0	0	3	0	21	0
Group 3	F	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Llandybïe	3	2	1	0	10	3	5
Lampeter	3	2	0	1	7	8	4
Brynmanan	3	1	1	1	7	8	3
Merthyr	3	0	0	3	4	9	0
Group 4	F	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Swansea A	3	1	2	0	13	9	4
Mumbles	3	1	2	0	11	6	4
Cwmgors	3	1	1	1	8	13	3
Cwmlllynfell	3	0	1	2	8	12	1

SEMI FINALS

LLANDOVERY 28, AMMANFORD 6

Ammanford, who had surprised even themselves with their form in the group matches and, mindful of the host team's sevens form in recent years were cautiously optimistic about this match.

They were, however, to find the going tough, if not impossible, as Llandovery, spearheaded by the brilliant Carwyn Williams raced into the final.

Wyn Morgan opened the scoring with a try that Carwyn Williams converted. "Caws" then ran in for and converted a try for himself and this was quickly followed by a magnificent try by his brother and skipper, Geraint Williams.

With the score standing on 16-0 at half-time, it was all over bar the shouting.

Llandovery got second half tries through Carwyn Williams and Danny Griffiths, both of which Williams converted.

Ammanford got a consolation try through Gwynlais Williams, which Clive James converted.

LLANDYBIE 19 SWANSEA ATH. 6

This was a magnificent per-



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

seven!

FINAL

formance from Llandyble, who took the initiative from the start with a lovely try by Wyn Williams and never let it go.

NEAT

Williams's try which came after a neat chip ahead was converted by Anthony Evans. But it was quickly followed by a second try from the nippy winger who chased up a clever kick from Anthony Evans and scrambled over in the corner.

Skipper, Chris McAvoy then elected to try a penalty from some forty yards and in putting it over effectively put his side three scores clear at half time.

John Boyle put Swansea back in the hunt with a good try early in the second-half which Sendry converted.

Nick Saunders put the final nail in Swansea's coffin with a nice try after McAvoy had intercepted. Anthony Evans converted.

THE FINAL

LLANDOVERY 18
LLANDYBIE 12

Llandovery, displaying excellent sevens technique were immediately on the offensive pushing Llandyble back into the corners.

They scored, firstly through Eirian Jones, a try which Carwyn Williams converted and then through the in-

evitable Williams, himself.

The pressure continued and just before half-time, Wyn Morgan crossed for the third try which Williams failed to convert.

In the second-half Llandovery slackened off somewhat and Llandyble showed their determination to make a real fight of it.

They struck back with an excellent try from Neil Jones, which McAvoy converted, to make the score 14-6, but the fight back was not to continue for long.

Carwyn Williams, confirming his side as the best in the competition and himself as the best individual, scored a delightful try, which he failed to convert.

Anthony Evans got Llandyble's second try, which he converted himself, but there was no time for the game to restart, so it made little difference on a game that had been undeniably the host team's.

VOYAGERS GIVE CENTENARY CLUB A STORMY PASSAGE

By RICHARD WILLIAMS

Llandovery R.F.C.'s centenary season got off to a flying start at the weekend with the club taking part in two widely differing events.

On Saturday the club's sevens team travelled to Aberaeron for the annual pre-season competition, and did quite well. They put out Pontypridd in the first round by 6 pts. to four, but were no match for the powerful Voyagers, a team made up from London Welsh, Swansea and Llanelli players, who beat the centenarians by 32 points to ten.

Llandovery's performance was the best of a rather disappointing set of results from our local teams, although all had excellent opposition. Cwmllynfell lost by 19 points to 10 against Cardiff college, while Llandyble went out to Aberavon 20-0.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



Llandovery's star player, Carwyn Williams, sets off on a run in Monday's centenary sevens semi-final, with Ammanford skipper, Gwynlais Williams. Llandovery, inspired by

the brilliant Williams, won the match 28-6 and went on to win the final over Llandybie by 18 points to 12.

(Photo: R. Firstbrook, Manordeillo)



REACH FOR THE SKY. It's eyes and arms heavenwards line out from the recent match between Llandovery and the Llanelli and District League XV. The match, which was part of Llandovery's centenary celebrations was won by

the District by 15 points to nil. Referee's dilemma is the Llanelli prop (dark shirt) holding down the Llandovery forward or vice versa?

(Photo: R. Firstbrook, Manordeillo)



Llandover RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

Llandover draw level

BY RICHARD WILLIAMS

Llandover 6 pts,
Llandybie nil

If West Wales matches were decided on aggregate, then the two midweek fixtures between Llandello and Llandover would have resulted in a 12-all draw, and there certainly could have been no fairer result.

The closeness of the first match in Llandybie was carried through to Llandover last week, with both teams coming close to scoring, but failing at crucial moments in an exciting, if a little loose, first half.

Both teams had let off. Clive Roderick hit the cross bar with a drop-goal attempt; Llandover's number eight, Nigel Clarke, dropped the ball as he dived in for what could have been a crucial score. And sluggish passing in midfield left Llandybie winger, Wyn Williams, with too much to do when he should have been given a clear run in.

However, the two factors which had the biggest effect on the match manifested themselves in the first period.

The first was Llandover's greater control at forward, where they disrupted Llandybie's scrummages with an effective wheel.

The second was Llandybie's failure to put kicks to touch, while Carwyn Williams and Alan Morgan were putting in their dead regularly for the centenarians.

PROBLEMS

Llandover maintained their superior control at forward throughout the second half, causing problems at the base of the scrums and lines-out for Llandybie.

The visitors looked effective, occasionally, when they kept the play tight, using, to

great effect the blind side. But there was still no way through, and the Llandover half backs pushed them back continually.

The try, a scrappy affair, came as a result of Llandybie's failings at touch kicking, and Llandover's superior scrummaging.

The visitors failed to clear and when a scrum was awarded on their line, the inevitable wheel wrought havoc with the heel. As the ball ran loose, Carwyn Williams pounced to score. He also converted.

Llandybie never had enough sharpness in the backs to score, but twice, near the end, stretched Llandover who clung stubbornly to their lead.

Llandover blow it!

Llandover 10,
Waunarlwydd 18

Llandover R.F.C., celebrating the centenary year, entertained Waunarlwydd in a W.R.U. Schweppes Cup.

Waunarlwydd, assisted by a strong wind gained a territorial advantage in the first quarter, but Llandover came back strongly and Elfyn Jenkins scored a fine corner try which Carwyn Williams converted from the touchline.

Andrew Hutchings kicked two penalty goals before half-time to bring the scores level.

The second half was dominated by a fine display of accurate kicking by newcomer Andrew Hutchings who added four penalty goals in quick succession to put the score beyond the reach of the home side. Towards the end, Llandover rallied and an incisive break by Geraint Williams led to an unconverted try by Eirian Jones, a score which came too late.

Llandover gained an excellent 15-3 win at Felinfoel with tries being scored by Alan Walters and Geraint Williams both converted by Carwyn Williams who also kicked a penalty goal. For Felinfoel Peter Rees kicked a penalty goal.

Llandover coast it

Llandover 31 pts.,
Brecon Nil.

In this friendly match played at Llandover a week last Saturday, the home side fielding several reserves seemed jaded and listless after their strenuous game at Maesteg in midweek.

In fact, it was Brecon who did most of the attacking in the initial stages. However, Llandover scored after ten minutes through right wing Martin Davies and after a burst by Geraint Williams a further try by Stuart Fry, converted by Carwyn Williams.

Although in arrears, Brecon, with Gareth Williams and Peter Evans prominent, opened up the game and threw the ball about with gay abandon only to miss several scores through bad handling. Just before half-time Carwyn Williams kicked a penalty goal for Llandover.

After the interval Llandover came under severe pressure from the visitors but because of dropped passes at a vital stage they were unable to capitalise on good possession from set pieces. And as the game progressed they were made to pay for their indiscretions.

Llandover, as is their want this season, discarded their lethargy and finished with a stamina sapping surge of attacking rugby leading to a corner try by Martin Davies, converted by Carwyn Williams and another by Nigel Clark again converted by Williams.

It was fitting that the final score should come from skipper Alan Walters whose play and leadership were outstanding throughout the game. This score led to the inevitable conversion by Carwyn Williams.

Llandover stroll it

Llandover 28 pts
Llangennech 3

By G.R.

Llandover R.F.C. gained their third successive victory when they overcame Llangennech in a Section C league match at the Castle Ground on Saturday.

Although the visitors' pack gained most of the good possession in the set pieces, the home three-quarters, inspired by the dynamic play of scrum-half Gareth Davies who plays for Combined Services against Zimbabwe next Saturday gave their best display of the season.

The game was only two minutes old when Gareth Davies crossed for an unconverted try after an incisive burst by Nigel Clark. Soon afterwards Elwyn Davies replied with a dropped goal to narrow the score.

Play at this stage was a matter of attack and counter-attack but just before half-time Llandover scored through Stewart Fry and left-wing Dewi Evans.

In spite of fierce resistance by the visitors' pack and fine defensive kicking by stand-off Elwyn Davies, Llandover went further ahead after the interval. A clean break by Gareth Davies led to a try by Carwyn Williams which he himself converted.

REAR GUARD

Though Llangennech fought a brave rear-guard action the home side was now in full-spate and added a further try after a clever move from a free-kick in front of the posts—scored by Elfyn Jenkins and converted by Carwyn Williams. Near the end a corner try by Dewi Evans sealed the fate of the visitors.

This victory puts Llandover in good heart for their friendly centenary match against Maesteg on Tuesday.

Llandover
their recent
narrow win over Felinfoel was
Saturday's home.

They had, however, trailed to Probert goal at half time.
Three goal scoring burst
Mike Todd getting two
to elment the third, put
into the driving
not take full
Felinfoel drew
bert, and a
ed off Roy

came from



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



On behalf of the Sports Council for Wales, Welsh Rugby International Gareth Davies presents a cheque for £12,347 to Mr. Eifion Morgan, vice chairman of Llandovery Rugby Club. The money will go towards the development of an 18-acre site at Cae Box for rugby and hockey. Also in the pic-

ture are committee members of Llandovery RFC and captains of Llandovery and Llandybie RFC. The presentation took place prior to a championship match between the two clubs.

(Photo: R. Firstbrook, Manordeillo)

LLANDOVERY CHALLENGE

Llandovery 13 pts.,
Bonynmaen 3 pts.

Llandovery R.F.C. proved themselves worthy challengers for promotion from Section 'C' by defeating highly placed Bonynmaen at Llandovery on Saturday.

The first half was evenly contested with both well-matched packs fighting for supremacy. High kicking and fast following-up tested both full-backs to the full but immaculate handling and accurate line kicking by Tony Wall for Bonynmaen and Noel Jones for Llandovery ensured that neither side gained an advantage from this play.

Just before half-time Simon Morris kicked a penalty goal to give the visitors the lead but Llandovery reacted with a break by scrum-half Gareth Davies leading to a long diagonal run by centre Geraint Williams to score an unconverted try.

If play in the first half was somewhat pedestrian the second half developed into a splendid open game which belied the cold conditions. We saw some fine 50 yard defensive kicking by fly-half Nick Hughes and full back Tony Wall for Bonynmaen and then Llandovery, unaffected by some blind-side incidents best forgotten and hopefully not to be repeated, opening up the play leading to a break by Gareth Davies and a try by Stuart Fry, converted by Carwyn Williams.

The last quarter saw a surge of power rugby by the lighter Llandovery pack, well led by Alan Walters, and open three-quarter play with the ball being thrown about with gay abandon.

Near the end a penalty goal by Carwyn Williams sealed the fate of the visitors.

In Section C leaders Morriston were held to a 13-all draw at Llandovery. For Llandovery who led 13-3 at half time, Geraint Williams and Malcolm Page scored tries, one of which was converted by Carwyn Williams who also added a penalty goal. For Morriston Graham Stock and Neil Cullen were the try scorers, Steve Harwood converted one and Ian Thrupp dropped a goal.

Llandovery gained a double away to Amman United, winning 11-7. Handel Davies crossed for two tries and Carwyn Williams landed a penalty goal. For Amman, David Evans scored a try and Kevin Robinson a penalty goal.

Llandovery retain their second place in Section C after winning 9-3 at Llangeinech although they were 3-0 down at half-time after Mike Lloyd had put the home side in front with a penalty goal. Llandovery's try scorer was Eirian Davies and Carwyn Williams kicked a conversion and a penalty goal.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

A few of centenary celebrating Llandovery's players and supporters must have been wondering just what you have to do to win a rugby match after their Schweppes cup defeat at the hands of Waunarlwydd last Saturday.

And followers of Carwyn James's creed that the game's points scoring system should be changed were given fodder for arguments as the home team scored two tries to nil, and still lost by 18 points to 10.

The reason for the defeat — six superbly struck penalties by Andrew Hutchings in reply to tries from Elfyn Jenkins and Eirian Jones one of which was converted by Carwyn Williams.

Carwyn James has suggested that all tries should be worth six points, and in order to achieve this, all tries scored outside the 15 yards line should have conversions taken from the line. And tries scored inside the line should have conversions taken from in front of the posts.

Others have suggested reducing the points for a penalty to two, in which case the result of this match would have been a 12-10 win for Waunarlwydd, providing Carwyn Williams had missed the conversion of one of the tries under the "conversion zone" rule. Of course, the game would have been a tie if the conversion went over.

There are many suggestions as to how the scoring could be made fairer, if indeed the present system can be deemed unfair. All I can ask is what do you think?

However, Llandovery produced another good performance in collecting their second championship win. They beat Amman Quins by 23 points to 10 with Dil Augustus, Elfion 'Tank' Williams, Ken Milton and Caerwyn Hughes scoring tries and Derek Jones adding two conversions and a penalty

goal. Outstanding highlight of the match was the play of the back row trio of Augustus, Williams and Milton who were all rewarded with a try each. Prop Dai Thomas back after eight months also played well. For the Amman, Wyn Hogarth and Wayne Davies kicked a penalty goal each and their other four points came from a penalty try.

Llandovery beaten

Llandovery 6,
Nuneaton 7

Llandovery R.F.C., entertaining Nuneaton in a friendly centenary match on Saturday put up such fierce resistance to a side which had lost only narrowly to Leicester, and in midweek had defeated Moseley, that victory was conceded by only a single point.

At half-time Nuneaton led by an unconverted corner try scored after a passing movement by left wing Steve Savage.

Far from overawed by the strength of the opposition, Llandovery attacked furiously in the second half and took the lead through two penalty goals by Carwyn Williams.

Five minutes from the end, victory was snatched from their grasp by a long distance dropped goal by fly half Graham Rosborough.

If this game, full of entertaining and vintage rugby is a sample of what spectators can expect, the future of Rugby Football in Llandovery is assured for a long time to come.

November 29th

SECTION C

Morrison	10	8	1	1	136	75	20	10	17
Llandovery	10	7	1	2	135	73	22	7	15
Mumbles	9	6	1	2	102	77	16	9	13
Felinfoel	9	5	2	2	111	78	12	9	12
Bonymaen	9	5	0	4	117	113	19	16	10
Llandybic	10	4	2	4	101	87	15	13	10
Cwmavon	9	3	1	5	98	99	11	14	7
*Amman United	7	2	0	5	79	112	8	19	3
Bryncoch	8	1	0	7	60	107	11	12	2
Llangennech	9	0	0	9	38	156	4	29	0

They also include a new inside half in Carwyn Williams, of Llandovery Town, and while he does not have to face Terry Holmes in his first match, the Cardiff back row and Lee will seek to contain him.

In order to protect Williams in his debut, they have selected the vastly experienced Derek Quinell at No 8, and they come no wiser than he and, additionally, he can mark John Scott at the end of the lineout.

Cwmavon provided the shock of the day in Section C by depriving Llandovery of their home record. They won 16-13 after being 4-13 behind at half time. For Cwmavon, Gareth Jenkins and Robert Stephens scored tries and Keri Cooke converted one and added two penalties.

For Llandovery, Carwyn Williams put over a penalty and converted one of the tries scored by Dewi Evans and Handel Davies.

SECTION B

Llandovery	5	4	0	1	8
Tregaron	5	4	0	1	8
Tycores	6	4	0	2	8
Burry Port	5	3	0	2	6
Pontyates	6	3	0	3	6
Felinfoel	5	2	0	3	4
Amman Quins	7	0	0	7	0

November 29th

Stalemate at Llandovery

Llandovery held Morrison, leaders of Section 'C', to a 13-13 draw in a top of the table clash.

The home crowd was elated — if somewhat surprised — to see Llandovery, playing vintage rugby, build up a score of thirteen points in the first half.

A fine try by Geraint Williams, converted by his brother Carwyn, who also kicked a penalty goal was followed by a scramble on the line with prop-forward Malcolm Page getting the touch-down. The vital conversion-kick failed.

Morrison's only reply in this half was a well-taken dropped goal by Ian Thrupp.

The second half proved to be a complete reversal of the first. The visitors, taking advantage of good possession, pinned Llandovery on their own line and sustained pressure led to a blind-side threequarter movement and

an over-lap unconverted try by left-wing Neil Cullen.

Morrison continued to dominate at this stage and fly-half Ian Thrupp scored near the posts for Stephen Harwood to convert.

Stunned by this spate of scoring, the home side gradually recovered and fierce forward foraging took play into the visitors' half, but line kicking by ex-Scarlet scrum-half Vernon Richards and fly-half Ian Thrupp, both prominent throughout the match, held Llandovery at bay.

So this game, played in a spirit of true sportsmanship, which was a credit to both teams, ended with honours even and a draw seemed a fair reflection of the general run of play.

The final result was important in that both sides can now be regarded as strong contenders for promotion to Section 'B'.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

January 3rd

	P	W	D	L	F	A	F	A	P
Morrison	14	11	1	2	186	102	27	14	23
Llandovery	13	9	1	3	173	95	28	9	19
Bonymaen	14	8	0	6	153	140	25	19	16
Mumbles	12	7	2	3	147	105	22	12	16
Felinfoel	13	7	2	4	154	132	16	17	16
Cwmavon	14	6	1	7	152	151	17	22	13
Llandybie	14	5	2	7	149	145	23	17	12
Bryncoch	13	5	1	7	115	140	18	16	11
*Amman United	11	2	0	9	94	179	8	30	3
Llangennech	14	1	0	13	65	201	7	35	2

Section C leaders Morrissions' game with Mumbles was called off because of ground conditions, but Llandovery gained a handsome 21-14 win at Bonymaen who not lost at home since mid September. For Llandovery tries were scored by Graham Davies, Wyn Morgan and Colin Williams, who converted all three and added a penalty goal. For Bonymaen Derek Haste and Neil Lucas scored tries and Neil Hicks and Tony Wall each kicked a penalty goal.

January 10th

SECTION B									
Llandovery	10	8	0	2	16				
Tregaron	10	7	1	2	15				
Tycoes	11	7	0	4	14				
Burry Port	9	5	1	3	11				
Pontyates	11	4	0	7	8				
Felinfoel	12	4	0	8	8				
Amman Quins	11	1	0	10	2				

January 24th

Llandovery	11	8	0	3	193	75	16		
Tregaron	10	7	1	2	135	87	15		
Tycoes	11	7	0	4	131	99	14		
Burry Port	10	6	1	3	138	75	13		
Pontyates	11	4	0	7	165	181	8		
Felinfoel	12	4	0	8	99	234	8		
Amman Quins	11	1	0	10	95	205	2		

January 31st

SECTION B									
Llandovery	12	8	0	3	18				
Tregaron	11	7	1	3	15				
Tycoes	11	7	0	4	14				
Burry Port	10	6	1	3	13				
Pontyates	11	4	0	7	8				
Felinfoel	12	4	0	8	8				
Amman Quins	11	1	0	10	2				

SECTION C									
Morrison	15	12	1	2	201	112	30	16	25
Llandovery	15	11	1	3	203	112	31	11	23
Felinfoel	15	8	2	5	179	154	18	21	18
Bonymaen	16	8	1	7	181	173	30	22	17
Llandybie	16	7	2	7	175	153	27	19	16
Mumbles	13	7	2	4	151	115	23	13	16
Cwmavon	16	7	2	7	174	166	18	25	16
Bryncoch	15	5	1	9	125	164	19	16	11
Llangennech	16	2	0	14	88	227	10	39	4
* Amman United	13	2	0	11	107	208	9	33	3

Llandovery too did well at Pontyates even though they left it a little late before clinching a deserved win. They were only leading by a single point until the last few minutes then they scored two late tries to make sure of their two points. Tries came from Ellis Williams, Hugh Jones and Elfion Williams with Nigel Clarke adding a penalty goal and a conversion.

They finally won by 21 points to 10 after Alan Williams had scored a first half try. Outstanding were the front row trio of David Thomas, Charles Williams and Dilwyn Augustus.

The section B championship now revolves around champions Llandovery and second in the table Tregaron. Both have two games left — Llandovery face their biggest rivals a week on Saturday and their other match is at Burry Port this Saturday. Tregaron's other match will be against bottom of the table Amman Quins.

SECTION C									
Llandovery	16	12	1	3	212	119	31	12	25
Morrison	16	12	1	3	208	121	31	16	25
Felinfoel	16	9	2	5	199	167	20	23	20
Bonymaen	17	9	1	7	190	176	31	22	19
Mumbles	14	8	2	4	166	125	23	15	18
Cwmavon	17	8	2	7	185	173	20	26	18
Llandybie	17	7	2	8	188	173	29	21	16
Bryncoch	16	5	1	10	128	173	19	17	11
Llangennech	17	2	0	15	95	238	11	41	4
* Amman Utd.	14	2	0	12	117	223	11	33	3

According to the form shown by Llanelli and District champions Llandovery last Saturday, Tregaron should have no trouble beating them in their last championship game of the season on Saturday.

Tregaron have only to beat the champions to clinch the section B championship, and one of the five semi-final play off places.

Derek Jones, one of the key Llandovery players, said: "the writing is on the wall for us for we were simply outplayed and out gunned in our latest match which was at Burry Port.

"We simply had no excuse, for we played badly and paid the penalty."

The champions lost their third match of the season at Burry Port when they were defeated by 13 points to 7 — their only points came from a try by Ken Milton and a penalty by Derek Jones.

SECTION "C"									
LLANDOVERY	18	13	2	3	249	134	35	12	28
Morrison	18	12	2	4	225	142	33	18	26
Mumbles	18	10	3	5	240	175	33	24	23
Felinfoel	18	10	3	5	218	180	23	24	23
Bonymaen	18	9	2	7	193	179	31	22	20
Cwmavon	18	8	3	7	188	176	20	26	19
Llandybie	18	8	2	8	196	176	32	21	18
Bryncoch	18	6	1	11	140	202	22	21	13
Amman United*	18	3	0	15	159	295	19	47	5
Llangennech	18	2	0	16	101	150	11	44	4

LLANDOVERY RFC

CENTENARY YEAR

REUNION

All Past and Present Players and Officials are invited to a Reunion, to be held at the Clubhouse on

FRIDAY, MARCH 20
1981 at 7.30pm
(927140)

In one of two Watney Truman matches played, Mumbles gained a point at Llandovery where they held the Section C champions to a 15-15 draw. For Mumbles, 20-year-old fly half Tony Bannon kicked all his sides points with five penalty goals, while for Llandovery Carwyn Williams put over a hat-trick of penalty goals and also converted a try by his brother Geraint.

SECTION B									
Llandovery	12	9	0	3	203	75	18		
Tregaron	12	8	1	3	175	116	17		
Tycoes	11	7	0	4	131	99	14		
Burry Port	11	6	1	4	144	88	13		
Pontyates	12	5	0	7	178	181	10		
Felinfoel	12	4	0	8	99	234	8		
Amman Quins	12	1	0	11	114	245	2		



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



Llandovery RFC are poised to win the Section C shield in the West Wales Rugby Union's Watney-Truman championship competition. They have already clinched

promotion to Section B.
(Photo: Arwel Davies, Carmarthen and Llandybie)

Cwmavon shock win at Llandovery

Llandovery R.F.C., unbeaten in ten consecutive league games, were expected to beat Cwmavon R.F.C. at Llandovery on Saturday.

This confidence was justified in the first half when the home side raced into a 13-4 lead by half-time.

In the third minute a penalty by Carwyn Williams rebounded off the cross-bar and left-wing Dewi Evans crossed for Carwyn Williams to convert. An unconverted try by scrum-half Handel Davies and a penalty by Carwyn Williams increased their lead.

Just before half-time Cwmavon replied with an unconverted try by hooker, Gareth Jenkins.

CHANGE

Soon after the re-start Keri Cooke kicked a penalty for Cwmavon. At this point a change came over the game and the visitors, playing with

home players to lose their cool.

The Llandovery pack, losing possession in vital positions, seemed unable to keep pace with their leader, Alan alters, while the three-quarters, lacking penetration, were forced into uncharacteristic handling mistakes. It came as no surprise, therefore when centre Robert Stephens scored a try, converted with a mighty kick by Keri Cooke to bring the scores level.

Soon afterwards Keri Cooke kicked yet another penalty to give Cwmavon the lead. With the prospect of a second league defeat imminent, Llandovery made a last despairing effort to save the game and centre Alan Morgan crossed the try-line only to lose the ball in the act of touching down.

The final whistle sounded soon afterwards to give Cwmavon an unexpected but thoroughly deserved victory.

Llandovery have plenty to aim for as they share the leadership of Section C with Morriston.

Llandovery deprived Morriston of their home record with a 9-7 win last Saturday. Their hero was Carwyn Williams who scored all their points with a dropped goal and two penalty-goals.

Llandovery, the new Section C leaders, have a home tie with Mumbles who also reached the third round last season. They make one change from the side which captured Morriston's championship home record and toppled their victims from the top spot.

Prop Dai Thomas, promoted from the second, regains his first team place after turning out for the club's reserve team after recovering from an injury. His companions in the front row are hooker Wyn Morgan and Malcolm Perkins, whose brother Noel scrummages alongside Stuart Fry in the second row.

Llandovery surrender

LLANDOVERY 11 PTS,
BRITISH ARMY 20

Llandovery, playing a strong Army XV in a friendly match last Saturday to celebrate their centenary, did well to hold the visitors to a six points to three score-line at half-time.

During the first-half Sgt. Tony Higgs scored a try, converted by Capt. Atkinson, and Llandovery's Carwyn Williams replied with a penalty goal.

In the second half the Army, taking advantage of good possession from a powerful pack opened out the game and delightful three-quarter play resulted in two tries, a conversion by Lt. Atkinson and an unconverted try by Lt. Dixon.

Although somewhat outplayed during this period Llandovery were not entirely subdued by this barrage of tries and a series of counter attacks led to an unconverted try by Noel Jones and another, a minute from time, by scrum-half Gareth Davies.

LLANDOVERY CLINCH PROMOTION

LLANDOVERY 9pts.,
BRYNCOCH 3

Llandovery RFC needed one point from their game against Bryncoch on Saturday to clinch promotion to Section B. And they made certain by gaining both.

In the first period Bryncoch, taking advantage of Llandovery's nerves, opened up the game with a series of refreshing three-quarter movements which brought no reward owing to dour defence by the home side. Accurate line kicking by stand-off Nigel Williams helped to give the visitors a distinct territorial advantage.

Carwyn Williams kicked two penalties for Llandovery and Nigel Williams replied with a penalty for Bryncoch to show a score-line of six points to three at half time.

The second half proved to be a dour battle between two rugged packs of forwards with Bryncoch using their three-quarters to get them out of trouble. As the game progressed, Llandovery exerted heavy pressure on the visitors' line and over exuberant play by Bryncoch led to a penalty goal by Carwyn Williams to bring the score to 9-3.

BURSTS

Individual bursts by Gareth Davies and Tony Williams almost led to tries, each being brought down within yards of the try-line. In the final stages Llandovery, with their forwards rampant, pinned Bryncoch to their own line for long periods, but fierce tackling kept them at bay and prevented any addition to the score.



Llandover RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

FIRSTS FIXTURE LIST 80-81

SEPTEMBER	2	CWMGORIS C.C. EVANS CUP	W	HOME	22	0
	6	AMMAN UTD LEAGUE	W	HOME	20	10
	10	MUMBLES (L)	L	AWAY	6	7
	13	WALWALWYDD 1 st FREL W.F.U	L	HOME	10	18
	17	LLANDYBIE (L)	L	AWAY	6	12
	20	NUNEATON (F)	L	HOME	6	7
	24	LLANDYBIE (L)	W	HOME	6	0
	27	BRYNCOCH FREL R.S. W.W.	W	AWAY	11	9
OCTOBER	1	MAESTEG	L	AWAY	12	15
	4	LLANGENECH (L)	W	AWAY	28	3
	18	BRECON (F)	W	HOME	31	0
	15	LLAMPETER (BRYN JONES CUP - FIRST LEG)				
	18	FELINFUEL (L)	W	AWAY	15	3
	25	CUMAVON (L)	W	AWAY	17	15
NOVEMBER	1	WALES V NEWZEALAND				
	5	ABERYSTWYTH (F)		HOME		
	8	BONYMAEN (L)	W	HOME	13	3
	15	BRYNCOCH (L)		AWAY		
	22	MORRISTON (L)	D	HOME	13	13
	29	AMMAN UTD (L)	W	AWAY	11	7
DECEMBER	6	ARMY XV (F)	L	HOME	11	20
	13	LLANGENECH (L)	W	AWAY	9	3
	20	MUMBLES (L)		HOME		
	26	LAMPETER (BRYN JONES CUP - SECOND LEG)		AWAY		
	27	FELINFUEL (L)	W	HOME	16	3
JANUARY	1					
	3	CUMAVON (L)	L	HOME	13	16
	10	BONYMAEN (L)	W	AWAY	21	14
	14	MOUNTAIN ASH (F)		AWAY		
	17	WALES V ENGLAND BRITISH AIRWAYS		AWAY		
	24	BRYNCOCH (L)	W	AWAY	9	3
	31	MORRISTON (L)	W	AWAY	9	7
FEBRUARY	7	SCOTLAND V WALES				
	14	1 st ROUND W.W. CUP MUMBLES	W	HOME	6	0
	21	PENARTH WALES V IRELAND BRYNCOCH (L)	W	AWAY	22	0
	28	2 nd ROUND W.W. CUP HENBY	L	HOME	7	23
MARCH	7	FRANCE V WALES LAMPETER B.J. CUP	W	HOME	9	6
	14	LLANGENECH MUMBLES (L)	D	HOME	15	15
	21	LAMPETER B.J. CUP	W	AWAY	16	7
	28	LLANGENECH	W	AWAY	40	3
APRIL	1	ABERYSTWYTH		HOME		
	4	BUILT	W	HOME	28	7
	8	TAEDEAR TAEDEAR CARMARTHEN ATH. W.W. Ch.	CERN.	HOME	10	0
	11	THYSTON BUILT	L	HOME	12	19
	20	SUGHILL		HOME	28	24
	22	MOUNTAIN ASH W.W. CHAMP. FINAL NEW DICK STARS	CERN.	HOME	14	25
	25	RUGBY	L	HOME	4	13
	29	LLANELLI		HOME		



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



Llandovery Castle stands behind the Town XV that lost by 20 points to 11 against the British Army last week in a Llandovery Towy Valley centenary match. Back row, left to right: Alan West (referee, Burry Port); Elfyn Jenkins, Wynn Morgan, Stuart Fry, Derek Jones, Wyn Williams,

Rusty Jones, Noel Jones, David Thomas (substitute). Front row, left to right: Alan Morgan, Martin Davies, Geraint Williams, Alan Walters (captain), Gareth Davies, Carwyn Williams, Danny Griffiths, Gareth Williams. (Photo: John Jenkins, Llandovery)



Llandovery's Noel Page is prominent in this photograph of action from the Section C fixture match between Llandovery and Mumbles.

Llandovery reach their first final

Carmarthen Athletic 0, Llandovery 10pts

LLANDOVERY CONTINUED to celebrate their centenary year in great style and last night qualified for a place in the West Wales Rugby Union Watney Truman Championship final for the first time.

The old college town team defeated Carmarthen Athletic at Cefneithin before a rather small crowd, who were treated to a good exhibition of rugby under very difficult conditions, aggravated by continuous rain.

The Llandovery scores came in the second half with fly half Carwyn Williams putting over two penalty goals and his centre brother Geraint executing a neat break to send wing Dewi Evans over for a corner try.

The winners' pack laid the foundation for this success and their half backs, Carwyn Williams and Handel Davies, controlled the game behind, especially in the second half when they kept the Athletic defence under constant pressure.

Llandovery's opponents in the final will be winners of the New Dock Stars v Penclawdd tie at Stradey Park on Monday.



Llandover RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

Llandover 7 pts, Hendy 25 pts

For eighteen minutes Llandover were in this West Wales Cup tie encounter, as they chased, and harried enthusiastically their section A opponents, Hendy.

Once, however, the latter had obtained the first score, they settled into their efficient routine; their forwards demolished their opponents and the monopoly of good quality possession eventually enabled them to win by the overwhelming margin of three goals, a try and a penalty goal to a try and a penalty.

The first three set scrum-mages showed that the home forwards would be under considerable pressure later on in the match as they were inclined away on their own put in. Scrum half, Handel Davies, however, was able to get the ball away to his threequarters and their sharp handling enabled the ball to be flashed across the threequarterline.

STEADY

Hendy, in marked contrast, were rock steady on their own put in and scrum half Allan Jones was able to sit back before deciding on his final options, but whichever course

he took, they invariably met serious problems for the home side. During the initial play left wing, Dewi Evans, and full back, Tony Williams, had run from deep positions for Llandover before being brought to ground by desperate Hendy tackling. But once centre, Nigel Howells had filtered down the middle of the field before sending prop Andrew Bowen crashing over for the first important score, the visitors were ensemble.

Howells added the goal points and before the home side could recover, the ball was moved all along the back-division, from a line-out on the home line, for Haydn Davies to race in for a copy-book score.

Faced with a ten-point deficit at the interval, and starved of any worthwhile good ball, home half-backs Handel Davies and Carwyn Williams tried their utmost to build up sustained handling movements, but once a Llandover player had been penalised for a needless touchline infringement and Nigel Howells had kicked the points, the match was as good as over.

A penalty goal by Carwyn Williams gave his side momentary hopes of a fight back before a controlled rolling maul by the visitors enabled flanker, Jeff Williams, to crash over for his side's third try. Once again Nigel Howells added the extra points.

Hendy now relaxed visibly and Llandover came more into the game, but once again when Allan Jones rolled his forwards to the edge of the home line, a combined drive prised open the home defence to allow centre Emir Bowen to serve in for an excellent try. Once again Howells added the extra points.

In the final minute, Martyn Davies ran in for a late consolation try for the home side but by then Hendy were past the post.



Llandover brothers, Mike Page and Noel Page (wearing headband) contest a line-out during the WWRU challenge cup match with Mumbles. Llandover won then but went down to Hendy on Saturday (see story right).

Llandover go through to the final

Llandover, who are celebrating their centenary this year, qualified for a place in the final of a major West Wales Rugby Union competition for the first time with a fine 10-nil victory over Carmarthen Athletic at Cefneithin.

They now go on to play the winners of last Monday's championship semi-final between cup-holders New Dock Stars and Penclaidd.

The most disappointing feature of the match was caused by the wet weather — it kept the crowds away.

However, those who witnessed the encounter were treated to an excellent display of rugby football from both teams, with Llandover dictating the course of events in the second half.

Their "general" behind a very enthusiastic pack were half-backs Carwyn Williams and Handel Davies, who kept the Athletic defence under constant pressure, particularly in the second period.

And it was in this period that the match swung Llandover's way with fly-half Williams opening the scoring with an easy penalty goal, and stretching the lead with another kick, this time a magnificent effort from near the touchline.

The seal was set on a superb performance when centre Geraint Williams broke clear to put wing Dewi Evans over for an unconverted try.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



A once in a century picture from Llandovery R.F.C. who are celebrating their centenary this year. In the line-up are the surviving captains, snapped at the club's centenary reunion. Back row, left to right: Gareth Jones, Huw Lewis, Tony Williams, Geraint Jones, Rusty Jones, Alan Walters, Jeff Augustus. Middle row, left to right: Brian Butler, Iwan

Davies, John Davies, Jeff Morgan, Bernard Jones (in front), Adrian Lloyd, Ken Richards, Roy Jones; Front row, left to right: Eric "Penlan" Davies, Davie-George Davies, David Preston 1933-4, George Adams, Des Clarke.
(Photo: John Jenkins)



The Llandovery XV which played the Llanelli District Union in a match to celebrate the club's centenary. Back Row L-R: Wynn Williams; Meirion Dyer; Tony Williams; Gareth-Wyn Price; Dewi Evans; Stuart Fry; Noel Page; Elfyn Jenkins; Nigel Clarke; Alan Morgan and Trainer

Ernest Prosser. Front Row L-R: Martin Davies Penlan; Malcolm Page; Geraint Williams; Alan Walters, Captain; Carwyn Williams; Wynn Morgan and Rusty Jones.
(photo: John Jenkins.)



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



At the Centenary Reunion of the Llandovery Rugby Football Club the Chairman, Mr. Haydn Hudson, was presented with a regimental plaque by Sergeant Les Butler (left) of the 2nd Battalion the Parachute Regiment who played for

Llandovery in 1965-67 and 1975-77. The centenary celebrations were held on Friday, March 20.
(Photo: John Jenkins, Llandovery)

Seven-a-side champions



Llandovery, winners of the C.C. Evans Sevens. The team that took the field was: — Nigel Clarke, Wyn Morgan, Dil August,

Carwyn Williams, Alan Morgan, Geraint Williams and Gareth Davies.
(Photo: R. Firstbrook, Manordeilo.)



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

Llandovery race to sevens win

Llandovery gave their fans a special treat last Friday by winning the C. C. Evans seven-a-side competition in handsome style on their own ground.

And in their progress to the presentation they amassed a total of 68 points in just two games.

The only points registered against them came in the final, their opponents, Llandybie scoring 14.

However, apart from the performance of each of the finalists, the tournament failed to produce the quality sevens of previous years.

In fact the competition was given a poor start by the failure of two clubs — Cwmllynfell and Llandello — to appear. As a consequence the first kick off was considerably delayed.

However, sufficient evidence was seen in Llandovery's technique to mark them out as possible winners of this Saturday's WRU District F tournament at Llandybie.

Judging by their powerful performance it will take a very good team to stop them repeating their success of two seasons ago and add the John Dorian Thomas Memorial trophy to their already impressive collection in their centenary year.

The C. C. Evans sevens competition was sponsored by Eddie Knight Transport Company and plaques will be presented to the winners by Mr. Knight at a clubhouse function.

The cup was presented to Llandovery by Mr. George Llewellyn, chairman of the C. C. Evans Association.

Morgan.

THE FINAL

Gareth Davies set the Llandovery wheels in motion with an excellent try, and a minute later he drew two defenders into the tackle to send Wyn Morgan over unopposed. Carwyn Williams converted both tries, the latter with a magnificent kick from the touchline.

Llandybie hit back with a try by Brian James, but before the interval Llandovery struck another hammer blow when Alan Morgan broke a tackle to crash over for their third try which Williams again converted.

When Gareth Davies added his second try early in the second half Llandybie were faced with a severe uphill task. But they responded well to the example of veteran Mel Leech, and Dylan James, their best player on the day went over to cut the deficit.

Llandovery then hammered home the final nail with a try by Nigel Clarke, and when Phil Roderick — who came on in the final as replacement for injured Neil Jones — crossed for Llandybie's third try the match had already been won and lost.

SEMI FINALS

Ammanford 4 pts,
Llandybie 22

Llandybie raced to a 12 points lead in the first half with tries by Brian James and Dylan James, both of which were converted by Chris McAvoy.

Martin Edwards reduced arrears for Ammanford during a brief purple patch, but two more tries by Dylan James, one of which was converted by McAvoy, took Llandybie into the final.

Cefneithin Nil
Llandovery 40 pts.

It soon became obvious that Llandovery were far too powerful for a gallant Cefneithin seven, and after star scrum half Gareth Davies had crossed for their first try, the result was a foregone conclusion.

Wyn Morgan got the second, and Carwyn Williams, who raced over for their third try converted both to give Llandovery a 16 points lead at half time.

The pressure continued in the second period and yielded four more glorious tries by Alan Morgan (2), Nigel Clarke and Carwyn Williams, three of which were converted by Williams and one by Alan

Llandovery 23pts, Llanelli 34

LLANELLI JOINED in the Llandovery centenary celebrations by paying their first visit to this historic club to play festival rugby which matched the occasion.

Seven tries rippled from the Scarlet runners as backs and forwards alike joined in smooth handling attacks which fully tested the quality of the home side's defence.

The challenge they threw was readily accepted by Llandovery, who kept in touch at the interval through a hat-trick of penalty goals by their record scoring outside half Carwyn Williams.

They followed up with three splendid tries, two of them in as many minutes, to show Llanelli that they, too, could run and handle when given the chance.

Three first-half tries by centre Aled Davies and wings Rowland Rees-Evans and Bledwyn Taylor were the reward for the enterprise of the Llanelli backs, skilfully spearheaded by half backs Anthony Jones and Kevin Thomas.

Ray Gravelle, searching eagerly for midfield gaps, confidently threatened to whip through. When he did so, with one of the most spectacular breaks from inside his own half, Rees-Evans was on hand to finish it off with a strong run to the line.

Battled

Llandovery battled back with great determination. They even got to within a point of their opponents soon after the restart when wing Dewi Evans got over in the corner for the first of his two tries.

Llanelli pulled ahead with tries by full back Martin Gravelle, who dummed his way over the line, scrum half Anthony Jones, who went over at the back of a lineout, and hooker David Evans.

This was the signal for a sudden spurt by Llandovery, which brought tries by centre Alan Morgan and another for Dewi Evans as a result of excellent approach work by the backs.

By converting one of the tries the Llandovery outside half took his total for the season to 299 and so, with one game to go, he should be able to round off with a treble century.

Llanelli forwards Derek Quinell and Charles Thomas joined in the running with a relish, but in the effort to score they were always snuffed out by accurately tackling defenders, who were set a splendid example by the back row of Alan Walters, Ken Milton and Stuart Fry.

LLANELLI: Tries, Bledwyn Taylor (2), Aled Davies, Rowland Rees-Evans, Martin Gravelle, Anthony Jones, David Evans; conversions, Kevin Thomas (2), Gravelle.

LLANDOVERY: Tries, Dewi Evans (2), Alan Morgan; penalty goals (3) and conversion, Carwyn Williams.

Entertaining game

Centenary-celebrating Llandovery were hosts to a West Wales Rugby Union Vx last night and were beaten 32-18 in an entertaining and open game.

For the home side Carwyn Williams scored 14 of their points with a try, two conversions and two penalty goals. Their other try scorer was Dewi Evans.

For the representative XV tries were scored by David Cole (2), Alan Williams, Peter Davies, Jeff Roach, Joe Bendle and Paul Farrow with Peter Davies converting one and David Cole adding the points to another.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

Llandovery 14 pts,
New Dock Stars 25

Although beaten by the margin of 11 points, Llandovery were far from being humiliated in the West Wales Rugby Union Watney Truman championship final at Cefneithin last Wednesday.

Indeed, had they not squandered a few chances through bad handling, the result could well have been reversed.

The Towy Valley side matched New Dock in all departments except perhaps at half-back where Phil Johnson and Ian Davies tipped the scales in favour of the winners.

The closeness of the match can be judged by the fact that at the end of normal time only two points separated the teams, New Dock leading 16-14.

In injury time, however, Dock got a converted try and a penalty goal to put the issue beyond doubt.

The victory makes New Dock Stars only the seventh club to achieve the double — the challenge cup and the championship — in the Union's 50-year history.

They now share that distinction with Loughor, Crynant, Seven Sisters, Pontarddulais, Llandybie and Hendy.

Many times during the match — which was considered one of the best finals in recent years — it was obvious that Llandovery should be using the potential match-winning talents of wing Gareth Davies.

And as many times they failed to do so.

FIRST BLOOD

It was Davies — who plays at scrum half for the Army — who drew first blood with a try in the corner when Dock fly-half Ian Davies was caught in possession.

However, the scores were level again when Wayne Williams raced over to open account for New Dock, who were piling on the pressure at this stage.

Then a tragic defensive blunder by the Llandovery

defence let in flanker John De Filippo for a try which Ian Davies converted to make the score 10-4 to Dock at half-time.

Llandovery surged back in the second period and two penalty goals by fly-half Carwyn Williams brought them back into the game, and Gareth Davies added his second try.

However, tries by Micky Howells and Keirion Davies, both of which were converted by Ian Davies, who also landed a penalty goal, won the shield and the double for the Llanelli side.

Prominent throughout for Llandovery were skipper Alwyn Walters and flanker Dil Augustus.

Llandovery 14pts, New Dock Stars 25

NEW DOCK Stars completed the double by defeating Llandovery 25-14 in the West Wales RU Watney Truman Championship Final at Cefneithin, last night.

They are only the seventh club to do so in the Union's 50-year history and now join Loughor, Crynant, Seven Sisters, Pontarddulais, Llandybie and Hendy on that special roll of honour.

The final score does not reflect the true picture of the game, as throughout Llandovery matches the Stars in every phase of the game, except perhaps, at half back, where Phil Johnson and Ian Davies for the Stars had the edge on their Llandovery counterparts.

In previous play-offs, New Dock Stars have enjoyed supremacy up front, but last night the Llandovery eight proved of equal force to them, and at times out-scrummaged the victors.

The college town's ace-kicker, Carwyn Williams, missed three kickable attempts while they could have made more use of their right wing Gareth Davies, the best player on view. Davies, who is the Army scrum-half, is undoubtedly of match-winning quality, with his elusive and strong running.

At the end of normal time, just two points separated the sides with New Dock leading 16-14. But a goal and a penalty goal in injury time put the issue beyond doubt.

At the interval, New Dock led 10-4. Gareth Davies had crossed for a Llandovery try, and Wayne Williams and John de Filippo had scored tries for the Llanelli side, the second of which was converted by Ian Davies.

In the second-half, Carwyn Williams put over two penalties for Llandovery and Gareth Davies got a second try. For the Dock, Micky Howells and Keirion Davies crossed for tries and Ian Davies converted both and added a penalty goal.



Gareth Davies crosses for Llandovery's second try in the WWRU championship final against New Dock Stars. Looking on

(extreme right) is Geraint Williams.
(Photo: R. Firstbrook, Manordeilo)



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



Llandovery's Noel Page fights for the ball in a line-out during last week's championship final against New Dock Stars while team-mates Rusty Jones, Wyn Williams and Dil

Augustus get ready to lend support.

(Photo: R. Firstbrook, Manordeillo)



Llandovery RFC's Second XV helped to make this the club's most memorable season by beating Ferryside in a Llanelli

District championship semi-final at Nantgaredig.

(Photo: Ivor Jacob, Burry Port)



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams

Llandovery finish with a flourish

West Wales Rugby Union Section C champions Llandovery, drew the curtains on their centenary year with a solid performance at Llandybie to snatch the C.C. Evans cup with a 23-13 victory.

It was yet another highlight in their birthday celebrations.

But apart from the thrills and spills as persistent Llandybie fought their way back into the reckoning, the match was a victory for sportsmanship. And in this respect both teams shared the credit.

In retrospect, Llandovery won mainly through a sound defence and the excellent work of their back row trio of skipper Alan Walters, Elfyn Jenkins and Dil Augustus, who set up the base for most of their attacks.

Also, Llandybie failed to cash in on the top quality possession they gained, particularly in the second-half when young hooker Stuart Quick, with honest support from Jan Pritchard, took two or three strikes against the head.

EASY TRY

The Llandovery back row found a way through very early when Llandybie passing broke down near their own line. Augustus laid on an easy try for Walters from the ensuing scrum.

Llandybie then laid on some pressure, but far too frequent their movements suffered through lack of support and it was Llandovery who went further ahead with a penalty by ace kicker Carwyn Williams.

This was quickly followed by another try when the back row trio fed blind side wing Dewi Evans who ran over unopposed.

Undaunted by this latest reverse, Llandybie stormed

back and got a fully deserved score when wing David Kyffin fielded his own kick and fed Rowley Phillips. The forward was held up on the line, but hooker Quick was up in support to grab the ball and crash over to reduce arrears.

However, the half closed with Llandovery again well in front through a second penalty goal by Carwyn Williams.

HIT BACK

Chris McAvoy reduced the Llandybie deficit early in the second half with a well struck penalty, but again Llandovery hit back, this time with a rather fortunate try, the ball having been trundled forward on the ground before Carwyn Williams touched it down. Williams also added the extra points.

The highlight of the match came soon afterwards and resulted in a superb try for Llandybie which was engineered by veteran fly-half Clive Roderick whose final pass sent his brother full back Phil, over between the posts to give McAvoy an easy conversion.

But yet again a silly mistake restored the initiative to Llandovery who closed accounts with another penalty goal by Williams to clinch a deserved win.

Llandybie's display, despite the obvious failings, utterly belied the lowly place they finished on the championship table.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



Llandovery captain Alan Walters receives the C. C. Evans Cup from Mr. George Lewellyn, chairman of the C. C. Evans

Association after beating Llandybïe in a thrilling final.

(Photo: John Jenkins, Llandovery)

Llandovery, another of West Wales' centenary teams, will have their ability put to the test by visiting Hendy who were surprisingly narrow winners at Ystalyfera in the first round.

Hendy have proud traditions and will hold no respect for any centenary celebrations. They have been in what are, for them at least, doldrums for the last couple of seasons.

The challenge cup in their trophy case would go a long way to restoring some of their rugby prestige.

Llandovery though are also eager to get their hands on that cup — it would round off a good season nicely. But they have an uphill task here.

Llandovery complete land deal

LLANDOVERY Rugby Club are celebrating the end of a successful centenary year with a £24,000 land deal which will give them a ground of their own for the first time in their long

history.

Through the assistance of a 50 per cent grant from the Sports Council and a £8,000 loan from the Welsh Rugby Union, Llandovery have raised the money to buy 18

acres of land not far from their present quarters at the council-owned Castle Sports Ground.

"We intend to have two rugby pitches and a half-sized training pitch.

Llandovery scrum half, Carwyn Williams, kicked straight and true on two occasions last Saturday to boot Mumbles out of the competition. Williams put over two penalties to put his centenary celebrating side into the second round.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



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

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

(Photo: John Jenkins, Llandovery)

LLANDOVERY

SNEAK A

DRAW

Llandovery 15 pts,
Mumbles 15

Llandovery R.F.C. concluded their league programme with a game against Mumbles R.F.C. on Saturday, having won the Section 'C' championship in this, their centenary year.

While the result of the game was of no vital importance to the home side, Mumbles on the other hand needed to obtain two points from the next three games to ensure promotion.

The first half provided a far more open and exciting game than the conditions suggested.

Carwyn Williams kicked two penalty goals before half-time and his brother Geraint, returning after injury, scored a try near the posts after Carwyn had made the opening, for the latter to convert.

Tony Bannon kicked two penalties for Mumbles to bring the score to 12-6 at half-time.

Mumbles really turned on the heat after half-time, pressing hard to obtain those vital promotion points, the forwards, with Neil Thomas prominent, gaining good possession from the set pieces.

Llandovery, with full-back Tony Williams and flanker Elwyn Jenkins outstanding, resisted with some fierce tackling.

Attack and counter attack followed with Mumbles opening up the play with some fine three-quarter movements.

Tony Bannon kicked three excellent penalty goals to give Mumbles the lead, but near the end the visitors had to defend desperately to keep their line intact.

With victory within their sights Carwyn Williams kicked a penalty for Llandovery to bring the score level.

Mumbles must now obtain one point from their remaining games against Llandybie and Amman United to make promotion possible. On their display in this game they should accompany Llandovery to the higher sphere.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1980/81

Courtesy Tony Williams



Llandovery RFC first XV are pictured with the cups and shields they won during their centenary season, 1980-81. Back row, left to right: Martin Davies, Penlan; Danny Griffiths; Noel Page; Nigel Clarke; Dilwyn Augustus; Stuart Fry; Wynn Williams; Ken Milton; Dewi Evans.

Front row, left to right: Wyn Morgan; Malcolm Page; Geraint Williams; Alan Walters (captain); Rusty Jones; Handel Davies; Carwyn Williams; Gareth Williams.

(Photo: John Jenkins, Llandovery)