



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

# Now it's Llanelli for the cup heroes

After their rousing victory over Pontypridd in the second round of the Schweppes Cup on Saturday, gallant Llandovery have been rewarded with a third-round home tie against Llanelli on January 26.

In their 100-odd years as founder members of the Welsh Rugby Union, Llandovery can never have experienced such glory. They not only beat Pontypridd 21-6, they outplayed them in all departments.

Outside-half Carwyn Williams kicked four penalty goals, one drop-goal and he converted the game's only try by flanker Elfyn Jenkins.

Carwyn's brother, skipper Geraint Williams, and his co-centre Alun Thomas, were not afraid to run and it was from a burst by left-wing Carwyn Davies that the attacking position was gained from which Jenkins scored his try.

Llandovery were unlucky to lose their pack leader, Wyn Williams, who hurt his ankle and eventually had to limp off. But this setback seemed to inspire the West Wales side and their confidence grew.

Nigel Clarke proved a worthwhile replacement and with the front-row of Gareth Williams, Wyn Morgan and Dai Thomas holding firm in the scrums, Pontypridd were doomed.



Pontypridd just five feet from the Llandovery line but the Llandovery pack keep them at bay.



Rarin' to go... West Wales club side Llandovery who take on Llanelli in the Schweppes Cup on Saturday and are hoping for another giant-killing act. In the last round they toppled Pontypridd.



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

## TOUGHER NOW

By Richard Williams

Llandovery have no illusions about their task against Llanelli in the third round of the Schweppes Cup despite their trouncing of Pontypridd on Saturday.

"It's a good attractive fixture for us but Llanelli are obviously a much tougher proposition than Pontypridd these days — as they proved last Saturday," said secretary Mr. Roland Griffiths.

The Scarlets notched ten tries in their second round defeat of Risca at the weekend and have never been beaten by a junior club in the cup.

But Llandovery are full of beans after Saturday's stirring win and will be ready to give them a run for their money: "Having beaten Pontypridd so convincingly the boys will be less overawed than usual for a game like this," Mr. Griffiths added.

Victory had not surprised Mr. Griffiths last Saturday, but the scale of their win was a shock.

"We never dreamt we were going to win like that. The first five or ten minutes were even but once we got control the result was never in doubt — almost the entire second half was played in the Pontypridd half," said Mr. Griffiths.

### SUCCESS

Saturday's success was the reward for a magnificent team performance, though Mr. Griffiths singled out Wyn Williams and

David Wigley in the pack.

He also acknowledged the debt owed to the right boot of Carwyn Williams who missed his first two kicks at goal but went on to slot four penalties, a drop goal and conversion for a personal tally of 17 points.

Llandovery will be looking to Williams for inspiration again on Saturday when they face top-placed Llangennech in Scarlets.

So far only Llandovery have managed to take a point off the centenary celebrating Scarlets, and that was on the Castle Fields in September.

"There can sometimes be a reaction after a big game like last Saturday. I remember we didn't win a match for five weeks after playing Maesteg a couple of years ago.

"But that was after a hard struggle to contain them. On Saturday we played our own game and won convincingly so perhaps we won't suffer such bad after effects," said Mr. Griffiths hopefully.

Llandovery will probably have to reproduce their giant killing form if they are to become the first team to beat Llangennech who last Saturday scored 11 tries in a 50 points to nine defeat of Penc- lawdd.

## DAVIES IN AT SCRUM HALF

Llandovery have named virtually the same team which beat Pontypridd for Saturday's long awaited clash with Llanelli in the Schweppes Cup.

ACE line-out man Wyn Williams and place kicking hero Carwyn Williams, both outstanding in the victory over Pontypridd, are included as is flying winger Carwyn Davies.

Centre Geraint Williams again captains the team.

There is an enforced change at scrum half where Randall Jones is injured. Handel Davies comes into the side in his place.

A lot will depend on his ability to strike a happy understanding with Carwyn Williams at fly-half.

The side is: Alun Morgan, Carwyn Davies, Geraint Williams (c), Alun Thomas, Eirian Jones, Carwyn Williams, Handel Davies, Gareth Williams, Wyn Morgan, David Thomas, Noel Page, Wyn Williams, Elyn Jenkins, David Wigley and Eddie Morris.

The replacements are: Colin Henry, Eifion Evans, Nigel Clarke, Chris Davies, Gareth Williams and Dewi Evans.

## Ray likely to miss big game

By MALCOLM LEWIS

LLANELLI CENTRE Ray Gravell expects to be out for a month or more with a broken bone near his left wrist, and he is unlikely to play against South Wales Police in the next round of the Schweppes Cup on February 23.

He went off with the injury in the 30th minute of Saturday's cup-tie at Llandovery. The bone damage was later confirmed by an X-ray examination in hospital.

This is the second time in a year for this powerful player to injure a bone in a cup tie. Exactly a year ago he fractured a shoulder blade against the South Wales Police in the same round of the cup.

"It could have been worse," he said, "because I was with the thought that he had narrowly escaped serious injury. I was on the ground near a loose ball and I put up my hand to protect my face when I saw a book coming through."

"If I had not done that I would have been a hospital patient and I would have been out of the game for a long time. I was lucky to get away with a broken bone above the wrist. It was a pure accident. One of our boys did it, I think."

Gravell's wrist is in plaster and he expects it will be three weeks before he can be removed.

"I hope I had broken it when it was a finger or the past fortnight and I was looking forward to the second half with the prospect of getting into the game."

Gravell was stepped into the side in place of the injured Peter Morgan, says he has no intention of allowing the injury to bring the day of his retirement any nearer.

Having made a record number of appearances for Llanelli with an average of 450, he has an eye on the magic figure of 500 before he calls it a day.

Newbridge No 8 Nigel Williams to be a hospital check today for a possible broken rib. He is suffering with chest pain after Saturday's cup-tie with Cardiff.

Seven Sisters outside half Neil Remonde will have to watch his side's quarter-final encounter at Bridgend after breaking his left leg against Barry.

Remonde had to leave the field in the 10th minute and will remain in hospital. The 35-year-old was taken to Cardiff's general hospital and later moved to South Cardiff Hospital where he was put in a plaster cast.

## SCHWEPES CUP

# SCARLET FEVER GRIPS TOWN

By Richard Williams

The long awaited arrival of a thaw has had an interesting side-effect in Llandovery — the town has come down with Scarlet fever.

Mighty Llanelli, four times winners of the competition, stand between the little West Wales rugby team and a place in the quarter finals of the Schweppes Cup and the issue will be decided at Castle Fields on Saturday.

Llandovery caused a shock in the second round of the competition by beating Pontypridd but the Scarlets, who have won the cup more times than any other club, present a far more formidable hurdle.

### SNOW

On Monday, with the snow cleared from the field for the first time in a fortnight, Llandovery secretary Mr. Roland Griffiths looked forward to Saturday with something approaching reasonable confidence.

"It would be foolish to try and make predictions. Llanelli are a very good side on their day but we'll be going flat-out to upset them.

"If the boys play as well as they did against Pontypridd and there's no let-up on them

and they're given as little room as possible to move then you never know what might happen," he said.

The Arctic weather has meant Llandovery not playing a game since January 1, when they beat Whitland in a friendly, but they have been training twice a week in the gymnasium at Llandovery College and are very fit.

Lack of action also means the club is relatively injury free at the moment though scrum half Randall Jones hurt a shoulder in training last Saturday. He was expected to regain full fitness in time for selection, however.

### WORRIES

The only real worries were about the pitch: "We were clearing snow off it on Sunday so there would not be too much water on it when the snow melted. But now it depends on how much rain we have and there are frosts forecast for the end of the week so we're keeping our fingers crossed," said Mr. Griffiths. "A

postponement would be a big anti-climax," he added.

It would clearly be a huge disappointment to the thousands Mr. Griffiths expects to throng the touchlines and temporary grandstand.

"We have to charge £3.50 for the grandstand seats just to cover the costs of erecting it for the match — but we're confident they'll all go," commented Mr. Griffiths.

It will be an almost exclusively a town occasion with the people turning up to see a side containing at least twelve players from Llandovery itself.

"We are not one of those

cosmopolitan teams. Twelve of the lads are former pupils of the Llandovery County High School and have come through our own youth team.

Scrum half Randall Jones has moved into the area to teach at the College, Eddie Morris is a Lampeter boy and David Thomas is a policeman who used to play for Abercrave.

"The team is close knit as a result and that is one of their big strengths.

### DIFFERENT

"The likelihood is they'll have to play a different game from the Pontypridd match. We were lucky with the weather then but whatever happens on Saturday the ball will be wet.

"That would obviously affect our backs but one thing that's certain is that our back row will get among the Llanelli players," Mr. Griffiths promised. Kick off is at 2.15.



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

# Llandovery outclassed by wonderful Llanelli

Llandovery 4 pts., Llanelli 42

Llandovery's six-week dream of giant-killing was reduced to painful reality at Castle Fields on Saturday when the mighty Scarlets crushed them mercilessly.

Llandovery struggled valiantly, but a mounting tide of pressure exerted by a side which included five Welsh caps swamped them.

In fact, the final result was in no real doubt from the sixth minute of the game when Sossan centre Ray Gravell opened up a huge midfield gap to sweep through with the first of nine Llanelli tries.

Llandovery had to be content with memories of the glory which earned them this exotic draw, when they knocked Pontypridd out of the second round of the Schwepes Cup early last month.

Certainly, glory was in short supply for Llandovery on Saturday — except at the box office. It was a pay day the club will long remember, with an estimated 5,000 people packing the ground at £1.50 a head.

Apart from one brilliant try in the 35th minute of the game when winger Carwyn Davies scored from a move set up by David Wigley and hooker Wyn Morgan, the home fans had precious little to get excited about.

The game was played almost exclusively on Llandovery's half of the pitch with the

talented Scarlets skilfully smothering any enterprising moves which could have produced results.

In particular, Llandovery's efforts were curbed by the superior height and line-out technique of their famed opponents.

### TALL

None of the Llandovery forwards was tall enough to match Llanelli's big four of Phil May, Russell Cornelius, Alun Davies and Mark Lynch.

Ray Gravell's early try, converted by Gary Pearce, was followed in the first half by tries from Phil Lewis and Laurence Delaney.

### FLOODGATES

A try from Ieuan Evans inside two minutes opened the floodgates in the second half, with Alun Davies, Jonathan Griffiths, Phil Lewis, Mark Lynch successfully opening up leaks in the Llandovery defence.

The scoreline was completed in the final seconds of the game by skipper Phil May and conversions by Gary Pearce (his second) and full back Martin Gravelle.



Llandovery's Carwyn Davies dashes over in the corner to the obvious delight of nearly 5,000 spectators at Castle Fields.

(Photo: Alan Richards, Gorseinon)

## Llanelli big four crush hopes of Llandovery

By MALCOLM LEWIS

Llandovery 4pts, Llanelli 42

LLANDOVERY DREAMS of cup glory to herald the opening of the town's 500th anniversary celebrations as a borough were crushed by the superior height and line-out technique of their famed opponents.

Not one of the Llandovery forwards was tall enough to match Llanelli's big four of Phil May, Russell Cornelius, Alun Davies and Mark Lynch.

This lofty quartet brought to bear tremendous firepower and the gallant home side had no answer to it.

Forced to exist on crumbs of possession, Llandovery could never halt the momentum which destroyed Pontypridd in the previous round of the cup.

From the moment Ray Gravell sold a convincing dummy to open up a huge midfield gap, and sweep through it for a sixth-minute try at the posts, the final outcome was inevitable.

This cup-tie between these two dyed-in-the wool teams created so much interest that an estimated crowd of more than 3,000 packed the touchlines and the small temporary stand in the rural confines of the Castle Ground.

Llandovery, defeated only once in their past dozen games, offered no small challenge, but from the outset they were held in a merciless grip. Under stress in the scrums and overshadowed in the lineout, they were subjected to a mounting tide of pressure.

It produced nine tries, six of them in the second half and the final one in the last move of the game, scored appropriately by skipper Phil May who had done so much at the head of the forward effort.

The Llandovery back row of Elfyn Jenkins, David Wigley and Eddie Morris never flinched in their efforts to staunch the Scarlet tide, but as soon as one leak was plugged in the defence another would appear under the weight of the Llanelli probing.

Jonathan Griffiths skilfully varied his play at scrum half, Gary Pearce controlled events with customary class, and Martin Gravelle moved into attack with all the delicacy and tutting power of a surgeon's scalpel.

With David Pickering lending continuity with his speed to the point of breakdown, Llanelli revealed much of the fluency which makes them a side to be reckoned with in the west.

Until he went off injured after half-an-hour he was replaced by Nigel Davies. Ray Gravell was a strong influence at centre, having a hand in all three tries which went into the building of a 14-4 interval lead.

Llandovery skipper Geraint Williams, at centre, and his brother, Carwyn, at outside-half, tried all they knew to keep their side in the game.

Llanelli: Tryer: Phil Lewis (2), Ray Gravell, Laurence Delaney, Ieuan Evans, Alun Davies, Jonathan Griffiths, Mark Lynch, Phil May; cons: Gary Pearce (2), Martin Gravelle.  
Llandovery: Try, Carwyn Davies.



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Courtesy Wyn Williams



Ray Gravell has wrong footed Elfy Jenkins and is on his way to Llanelli's first try.  
(Photo: Alan Richards, Gorseinon)

## Cup defeat in pictures



Laurence Delany crosses in the corner for Llanelli's third try against Llandovery in their third round Schweppes Cup match on Saturday. On the day Llandovery began celebrating their 500th anniversary as a borough, the outcome was disappointing for Llanelli romped home 42-4.



Try of the game... Llandovery wing Carwyn Davies raises the biggest cheer as he gets his side's only points with this try.



Llanelli centre Ray Gravell points to a broken bone near his left wrist which could put him out of action for a month or more. He went off with the injury in the 30th minute against Llandovery.



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

**Schweppes Cup fighters Llandovery had their expected win over Swansea Uplands, scoring five tries in the process. They fell to David Wigley, Carwyn Davies, Alan Thomas, Nigel Clarke and Carwyn Williams who also kicked three conversions and a penalty.**

**Penygroes surrendered their ground record to Section D Cwmavon, victors over Llandeilo in the previous round.**

**Tumble and Llandovery, two of the fancied teams in the Tofali West Wales Cup, meet in Saturday's second round matches.**

But the draw has been kinder to holders Seven Sisters who are home to out-of-form Pontardawe and to Llangennech, who get their second home draw.

Llangennech, the most attractive side in the union, beat Carmarthen Druids in the first round and get a chance to do the double on Saturday when they meet Carmarthen Athletic.

The centenary celebrating side are hoping to make 1985 a year to remember by winning their first ever major trophy — the cup must be high on their list of priorities.

Seven Sisters have held the cup for the past two seasons and their form in knock-out competitions this season suggests they'll be difficult to stop. Pontardawe, who have been a big disappointment this year, feared this draw above all others and will not be fancied to cause an upset.

The clash between Tumble and Llandovery has to be the

match of the round. Llandovery, victors over Pontypridd in the Schweppes Cup and in the hunt for Section B honours, are itching to topple Tumble. It's a result which would substantiate their claim for Section A standing — they have already despatched Section A Vardre from the competition.

And it's worth remembering what the superstitious among us never forget — when it comes to maggies good news comes in pairs!

Tumble, leading Section A and dreaming of their own double, have a formidable pack and a matchwinner in scrum half Arwel Davies as well as a clinical kicker in Wynford Lewis. On paper it looks an even match and should produce the most compelling entertainment of the round.

It is no secret that Loughor fancy their chances against Cwmavon, whom they trail in Section D. The Blues have already beaten Cwmavon

away this season and with home advantage are confident of securing a place in the third round. Old campaigner Selwyn Williams and a super-fit pack will be in Loughor's favour.



## CUP THRILLS AT TUMBLE

**Tumble 7pts., Llandovery 7**

THIS Tofali Cup second round game lived up to its billing as the match of the day with a thrilling encounter both sides could have won.

A promising Llandovery back move in injury time, with the scores tied at seven-all, ended with Alun Thomas dropping what would have been a scoring pass. And then a long distance penalty attempt by Carwyn Williams fell short.

Earlier Tumble's Wynford Lewis had missed two kicks at goals and drop-goal attempts by various Tumble backs had gone astray.

Llandovery enjoyed the benefit of a strong breeze in the first half but found Tumble's superbly drilled pack difficult to handle.

Their mauling in particular had Llandovery worried though the Towy Valley team won enough line-out ball to release their promising backs.

### WASTED

The ball, untypically, was largely wasted and Llandovery were rocked when winger Mike Williams crashed over for a superb try to give Tumble the lead.

Llandovery struck back at a psychologically crucial moment — winger Eirian Jones crossing in the second minute of injury time after dazzling interplay with full back Alan Morgan.

Llandovery played better in the second half with Carwyn Williams nosing them ahead with a penalty after a high tackle. Wynford Lewis equalised for Tumble.

No date has yet been set for the replay which will take place at Llandovery. The eventual winners are away to Waunarlwydd in the third round. Full draw on page 30.



Action from the Tofali Cup as Llandovery prop forward Gareth Williams feeds the ball from a maul against Tumble



TRY! Tumble right wing Michael Williams crosses the line and referee Clive Norling is on the spot to signal the try.



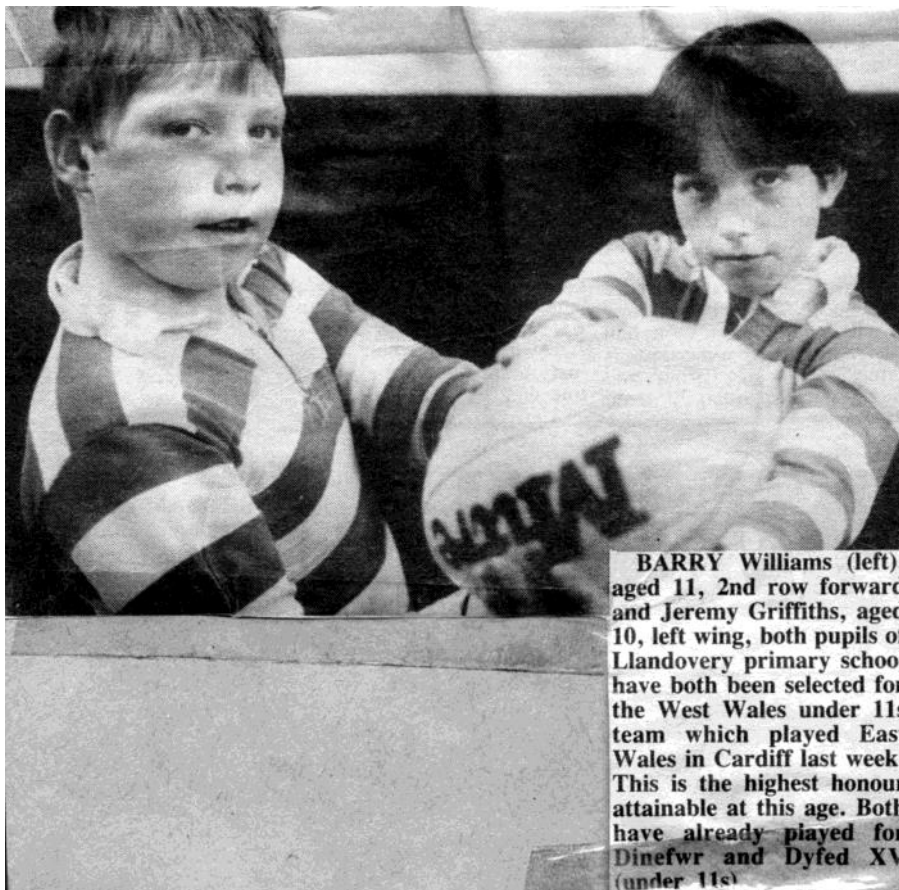
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*Courtesy Wyn Williams*



**LLANDOVERY PAIR PICKED**

Two Llandovery County High School boys were selected for the Welsh Secondary Schools (under 15 group) squad of 40 players from whom the team to represent Wales will be selected. Both boys attended squad sessions at Porthcawl where they were coached by Welsh Senior international players. Our photograph shows Arwel Evans (prop) and Huw Protheroe (flanker) with their games teacher Mr. John Walters. They are members of the school's successful under 15 team who visited Scotland this year and won their game against St. Aungo's School, Falkirk.



**BARRY Williams (left),** aged 11, 2nd row forward and **Jeremy Griffiths, aged 10, left wing,** both pupils of Llandovery primary school have both been selected for the West Wales under 11s team which played East Wales in Cardiff last week. This is the highest honour attainable at this age. Both have already played for Dinefwr and Dyfed XV (under 11s).



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

# LLANDOVERY HOPE FOR ONE BETTER

**AS ATTENTIONS turn to the third round of the Tovaali West Wales Cup next Saturday afternoon Llandovery and Tumble will try again to get their second round tie decided.**

They first met on Saturday, February 23, when the match ended in a thrilling seven-all draw at Tumble. So Llandovery will start favourites for the delayed replay in spite of playing in the section below Tumble.

Llandovery have a superb cup record this season with the astounding defeat of Pontypridd in the Schweppes Cup comfortably the highlight.

And their fine win at Carmarthen Athletic last week will have given them a further boost and much needed encouragement. As well as a confidence booster that win lifted them back into the promotion zone in Section B ahead of Waunarlwydd who have played two games more.

Ironically, the prize for victory on Saturday would be a quarter final tie away to none other than Waunarlwydd.

Section D Loughor, who have already disposed of one Section A side in the competition, will have to emulate Llandovery on Saturday if they are to progress into the semi finals. They have been drawn away to Carmarthen Athletic and cannot realistically expect to progress further.

The cup always produces a shock or two, however, and perhaps Loughor's defence, among the best in the union, will help conjure another.

While the last eight fight it out in the Cup the Section C promotion race, currently led by Ystalyfera, hots up.

Centenary celebrating Ystalyfera look increasingly capable of clinching the title though Bryncoch — boasting the tightest defence in any section — have a game in

hand.

Ystalyfera should improve their challenge by beating Pontardawe on Saturday as they did when the teams met at the Farteg in January.

That day the Ystalyfera pack had much the better of things and the same, powerful eight should repeat the medicine on Saturday.

Ammanford, safe in a promotion spot, try to rekindle their dented title challenger with a victory over Brynman who are in bottom place.

It is the possibility of relegation which worries Trebanos and Amman United in Section D. Trebanos are away to bottom placed Tonna on Saturday and must win to strengthen their position. Amman United, meanwhile, face promotion chasing Skewen and on current form will not be

optimistic.

A win for Trebanos and defeat at Skewen would spell Section E rugby for Amman.

Glaais, already Section E champions, face the stiffest test of their 100 per cent record on Saturday when they travel to play second placed Penygroes. Both are already promoted but there is a good deal of pride at stake.

Gowerton have a day off on Saturday but returned to something like their best form last Saturday when they destroyed cup quarter finalists Mumbles.

Stuart Pardoe contributed 18 points to Gowerton's total of 26 points by scoring two tries, two conversions and two penalties. The result rekindles Gowerton's promotion dream but they have a lot of hard work — in fact six matches — to undertake if they are to achieve their goal and the itinerary may prove too heavy.

Mumbles, meantime, are set to make a quick trip back to Section C.

Results: Section B: Gowerton 26, Mumbles nil. Section E: Glaais 37, BP Llandarcy 4.

## MUMBLES GO DOWN TO LLANDOVERY

**Llandovery convincingly beat Mumbles in this section B clash on Sunday. In fact, if Carwyn Williams had his kicking boots on the score would have been far greater than 11-0 at half-time.**

It was the same player however, who called all the shots in a talented and speedy back division constantly fed with good quality possession.

Llandovery opened with a penalty by Carwyn Williams well struck from 30 metres. Then after good line-out work by Wyn Williams, scrum half Handel Davies fed the ball to flanker Elfyn Jenkins standing out from the maul. His strong burst took him past two defenders to score a try.

Llandovery stretched their

**Llandovery 31, Mumbles 4**

lead when they ran a penalty in the Mumbles 22. Captain Geraint Williams stepped back inside and fed Dai Wigley on a switch move. The No. 8 in turn fed right wing Dewi Evans who charged over in the corner for an unconverted try.

Llandovery continued to exert pressure on the Mumbles defence but the visitors held solid with four penalty misses from Llandovery.

The second half opened more evenly with the breeze in Mumbles' favour. No. 8 for Llandovery Dai Wigley broke the deadlock with an individual score. He burst through onto poor tapped ball in a line-out and ran 30 metres to score despite the attentions of two defenders. Carwyn Wil-

liams converted.

This signalled the end of the match as a result and Llandovery responded with fine free flowing movements. Carwyn Williams pounced for a try after loose play by the Mumbles defence. He also converted. Carwyn Davies added two tries to round off the scoring showing his devastating turn of speed.

Mumbles had a consolation try in the dying minutes, just reward for trying to run the ball at the death.

For Llandovery all the forwards played their part. Wyn Williams and Clive Davies won excellent line-out ball. The front row of Gareth Williams, Wyn Morgan and Dai Thomas held tight despite fierce pressure from the Mumbles eight. Eifion Evans added his strength and weight to the rucks and mauls and Dai Wigley and Elfyn Jenkins continued to batter the visitors defence with strong running.

Handel Davies at scrum half linked well with Carwyn Williams. All the backs looked confident in their handling and the defence continues to be well marshalled in the centre by Geraint Williams.

With four games to go Llandovery seem to have a good chance of returning to the top section but have three of those games away — difficult games at that — at Hendy, Gowerton and Bonynmaen.

able for the hosts, but when Llandovery chased and harried into the home 22, a delayed clearance kick was charged down by Carwyn Davies for the 'flyer' to race away for his second try.

Unfortunately however, he was injured in the act of scoring and had to leave the field but with his side once again holding a seven point lead, they certainly seemed to be swimming to victory.

### Pinned

The Hendy eight, however, had other ideas and the fine kicking by Peter Rees and Geraint Price had pinned Llandovery near their line, the continual driving, rucking and mauling eventually took its toll. The Towy Valley side were forced



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

**ON A NIGHT** when even the seagulls were walking, Hendy and Llandovery provided an exciting and enthralling encounter in their vital Section B league clash last Tuesday night at Hendy.

Torrential rain aided by a near-gale force wind blowing directly downfield ensured that this match was not one for the purists.

### Monsoon

Home skipper, Geraint Price, offered the Towry Valley side first use of the monsoon, the loyal band of home supporters were quickly involved in the age-old argument of whether or not it is advisable to have the first bite of the cherry, but on the field of play, Llandovery were soon encamped on the home 22.

Since any ball kicked higher than 10 feet into the air became a liability as it was blown backwards downfield, and handling of a saturated, slippery ball a very risky occupation, the match developed into an intriguing game of unusual tactics. The attacking side tried their best to keep the ball in play

and the defending side were hell bent on kicking it away and as far as possible.

Home skipper Price capitalised on the invaluable line out possession afforded him by his trio of jumpers, Ian Jenkins, Keith Rees and Raymond Davies.

Llandovery were unable to counter the lineout dominance of the home forwards and tried their best to run the ball. Their commendable efforts however were quickly and ruthlessly put to ground by the quick-covering home defence.

To add to their problems their usually accurate goal kicking ace,

**Hendy 13 pts., Llandovery 11**

Carwyn Williams was off target with three attempts, but this was understandable as the gale force wind made any attempt a lottery.

### Convert

With the visitors unable to convert their territorial advantage to points, the match was slowly but surely edging Hendy's way. But on the stroke of half time the brothers Carwyn and Geraint Williams combined to send left wing Carwyn Davies racing in at the corner for an unconverted try.

Faced with the prospect of hav-

ing to face the elements during the second period, this isolated score seemed far from being match-winning.

Against all the odds, Llandovery increased their lead in the second minute of the second half. The home defence was very casual in covering a charge downfield by the Llandovery forwards and when penalised within their 22, Garwyn Williams succeeded with a penalty attempt into the gale.

This unexpected score was certainly invaluable, particularly as

the playing conditions and light were deteriorating by the minute and there was always the chance that the referee might abandon the match.

Hendy, however, responded to the set back and within minutes a flowing handling movement from right to left enabled Martin Shadrack to cross for an unconverted try.

### Strong

With the Hendy forwards now beginning to edge the battle up front for Geraint Price to continually bring his strong running backrow trio into action, the omens certainly seemed favour-

able for the hosts, but when Llandovery chased and harried into the home 22, a delayed clearance kick was charged down by Carwyn Davies for the 'flyer' to race away for his second try.

Unfortunately however, he was injured in the act of scoring and had to leave the field but with his side once again holding a seven point lead, they certainly seemed to be swimming to victory.

### Pinned

The Hendy eight, however, had other ideas and the fine kicking by Peter Rees and Geraint Price had pinned Llandovery near their line, the continual driving, rucking and mauling eventually took its toll. The Towry Valley side were forced into a succession of errors and eventually conceded penalties.

Full back Peter Rees demonstrated his kicking prowess as he slotted over a grace of penalty attempts with his right foot before eventually showing his dexterity by banging over the match-winning drop goal left footed.

This effort in the final minutes proved to be the icing on the cake for Hendy who thus retain an interest in promotion until the very last fixture of the season.

## SPANISH TEAM

The West Wales Rugby Union have selected a 32-strong squad for their showpiece game against Spain at Stradey Park on April 12.

Ammanford do have Alan Williams and Carwyn Jones in the squad. Llandovery also have a strong representation with Carwyn Davies, Carwyn Williams, Wyn Williams and David Wigley

Ironically Ystradgynlais and Tumble, the top teams in the union, have only one player each in the squad

Centenary celebrating Llangennech, on the other hand, have Mark Doran, Keri Coslett and John Roberts included. The squad is:

Full back: Richard Bevan, Gorseinon; Jonathan Griffiths, Bryncoch.

Right wing: Lyn Thomas, Ystradgynlais; Michael Williams, Tumble.

Left wing: Neil Evans, Gowerton; Carwyn Davies, Llandovery.

Centre: David Nicholas, Felinfoel; Mark Doran, Llangennech; Clive Haste, Bonymaen; Keri Coslett, Llangennech.

Outside half: Kevin Thomas, Felinfoel; Carwyn Williams, Llandovery.

Inside half: John Greenway, Cwmavon; Alan Williams, Ammanford.

Props: Brian Howells, Seven Sisters; Gareth Evans, Kidwelly; Mark Gorecki, Mumbles; Steve Hopkins, Cwmllynfell.

Hooker: David Boyle, Vardre; Darrel Campbell, Amman United.

2nd row: Carwyn Jones, Ammanford; Peter Cross, Bryncoch; Tony Manna, Glais; Nic Mabbutt, Ystalyfera; Wyn Williams, Llandovery.

Flanker: David Glover, Skewen; Stephen Webber, Felinfoel; Marcello De Philipo, New Dock Stars; Eamonn Horsford, Abercrave; Jeff Trotman, Waunarlwydd.

No. 8: John Roberts, Llangennech; David Wigley, Llandovery.



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

# OLE WEST WALES!

**THE WEST WALES XV made paella out of the Spanish national side at Stradey Park last Friday, effectively exploding the myth that West Wales produces only nine-man rugby.**

Jeff Trotman, Waunarlwydd's livewire flanker, spearheaded the destruction of the Spanish with a splendid hat-trick of tries — the reward for magnificent support play.

It was also the result of a glorious team display as the West Wales Rugby Union proved itself worthy of the trust placed in them by the WRU as the first district union to play a touring national side.

The Spanish certainly would not argue with that. Clearly unused to wet pitches and a slippery ball they struggled to rediscover the form which caused so many problems for Pontypridd. West Wales meanwhile, slipped into gear quickly and rattled up 20 points by the interval as shell-shocked Spain looked on.

Alan Williams snapped at the heels of a dominant West Wales pack while the midfield looked sharp and full of ambition.

Magnificent passing gave Carwyn Davies space on the left in the seventh minute and the Llandovery winger sprinted 40 yards around the cover before touching down behind the posts. Kevin Thomas converted.

Davies was heavily involved in the second try which saw Trotman snatching up the loose ball and diving over at the corner. Thomas converting brilliantly.

Williams himself scored the fourth, easily the try of the match, when he sprinted 50 yards from the corner, beating the cover with a wonderfully cheeky dummy to winger Evans whose running off the

**WEST WALES XV 30pts., SPAIN 13**  
**Report by Richard Williams**

ball did much to create the opening.

Spain, with the wind at their backs, fared better in the second half with Nunez opening their account through a penalty. Rivero then caught Keri Coslett napping to pinch a touch-down after a thrilling chase and then Nunez kicked a second penalty as the alarm bells started ringing for West Wales.

But the pack, with Mabbut outstanding, re-asserted themselves and when Davies was held-up short of the line Trotman was there to complete a fine hat-trick.

Nunez kicked a third penalty for Spain but Neil Evans had the final word, intercepting a pass on his own 22 and running 80 metres for the touch-down. Carwyn Davies converted.



**Carwyn Davies sets a course for the line with Spain stretched.**

(Photo: Alan Richards)



**Nick Mabbut makes a clean catch despite the attentions of a Spanish lock. It was a phase of play where West Wales dominated.**



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

### LLANDOVERY BACK IN SECTION A

LLANDOVERY snatched promotion to Section A of the West Wales Rugby Union on Monday evening with a 26 points to seven defeat of Furnace United.

It brought a tumultuous season which had seen them defeat Pontypridd in the Welsh Cup to a satisfactory ending. And they clinched promotion in real style, scoring four tries through David Wigley, Alun Thomas, Eifion Evans and fly half Carwyn Williams.

Williams kicked two conversions and a couple of penalties to round off a superb display.

Llandovery are still involved in the CC Evans Cup which tomorrow evening brings together Amman United and Brynaman in yet another local derby.

Brynaman clinched their place by beating Cwmgoron on Monday evening to reach the semi-final.

A penalty by former Amman United favourite Huw Williams and a try by winger Ian Davies clinched a seven points to six win for the Greens.

A VINTAGE display by prolific full back Wynford Lewis clinched a Tovali Cup quarter final spot for Tumble at the expense of Llandovery.

Lewis, the former Aberavon full back, scored two tries and kicked three penalties and two conversions for a personal tally of 21 points.

It was all too much for Llandovery who must have felt confident at the start having earned this home tie through a draw at Tumble. **Scheming**

But the Magpies were not to follow Pontypridd and their pack's big match experience

break through the first back of his opposite number. The centre fed left wing Eifion Hughes, who was stopped just short of the line but Wigley was up in support to score far out. An excellent conversion by Carwyn Williams gave

full price. The conversion attempt failed. Llandovery won the game through a fine team effort everyone played their part and Carwyn Williams' touch line conversion kick proved decisive.

### Llandovery 6 pts., Tumble 25

and scheming of scrum half Arwel Davies laid the platform for Lewis' scoring bonanza.

Davies, behind a formidable pack, was the dominating figure. His tactical know-how and superb use of good quality possession kept Tumble rolling remorselessly forward.

#### Breeze

They scored a psychological

victory by holding Llandovery in the first half despite playing into the wind. In fact the first of Lewis' three penalties gave them a three point lead at the interval with the prospect of playing with the breeze in the second half.

Tumble swept into the attack and despite desperate covering, Mike Williams was put clear to score wide out. Wynford Lewis then kicked a penalty to put Tumble ten points ahead and on course for victory.

Llandovery rallied and got back within striking distance when a sweeping movement and good second phase enabled winger Dewi Evans to

send his skipper Geraint Williams over for a try which his brother, Carwyn, converted brilliantly.

#### Balance

Wynford Lewis' third penalty restored the balance in Tumble's favour and they underlined their superiority with a points flurry in the dying minutes.

From a scrum five Davies cleverly switched the ball to the narrow side where Lewis raced over for a try which he then converted. And from another scrum five a repeat move again caught Llandovery napping and there was Lewis again to claim the touch down and add the conversion points.

# Blue day for Llandovery

Ammanford 19pts.,  
Llandovery 16

**HOLDERS** Llandovery slipped out of the C. C. Evans Cup at the hands of Ammanford whose title they took last season.

It was a display of considerable character from Ammanford who had flanker Jeff Roach filling in at full back for most of the match yet still managed to out-play Llandovery up front in the second half.

With Llandovery back in Section A and Ammanford newly promoted to Section B in the West Wales Rugby Union, there was more than pride at stake with both teams eager to prove themselves the best in the area.

At half time it looked as though the form book would triumph. Ammanford led through three

Clive James penalties in reply to a Carwyn Davies try and penalty.

But Ammanford had to play into a stiff breeze in the second half and had already used both substitutes, making Llandovery supporters confident of victory.

That was confirmed early in the second half as the heavy Llandovery pack drove Ammanford back at a five metre scrum and flanker Elfyn Jenkins pounced for a try which Davies converted.

But Ammanford responded magnificently as the Llandovery pack began to tire. Their scrum-shove evaporated and Carwyn Jones completely dominated the line-outs allowing Jeff Roach and Clive James to drive Llandovery back with good line kicks.

In the 15th minute reserve scrum half Alan Davies shot over for a try to tie the scores after

superb work by the Ammanford forwards.

Ammanford produced the match-winning blow in the 20th minute as Clive James worked a neat scissors with Jeff Roach whose power created the opening for winger Steven Evans to score a try which James converted.

Ten minutes later Carwyn Davies, kicking in the absence of Carwyn Williams, stroked over a penalty for Llandovery to reduce Ammanford's lead to a slim three points.

Davies and Ammanford's Clive James both hit posts with penalty attempts in the dying minutes as Ammanford clung stubbornly to their lead and a place in tomorrow night's final where they will start odds-on favourites to beat Amman United.



**Llandovery's exciting Carwyn Davies. His 12 points were not enough to save them from defeat at Ammanford on Sunday.**

(Photo: Keith Lewis)

### Llandovery 6,

THE Seven Sisters pack won valua half-backs to pin Llandovery in their



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

**Llandovery R.F.C.'s Sevens Tournament took place in brilliant sunshine on Monday. The fine weather meant a dry ball and a glut of tries for the large crowd to enjoy.**

Amman United and holders Cwmgors were both steamrollered in the semis although Amman derived sweet consolation from their comfortable (16-0) victory over arch rivals Brynamman.

In a final described by club president Dr. Tyssul Lewis as "one of the best ever played at the ground", Llandovery overcame the Presidents VII by 31-26.

The Presidents included Wales B international Geraint John, Ian George ex-London Welsh, Jeremy Evans formerly of Llanelli and Aled and

### REPORT: PAUL BEYNON

Gareth Williams. They took the lead in the opening moments with a try in the corner by Aled Williams.

Llandovery swiftly replied through an incisive break by Alan Thomas, his effort was converted by Carwyn Williams.

The home side added to their tally with a Nigel Clarke try, Williams again on target with the kick. Carwyn Davies, the "Llandovery flier", raced over for an unconverted try to stretch the lead to twelve points. But any complacency was swiftly shattered when Ian George scored a spectacular solo try for the visitors, again John added the conversion.

The second half opened in thrilling fashion with two superb Alan Thomas tries, both of them converted by the dependable Williams. Play switched from end to end, Geraint John scored another try which he also converted.

Some shoddy Llandovery passing allowed John to intercept for another try although this time he was off target with the kick.

Another interception, this time by Aled Williams and some rapid inter-passing between him and John culminated in a great try for the Swansea outside-half. George converted and there was a meagre two points between

the teams.

But in the dying moments the Presidents were penalised for not releasing, Williams added the penalty points to clinch a deserved victory.

Llandovery's Alan Thomas, the scorer of three tries in the final was voted player of the tournament.

A great day for the host club, albeit for one disappointment this came when Llandovery C.P. School lost their Under 11's challenge match 16-6 to Blaengwrach.

**Results Round-Up:** (Groups One and Three.) Poly of Wales 16, Lampeter 4; Neyland 6, Llandovery 20; Llandeilo 30, Llandybydder 0; Llandybie 4, Presidents 30; Lampeter 0, Neyland 18; Poly of Wales 4, Llandovery 20; Presidents 12, Llandeilo 10;

Llandybie 16, Llandybydder 10; Poly of Wales 20, Neyland 10; Lampeter 6, Llandeilo 28; Presidents 36, Llandybydder 0; Llandybie 16, Llandeilo 20.

(Groups Two and Three). Brynamman 22, Burry Port 10; Builth 6, Amman. Utd. 16; Cwmgors 18, Trimsaran 6; Brecon 16, Cwmllynfell 0; Burry Port 6, Builth 24; Brynamman 0, Amman. Utd. 16; Trimsaran 6, Brecon 6; Cwmgors 26, Cwmllynfell 6; Brynamman 18, Builth 12; Burry Port 0, Amman. Utd. 22; Cwmgors 18, Brecon 6; Trimsaran 32, Cwmllynfell 0. Semi-finals. Llandovery 18, Amman Utd. 0; Presidents 22, Cwmgors 0.

Final. Llandovery 31, Presidents 26; Under 11's Challenge Match Llandovery C.P. School 6, Blaengwrach C.P. 16.

### Llandovery Sevens



### Sisters 4

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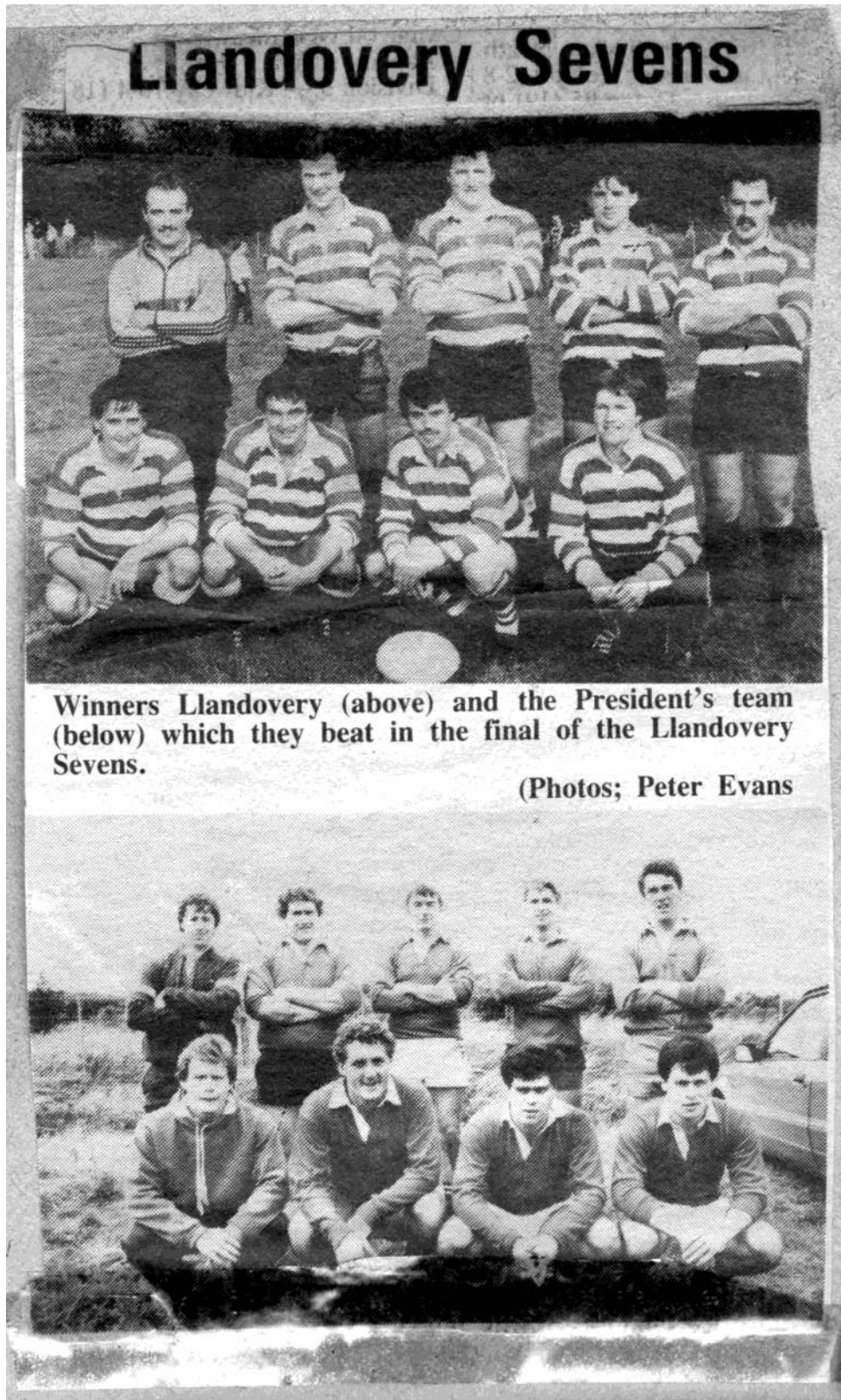
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## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

*Courtesy Wyn Williams*





## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

# THE CUP'S GOT FIZZ!

LOCAL rugby clubs have three weeks to warm up for one of the most important fixtures on the rugby calendar — the preliminary round of the Schweppes Cup.

No local club ever expects to win the Schweppes Cup but it offers the chance of a plum draw against a first class side — and the results can be spectacular.

But before any West Wales team gets the chance to meet the cream of Welsh rugby they must first beat two junior sides from their own district — which always gives a little extra edge to the preliminary round games.

### Reward

Two of the local minnows this year by-pass the preliminary rounds as a reward for their cup-fighting exploits last year. Llandovery and Gower-ton both get byes into the first round after reaching the last 16 in last season's competition.

And the rest of the local clubs will be hoping to emulate the rousing wins over Pontyp-ridd and Tredegar which earned Llandovery and Gower-ton their respective places in the first round this year.

Ammanford have a difficult home draw against West Wales Cup finalists Waunarlwydd in District F while West Wales champions Tumble are away to Llangennech in a repeat of last season's championship semi-final.

Llandeilo face Llandybie in a first round preliminary match and the winners will play home to Cwmgors in the second preliminary round.

Top of the giant killers in district E last year — and in the competition as a whole — were Seven Sisters. It is a

relief to the rest of the district that Seven, like Llandovery and Gower-ton, do not enter the competition until the first round proper.

Cwmllynfell and Dunvant have a bye to the second preliminary round where they have been drawn, conveniently, to play each other. Pick of the matches otherwise is the clash between Ystradgynlais and Trebanos who fought a

THE silky smooth running of Llandovery's Carwyn Davies and Alan Thomas was too much for Ammanford in the final of the C. C. Evans Sevens at Cwmaman Park.

Workman-like Ammanford, who'd come back from the dead to beat Cefneithin in the first round, had no answer to the extra pace of Thomas and the lightning-quick Davies.

From the first match it was clear Llandovery had the quickest backs on show but there was a doubt over their ball-winning ability. Carwyn Williams was forced to play hooker and possession was at a premium in the opening minutes of their game against Llandeilo.

But when they got the

# SPI OU'

By Ri

ball — and especially Davies got the ball — happened pretty q and Llandeilo were tually overwhelmed.

Ammanford were down against Cefneithin their opening gam fought back to win Results: Prelim round: Cwmgors Brynaman 14.

First round: Amm

### BY RICHARD WILLIAMS

Waunarlwydd; Brynaman v Gorseinon; Cefneithin v Pencallawdd; Pontarddulais v Amman United; Llandeilo or Llandybie v Cwmgors; Llangennech v Tumble. District E: Swansea Uplands v Vardre; Bonymaen v Ystalyfera; Cwmgwrach v Swansea University; Pontardawe v Crynant; Ystradgynlais v Trebanos; Glynneath v Aberystwyth; Mumbles v Glais; Morriston v Resolven; Cwmllynfell and Dunvant — byes.

ding-dong battle in the semi-final of the Swansea Valley Cup at the end of last season. Trebanos should have beaten Ystrad then and will be out to prove it was not a fluke.

The draw is: District F: 1st preliminary round: Llandeilo v Llandybie. 2nd preliminary round: (to be played on or before September 21): Pontyberem v Loughor; Penygroes v Hendy; Ammanford v



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

(Photo: Peter Evans, Llandybie)



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

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But when they got the

# SPEEDY OUTPACE

By Richard Williams

ball — and especially when Davies got the ball — things happened pretty quickly and Llandeilo were eventually overwhelmed.

Ammanford were ten-nil down against Cefneithin in their opening game but fought back to win 16-10.

Results: Preliminary round: Cwmgors 6pts., Brynmanan 14.

First round: Amman Utd

8, Llandybie 4; Cefneithin 10, Ammanford 16; Llandovery 28, Llandeilo nil; Penygroes nil, Brynmanan 30.

### SEMI-FINALS

Ammanford 22pts.,

Amman Utd nil

The host club could not match the power of Ammanford in the first semi-final and quickly found themselves trailing as Lyn Evans crossed for a try.

Paul Rees jinked between two

# LLANDOVERY AMMANFORD

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.

Brynmanan 10pts.,  
Llandovery 16

Brynmanan, with Cerith Thomas, Keith Hopkins and John Beynon showing real class, were perhaps the most technically proficient sevens outfit on show.

And they gave Llandovery considerable 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 Brynmanan ranks on his own 22 and ran 70 yards for the touchdown. Williams again converted.

Anthony Davies struck back for Brynmanan 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.

Brynmanan 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 match.

### 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 Llandovery 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)



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

**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 to reach the final.

Llandovery, on the other hand, fought through a preliminary round and tough matches against Gowerton, Loughor and Gorseinon 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-tournament 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-

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, Brynmanan 6; Llan-

# LLANDOVE BEAT THE TIRED LEC



**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)



# Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

## ERY AIR GS

doverly 26, Llandybie nil.

First round: Tumble 16, Cef-neithin 6; Pontyberem 6, Cwmgors 16; Hendy 26, Penygroes 6; Amman Utd nil, Gorseinon 16; Llangennech 12, Loughor 16; Gowerton 10, Llandovery 16.

**QUARTER-FINALS:** Tumble 8, Waunarlwydd 14; Waunarlwydd: Joe Bendle, Norman Satterly and Stuart House (tries); Steve Davies (con). Tumble: Aled Jones, Mike Williams (tries).

**Hendy 12, Cwmgors 6:** Neil Lewis, Steve Watson (tries). Nigel Howells (2 cons).

**Llandovery 22, Loughor 12:** Llandovery: Carwyn Davies (2), Alan Thomas, Nigel Clarke (tries). Carwyn Williams (3 cons). Loughor: Gareth Banfield, Phil Morgan (tries). Gareth Banfield (2 cons).

### SEMI FINALS

**Waunarlwydd 30pts., Hendy 4**

Hendy simply had no answer to the all round power and skills of the host club in a game marred by some ugly incidents in the second half.

Roger Watkins weaved through the Hendy ranks to open the scoring early in the second half, Steve Davies converted. Then big Joe Bendle powered over from 70 yards for another try which Davies converted. Stuart House completed the first half rout with another long distance try with Davies again adding the conversion points.

Norman Satterly joined in the fun early in the second half, selling a lovely dummy on his way to a try which Davies converted before Steve Watson scored for Hendy.

Satterly scored his second try on the death while the rest of the players were involved in a touch-line fracas. Steve Davies, having

eventually extricated himself from the melee, converted.

**Llandovery 16pts., Gorseinon 6**  
Gorseinon fielded an exciting looking team who were still fresh in the semi-finals having played only one game to reach them.

But the skill of Llandovery, who had already played three times, was too much for them. Gorseinon started well, pressurising Llandovery who nonetheless revealed their class by breaking away through brothers Geraint and Carwyn Williams with Carwyn racing clear to score between the posts. He also converted.

They went further ahead when Alan Thomas dummied to Carwyn Davies and ran clear. Williams again converted.

Thomas chose to use Davies early in the second half and the winger delivered an electrifying dose of acceleration to leave Gorseinon grasping thin air.

Alun Jones scored a consolation try for Gorseinon which Huw Watkins converted to make the final score 16-6.

### THE FINAL

**Llandovery 21pts., Waunarlwydd 12**

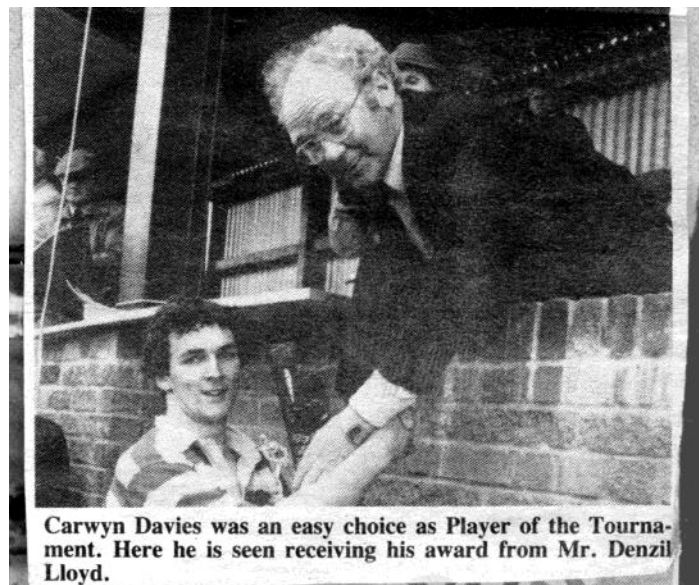
Llandovery started firm favourites for the final but Waunarlwydd, while lacking the pace of Llandovery, were determined to make things difficult for them.

Carwyn Davies, who had been the outstanding personality all afternoon, then delivered the try of the tournament. He jinked off both feet in turn to beat Joe Bendle and then swerved effortlessly inside Satterly and Davies to run clear and score near the posts.

Llandovery, who had played two games more than Waun to reach the final, visibly tired in the second half. Roger Watkins ran superbly to score Waun's first try which Davies converted and then Joe Bendle, full of running, sprinted over from 70 yards with Davies' conversion tying the scores and Waun suddenly looking odds-on for victory.

But the trusty boot of Carwyn Williams, which put paid to Pontypridd in the Schweppes Cup last year, edged Llandovery ahead with a penalty from 30 metres — the first of the afternoon.

And then a long kick downfield took play into the Waun 22 where the covering Joe Bendle attempted a fly kick to touch. Instead of finding touch it flew into the hands of Carwyn Davies who scored his eighth try of the tournament



Carwyn Davies was an easy choice as Player of the Tournament. Here he is seen receiving his award from Mr. Denzil Lloyd.



Arwel Evans of Llandovery County High School receives his Welsh Secondary Schools (Under 15) cap from Mrs. Eirwen Richards (Vice-chairman of the School Governors). Also in the picture are Mr. Roland Griffiths (Deputy Headmaster), Mr. Phillip Davies (Headmaster) and Mr. John Walters (Master in charge of P.E. and games). Arwel played for Wales against Scotland at Cardiff in March. He also toured Italy and played for Wales against the Italian National Schools' team during April.



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

### LLANDOVERY TUMBLER ...

TUMBLE kicked off with a stiff breeze at their backs but Llandovery had the better of the early exchanges when Carwyn Williams kicked them into a three point lead after five minutes.

Within the next twenty minutes however Williams and Wynford Lewis twice missed kickable penalty attempts.

Llandovery continued to deny Tumble decent possession and the home side were unable to revert to their usual "up and under tactics".

Tumble however came close to scoring when the visitors failed to clear a loose ball. Tumble were awarded a scrum close to the visitors line, their back

#### Tumble 13 - v - Llandovery 7

row inter-passed effectively for "Tonto" Roberts to dive over for a try which Wynford Lewis converted to give them a 6-3 lead.

Tumble demonstrated why they are Section 'A' champions with some relentless pressure.

Their back-row of Gareth Davies, Perris Williams, "Tonto" Roberts and scrum-half Davies gave the Llandovery half-backs a torrid time. Within five minutes they went further ahead and the visitors were fortunate not to concede further points before the interval.



• "Tonto" Roberts crashes over for Tumble's first try.

(Photo: Peter Evans)

In the second-half the visitors had the advantage of the wind but it was the

home side who came close to scoring when only a foot in touch prevented a try being awarded.

Llandovery came back into the game but Carwyn Williams was wide with a penalty attempt following a deliberate obstruction.

The visitors backs impressed with fluid inter-passing but they could not break through a solid Tumble defence.

The home side went further ahead when full back Wynford Lewis tested the visitors with a beautifully judged high kick. The ball squirted loose and Perris Williams was on hand to score. At 13-3 the game looked safe for Tumble but Alan Thomas scored a consolation try for the visitors with an incisive diagonal run.

Tumble's back row were the decisive factor in a hard fought encounter. Llandovery rarely obtained second phase but although Chris Davies had a sound game for the visitors.

#### Llandovery 6, Seven Sisters 4

THE Seven Sisters pack won valuable early possession which allowed their half-backs to pin Llandovery in their own half. After five minutes the visitors came close to taking the lead when Alun Davies hit the post with a long range penalty.

Within minutes, outside-half David Gibson broke through the Llandovery defence and only a desperate tackle by Chris Davies saved the day. Gibson might well have done better to pass with a clear overlap outside him.

Gradually the home side settled, their forwards gained more possession and the visitors were forced to defend. After fifteen minutes Llandovery took the lead. From good possession near the half-way line the ball was moved quickly across the three-quarter line and Dai Wigley's powerful running saw him break through the first tackle of his opposite number. The centre fed left wing Eifion Hughes, who was stopped just short of the line but Wigley was up in support to score far out. An excellent conversion by Carwyn Williams gave

Llandovery a 6-0 advantage at half-time.

The second half saw the Seven Sisters pack start strongly in the scrummages. But in the lines-out Llandovery held the upper hand with Wyn Williams and Ian Jones turning in impressive performances.

The visitors failed to alter their tactics when their forwards were unable to win the lions share of the ball that would enable Alun Davies to dictate affairs.

Both sides missed long range penalties before "Seven" reduced the arrears with an unconverted try by right wing Phil Price. The conversion attempt failed. Llandovery won the game through a fine team effort everyone played their part and Carwyn Williams' touch line conversion kick proved decisive.

LLANDOVERY, who often seem to be Tumble's bogey team, certainly looked as if they were ready to upset the odds once again as they held a 15 - 3 interval lead. Wyn Williams and Eifion Jenkins had crossed for tries and the kicking of Carwyn Williams had accounted for the remainder.

In the second half however, the section A leaders shook off their lethargy and eventually with the help of an uncontrolled crowd which had spilt on to the playing area ran in late tries by Robert Roberts and Wynford Lewis to steal the match. Lewis also converted both tries and kicked two penalties.



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

**LLANDOVERY** just about deserved to win this fixture with Llangennech but the margin of victory clearly shows how close it was.

The game followed the usual pattern for Llandovery in that they went into a ten point lead only to let their opponents back into the game and at the end the home side supporters were relieved to hear the final whistle.

Looking back on the game it was highly exciting and both sides contributed to make it an entertaining game having agreed to play on a day when there was still some frost on the ground.

### Thrill

Within ten minutes of the start, Llandovery were ten points ahead. Carwyn Williams kicked a penalty and left wing, Tim Williams, scored a try.

The ball was won in a scrum on the Llangennech 22 line and good passing with full back, Geraint Williams, in the line gave left wing, Williams, an overlap but he did well to cut inside the visitors full back and score. Within minutes, Williams kicked another penalty to give the home side the lead.

During this period the Llandovery forwards were dominant with no 8, Stuart Fry conspicuous espe-

cially with his runs close to the scrums. Gradually, however, the Llangennech forwards were coming more into the game and with a greater supply of ball. Scrum half, Kevin George, was pushing Llandovery back with some well directed kicks.

### Winning

Llangennech's try midway through the first half capitalised on some weak tackling by Llandovery. A blind side move involving the visitors back row saw no 8, John Roberts, pick up at the back of a scrum and hand on to Ieuan

Hunt who broke through the Llandovery defence and pass inside for Barry Davies to score under the posts. Full back, Dyfrig Clements, converted.

Llangennech were successful in winning the majority of loose ball and scrum half, Kevin George, was able to dictate the game and keep Llandovery in their own half.

A penalty by Dyfrig Clements after eleven minutes reduced the arrears to one point. This stimulated the home side to greater effort and on several occasions Llandovery were close to scoring.

A forward drive involving Elfin Jenkins and Chris Davies took play on to the Llangennech line but Davies just failed to gather the ball.

Several scrums in the visitors 22 line area gave Llandovery a good attacking platform but the visitors defended strongly. The decisive score came during the period when Carwyn Williams kicked a wide angled penalty.

Llangennech were far from finished and were beginning to run the ball at Llandovery with a fair

degree of success. From one such attack, Dyfrig Clements brought the score back to 13-12 with a long range penalty following an offside infringement at a ruck.

With 15 minutes to go the game moved from one end to the other with Llandovery defending desperately at times. From a lineout 5m from the Llandovery line, hooker, Robbie Wheelock, was bundled in touch inches short of the line after a quick throw into the lineout and scrum half, Kevin George was short with a drop goal attempt. The final whistle went with Llandovery the victors in a nail-biting finish.

Llandovery made hard work of winning this game — a game that they deserved to win and in which they had held territorial advantage.

They found it difficult to control the game essentially through their inability to win the loose balls in the rucks and mauls. The lineouts were also untidy with too many balls being tapped back and allowing the Llangennech forwards to gain possession or at the very least denying the Llandovery backs good ball.

# HOME BY A POINT

Llandovery 13 v Llangennech 12

## VETERAN IEUAN DOES IT AGAIN

Llandovery 10, Vardre 13

## Costly mistakes

**POOR** defensive play early in the first half gave this game to Vardre.

**Vardre 25  
Llandovery 7**

Territorially Llandovery were well in the game and their line out display showed they were superior to the smaller Vardre forwards.

At crucial moments of the game, however, the home side seemed sharper and more determined to win the game.

The Vardre threequarters won them the game where right wing, Jonathan Cousins and centre, Andrew Walters, were a constant threat to Llandovery with Arthur Francis varying his play and positioning to maximum effect.

### SCORES

Two opportunistic tries within ten minutes of the start were scored by right wing, Cousins. Capitalising on slack defensive work made Llandovery's task difficult.

Fortunately for Llandovery, neither was converted, but to be eight points down so early in the half was a disappointing start.

Llandovery kicked off with the advantage of the slight slope but the day was still so neither had any wind advantage.

The play was hardly under way when Ieuan Jones collected a long throw into the lineout and fed the ball out to the right for wing, John Cousins to score.

Vardre continued to take the game to Llandovery and when an attempted clearance kick failed to find touch and ended in the in goal area, Cousins had time to spare to

score his second try.

### ADVANTAGE

To their credit the visiting forwards were getting the better of the smaller Vardre forwards and gradually Llandovery came back into the game which was beginning to be played in the Vardre half.

Several 'up and under's' put the home side defence under pressure but full back, Francis, was equal to the task. Carwyn Williams reduced the arrears with a long range penalty after a collapsed maul.

Almost immediately afterwards Francis ran into the line from full back and exploited the weakness down the left hand side and scored far out. Again the conversion failed.

Llandovery, however, gave their supporters some hope when Huw Morgan scored. Eifion Evans made a spectacular run down the left hand touchline taking play well into the Vardre 22.

From the scrum Llandovery moved the ball along the three-quarters and full back Williams kicked ahead over the Vardre line. In the race for the touch down Huw Morgan got the better of his opposite number and so at half time Llandovery were still in the game at 7-12.

### LAPSE

Once again — a defensive lapse let the game slip, so the start of the second half was reminiscent of the first. Llandovery heeled the ball from a scrum close to their line and outside half, Ieuan Jones, pounced on a poor clearance attempt to score a try which was converted by Francis to stretch the lead to 18-7.

A situation from which Llandovery never recovered. Francis stretched the lead further with a penalty following handling in the ruck and mid way through the half, left wing Alan Howells scored Vardre's fifth try with some quick thinking by captain and outside half, Ieuan Jones.

Once again the Llandovery forwards took the game to Vardre and on several occasions crossed their line only to be recalled. Wyn Williams (after a tapped penalty) and David Wigley (twice) crossed the line in quick succession and the visitors' rugby was highly exciting.

In conclusion this was a good performance by the Llandovery forwards. Ian Jones had one of his best games for Llandovery especially in the lineouts. And in the loose play Dai Wigley was effective.

In the end, however, Vardre showed why they are amongst the leaders in Section A. They were well organised, effective in the loose play and had a variety of options which they used to exploit Llandovery's rather suspect defence. The Vardre threequarters, with the ball in their hands, were sharper and in Jonathan Cousins had a wing of pace and in Arthur Francis, a safe full back.



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

### VETERAN IEUAN DOES IT AGAIN

Llandovery 10, Vardre 13

An opportunist try by outside half and captain Ieuan Jones in the dying minutes of the game gave Vardre a victory they hardly deserved and almost certainly banished Llandovery to Section B status next season.

Territorially the home side had the better of the exchanges with breakaway forwards Elfyn Jenkins and Chris Davies dominating play in the loose. Once again this season, however, penalty goals were not kicked, and teams that don't kick their goals don't win matches; Llandovery matched Vardre in tries but Arthur Francis' kicks proved decisive.

For most of the first half Llandovery dominated with the wind behind them, but the only time Vardre came clear they went ahead, and Arthur Francis was the marksman slotting over a thirty yard penalty.

Llandovery, however, continued to press but it all came to nothing as several penalty chances were wasted from reasonable positions. There was also too much of a tendency to kick when good overlaps had been created, and as a result the home side, for all their pressure found themselves three points down at the break.

At the start of the second period Llandovery's pack continued to press and at last it paid off as

Eifion Hughes fed Nigel Clarke following a ten metre scrum and Clarke drove over to score. Carwyn Williams converted to make it 6-3.

Llandovery maintained this lead for most of the second half but Vardre looked dangerous on the break as they eagerly spun the ball at every opportunity.

With 15 minutes left scrum half Nigel Garland scored in the corner for the visitors, and with Francis again making his kick count Vardre led 9-6. Llandovery, though, bounced back immediately when from a scrum on the Vardre line No. 8 Stuart Fry dived over.

As the game moved into the final few minutes, however, it was Vardre who delivered the killer blow. Nigel Garland charged down an attempted touch kick and Ieuan Jones, up in support, made the score with barely a minute left for play.

Alan Thomas then went close for Llandovery in the dying seconds, but was tackled before receiving the ball with the line at his mercy. Indeed this rather reflected the way the game had gone for Llandovery. Both the refereeing decisions and the run of the ball had favoured the visitors as they readily admitted afterwards.

### Tovall Cup Rugby TUMBLED OUT!

After a disappointing league season with several games narrowly lost, Llandovery were hoping for some success in the Tovall Cup. A runaway win by 44-3 over Mumbles and a deserved 19-15 win against Kidwelly in mid-week gave the Towry Valley side the chance on Saturday to earn a semi final tie with Section C side, Dunvant, but it wasn't to be as Tumble stormed home in the mud by 12 pts to nil.

Tumble have had a tremendous league season and are surely destined for a league and cup double. No one has seriously challenged them in the league since before Christmas, so they can now concentrate on the cup competition. In the end, this game was decided by the considerable experience and technique of

the Tumble pack, and the fact that a combination of three games in eight days had proved too much for Llandovery.

Tumble kicked off with the wind on their backs on a wet, miserable afternoon. The pitch, even before the kick-off seemed more suitable for rice cultivation than a game of rugby, with a muddy surface and pools of standing water.

As the game progressed, the pitch became worse, which made the Tumble forward play a deciding factor. Indeed, occasions like this make attacking threequarters redundant.

Llandovery in the first half often had to defend desperately against the scrum half-back row play of the home side. This combination of scrum half and captain Arwel Davies and back row forwards Gareth Davies, "Tonto" Roberts and Parris Williams again showed itself to be a highly competent and efficient unit.

Credit though, must also be



Mud, glorious mud...Arwel Davies, the Tumble captain has just opened the scoring with a fine try against Llandovery in the Tovall Cup game on Saturday.

given to the defensive play of their opponents. The Llandovery full-back Allan Morgan, for example, had a fine game. Morgan fielded the difficult high balls exceptionally well, and was safe with his touch kicks.

#### CONSPICUOUS

Up front, Nigel Clarke was conspicuous and the second-row forward adapted well when he had to move up to prop after Phil Davies left the field.

Several times, Tumble drove up to the Llandovery try line, but the visitors held out until the 37th minute of the first half. A scrum was formed five metres from the visitors' line and, as the pressure of the Tumble pack forced Llandovery back in the mud, Arwel Davies picked up the ball at the back of the scrum and dived through the back row to

score. The dependable Wynford Lewis converted to give Tumble a 6-0 interval lead.

This score left the Llandovery supporters in no way despondent since the visitors now had the considerable wind advantage.

However, Tumble's experience of keeping the game tight was now seen at its best.

Many times their forwards combined in mauls that gained them twenty to thirty yards of valuable ground into the wind.

Llandovery's heavier pack were coming under increasing pressure and the absence of prop Phil Davies was becoming increasingly significant.

Following one maul that

took play to within five metres of the Llandovery line Tumble scored their second try. When a push-over try seemed probable they worked the ball out to the blind side and Wynford Lewis went over to score and Lewis converted.

With this try coming minutes after Llandovery had missed two penalty goals the game was virtually settled, and as a result Llandovery had to run their penalties in the hope of getting back in the game.

Tumble however are past masters at defending such a comfortable lead, and on this form they will be a difficult side to beat.



# Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams



Tumble prop Glyn Thomas gathers the ball as Llandovery forwards close in.

(Pic: Alan Richards)



• Llandovery fly-half Carwyn (Caws) Williams makes mockery of the gluepot conditions underfoot as he cuts through the middle past three Tumble players with brother Geraint looking on approvingly.

(Pic: Alan Richards)

## Five years on

LLANDEILO 10 pts., LLANDOVERY 29 pts.

Fixtures resumed between these two founder member clubs of the Welsh Rugby Union after a five year gap.

This season has seen a change in fortune for Llandeilo who have won their section after several seasons propping up the other teams in section E. During the season they have scored forty or so tries and this has rekindled interest in the game in the locality. The Llandeilo forwards captained by Wyn Williams have given good performances with Peter Jones probably the pick of the forwards, while the backs have been a solid defensive unit who have also scored tries — Lloyd Harris has been a player to watch.

Llandovery on the other hand have had something of a disappointing season and are now destined to be relegated to section B. At no time, however, have they been overwhelmed, and games against the top sides in the league have been narrowly lost. Failure to win games that were within their grasp as well as the deduction of two league points by the West Wales Management Committee finally sealed their fate.

The game was played on a wet, cold afternoon with Llandovery having the advantage of the wind. Almost immediately Carwyn Williams kicked the visitors into a lead they were to hold throughout the game. Within minutes Llandovery were further ahead when prop Eurig Evans crossed under the posts for Williams to convert.

At this stage Llandovery were dominating the game at forward. The Llandeilo pack was being pushed back yards at the scrums and this made it difficult for the Llandeilo half backs. However a change in fortune gave the home side the lift they needed. A rather aimless kick ahead by Llandeilo was run out of defence by the visitors but a poorly directed pass gave Lloyd Harris the chance to counter attack. The Llandeilo centre fly kicked the ball up to the Llandovery line and some poor defensive work gave Harris the

chance to score and Nick Evans to convert.

As often happens the home side took heart and for the next ten to fifteen minutes came storming back at the visitors. Peter Jones playing at number 8 was conspicuous in the loose and Wyn Williams was making life difficult for the Llandovery half backs.

Two tries before half time however virtually decided the game. From a scrum near the Llandeilo line the home side were pushed over their line and an infringement by their back row was penalised by a penalty try which Carwyn Williams converted. The second try was scored by centre and captain Geraint Williams following a blind side movement and Williams converted to give Llandovery a 21-6 half time lead.

As the match developed, the heavier Llandovery pack was more than a match for Llandeilo but defensively centres, Alan David and Lloyd Harris, dealt competently with the visiting back play. Within minutes of the change over Chris Davies had scored Llandovery's fourth try against the head on the Llandeilo line. The visitors were now dominant but they showed their inability to make their territorial advantage count, and several penalties near the Llandeilo line came to nothing. Meanwhile the home side were guilty of not using their wind advantage. With the ground becoming increasingly heavy and some of Llandovery's defensive play at the back rather suspect perhaps Nick Evans should have kicked more for position.

The game ended with two tries — one to each side that can only be described as defensive blunders. A long kick downfield was mishandled by the Llandovery defence, left wing Andrew Davies then did well to hold on to the intercepted pass and scored far out. Within minutes Elfyn Jenkins replied for Llandovery after Geraint Williams kicked ahead.



# POWER PACK TAKES CUP

LLANDOVERY 26, LLANDYBIE 6

Llandovery are the new holders of the C. C. Evans Cup after an emphatic 26-6 victory over Llandybie at Brynaman on Monday night.

Llandovery made up for the disappointment of being relegated from Section A with a powerful performance in which the forwards were far too strong for Llandybie, and they ran in five tries without reply.

Although Llandybie full-back Mark Howells had an outstanding game, he could only watch as the Llandovery pack shunted their opponents around the park to win a lion's share of the possession.

With the wind behind them Llandovery made their advantage count in

the first half and after ten minutes centre Alan Thomas scored the opening try after a scrum close to the Llandybie line. Carwyn Williams converted to make it 6-0.

Mark Howells pulled the deficit back to three points with a superb 40 metre kick into the wind, but almost immediately Llandovery hit back with a deadly double strike. David Wigley crossed for a try almost directly from the kick off after some excellent interpassing with Eifion Hughes, and although the conversion

attempt went astray, a third score soon followed in the shape of a penalty try.

With Llandovery's more experienced and heavier pack shoving relentlessly towards the Llandybie line the referee had no option but to award a penalty try when Llandybie dived in illegally to prevent the try being scored. Carwyn Williams converted and the lead was 16-3.

There was a further score before half time when Geraint Williams took advantage of a Llandybie fumble to touch down after he had kicked ahead.

Again Carwyn Williams added the extra points and at half-time Llandovery led by a convincing 19 point margin with centre Alan Thomas the outstanding player.

With the wind behind them Llandybie did well to hold the Llandovery pack for much of the second half, with Mark Howells once again putting in some fine kicks from the full-back position. It was he who scored for Llandybie with a second penalty ten minutes from time, but Llandovery had the last word with a try from Nigel Clarke.

A good performance, then, from Llandovery with special praise going to the back row of Wigley, Elfyn Jenkins and Chris Davies



Llandovery skipper Geraint Williams holds the C. C. Evans Cup aloft after the presentation by Mr. Lance Roderick.



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

*Courtesy Wyn Williams*



**Llandovery R.F.C. show off the C. C. Evans Cup after the emphatic victory over Llandybie. Pictured are Alan Morgan, Tim Williams, Alan Thomas, Geraint Williams (capt.), Huw Morgan, Carwyn Williams, Eifion Hughes, Eifion Evans, Wyn Morgan, Eurig Evans, Wyn Williams, Nigel Clarke, Chris Davies, David Wigley, Elfyn Jenkins, Ian Jones and Carwyn Hughes.**



## Ystalyfera 6 Llandovery 10

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



# Destroyers!

## Llandovery on the rampage

**Waunarlywydd 12, Llandovery 39**

**LLANDOVERY** gave without doubt the performance of the day on Saturday as they crushed Section A side Waunarlywydd on their own ground with a devastating display of running rugby.

The visitors scored four tries in seven minutes in an amazing second half spell, and grabbed six second half tries in all to turn the match on its head.

It was a marvellous team performance all round, right through from prop Phil Davies who scored two tries against his former club, to full back Geraint Williams returning after injury.

But the first half gave no indication of what was to follow. Waun dominated the early exchanges — time after time their pack surged powerfully upfield and Llandovery were forced to defend desperately.

But despite the charges of full back Gary Howells, Waun seemed to lack ideas in the back division and it was the visitors who drew first blood.

Following a run from wing Tim Williams, Llandovery won a scrum, and when the ball was fed out Alun Thomas made a break to score unopposed. Carwyn Williams converted and added a penalty,

and with John Vickery kicking two penalties for Waun, the visitors led 9-6 at half time. Waunarlywydd immediately went on the offensive after the break and took the lead when Gary Howells produced an overlap for Steve Vickery to score. His brother John converted to make it 12-9.

A betting man would have backed the home side to go on and win it at that stage — but no-one could have foreseen what was to follow.

Out of the blue Llandovery went on an amazing scoring spree that left poor Waun in tatters.

Ironically it was former Waun player Phil Davies who started it all.

Finding himself in possession 30 metres out the prop went on a run that would have been a credit to a centre to score near the posts. Williams converted.

Within a minute centre Huw Thomas scored under the posts and before Waun knew what had hit them, Alun Thomas went over

for his second try.

Moments later Waun got in a dreadful mess trying to pass the ball behind their own line and Kline Morris pounced to score.

In a memorable eight minute spell Llandovery had moved from 12-9 down to lead 29-12 and the tie was all but settled.

But there was more to follow as Phil Davies went on another extraordinary run down the line to touch down, before Elfyn Jenkins scored Llandovery's seventh try of

the afternoon.

Carwyn Williams converted four of the tries.

In a nutshell it was a magnificent team show from the visitors with special credit going to Huw Thomas in the centre who has worked hard on his game over the past year, new boy Kline Morris in the back row, and the evergreen Noel Page.

For the loyal band of Llandovery supporters it was a performance never to be forgotten.



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

# Seeing stars!

### Llandovery 20, New Dock Stars 0

LLANDOVERY'S marvellous start to the season continued on Saturday with a convincing victory over New Dock Stars and even at this early stage of the campaign they look well equipped to bounce back to Section A at the first attempt.

It was the attacking flair of the home side's backs that was the difference between the two sides.

As a unit the Llandovery threequarters combined well in attack and a variety of moves kept their opponents guessing. The return of full back and captain Geraint Williams has given the back division a real boost.

The New Dock forwards however did give a good account of themselves. Interpassing amongst their heavier pack was often difficult to stop, but then movements tended to be across the field and No. 8 Chris Davies' tackling and covering became a vital factor.

Davies who played for Carmarthenshire Under 23s in midweek had an outstanding game in defence.

It was at the line-outs that New Dock were at their most dominant; Second rows John Jenkins and Tony Antoniazzi gave their side a virtually uninterrupted supply of good ball throughout the afternoon.

Llandovery were supreme in the set scrums and managed to push their heavier opponents on several occasions.

Within minutes of the start Llandovery's scrummaging power under the New Dock posts paid dividends.

### UNTIDY

The visitors failed to deal with an untidy heel, Eifyn Jenkins pounced on the loose ball and Huw Thomas up in support was stopped a metre from the line.

Thomas laid the ball back for Eifion Hughes to feed Tim Williams who scored in the corner.

Williams was again in the action ten minutes later when he scored the second try.

A high up and under by scrum half Eifion Hughes left the "Stars" defence in all sorts of trouble. Alun Thomas gathered the ball and released Williams on a run that took him past several defenders to score an excellent try.

Stuart Pearce (brother of former Scarlet Gary) playing his first game for New Dock missed a reasonably straight forward opportunity to reduce the arrears with a penalty just before half time.

Two minutes into the second half Alun Thomas made the game safe for Llandovery.

Following an ill-directed fly kick, the home side gained possession. The ball was moved out to the right by the brothers William and Huw Morgan beat his man to give Alun Thomas a scoring pass.

Thomas' second try midway through the second half was one of the best seen at Llandovery recently.

From inside his own half Geraint Williams opened up play down the left hand side. The move was continued by Tim Williams who passed inside to Thomas 30 metres out.

Thomas' electrifying burst took him past several bewildered defenders and he went over under the posts. Carwyn Williams converted both tries.

The next two weeks will be crucial for Llandovery, beginning with an away fixture at top-of-the-table Carmarthen next Saturday.



The old one-two! Llandovery's Tim Williams helps his side



: to a comfortable victory on Saturday with two tries.



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

### Pontarddulais 8 Llandovery 13

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Crest of a wave

### Llandovery 27 Carmarthen Ath. 3

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

# Cup fever!

## Wanderers are next

### Trimsaran 0 Llandovery 26

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

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

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

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

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

game in the first half.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

# Late flourish does justice

**Llandovery 26  
Ystalyfera 9**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Casualties so near

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

Llandovery dominated the first half but in a dramatic about-turn the visitors spent most of the second half scoring their opponents' tries. The home side was the more fortunate Llandovery as they scored most of the tries.

## Lucky stars

**New Dock Stars 10  
Llandovery 10**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

Courtesy Wyn Williams

### Classy Carwyn

**Llandovery 31, Carmarthen 20**

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Casual Llandovery so nearly let it slip

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

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

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

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

**Llandovery 9  
Pontarddulais 9**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Llandovery RFC Team Records 1985-86 ww02

*Courtesy Wyn Williams*

### Llandovery 19, Loughor 9

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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