



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 ww04

Courtesy Wyn Williams

THE most hard-fought game in Section A of the Welsh Brewers West Wales Championship on Saturday, was undoubtedly that at Ystradgynlais, where visiting Llandovery just squeezed home 3-0.

The crucial score came via a first-half penalty from Llandovery's fly-half Carwyn Williams.



• STOP HIM...Llandovery attempt to halt Dunvant's Mark Gallagher as he feeds the ball out from a scrum. The sides fought out a 6-6 draw.

Llandovery so confident

LLANDOVERY played host to Machen in the First Round of the Schweppes WRU Cup on Saturday and moved to a confident 17-0 victory.

Llandovery led at half-time thanks to two penalties from fly-half Carwyn Williams, and wrapped things up after the changeover with tries from flanker Gerald Lewis and centre Alan Thomas and another penalty from Williams.

Visiting Machen had their chances, particularly in the first half, but missed four kickable penalties to allow Llandovery to snatch an initiative they were never to surrender.



• CHARGE...Llandovery cut through the Dunvant defence during Saturday's 6-6 draw.



• THERE IT GOES...Llandovery's Hywel Jones sends over a penalty during his side's 6-6 Section A draw with Dunvant on Saturday.



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

Hendy scored a fine 12-10 win at Builth Wells, while Llandovery ran in five tries in their impressive 20-15 win at Newport Saracens.

Llandovery's tries, from Martin Rees, Arwel Rowlands, Carwyn Williams, Gerald Lewis and skipper Chris Davies all went unconverted, while Tommy Claydon scored the Saracens' lone try. Billy Ridler kicked a conversion, two penalties and a drop goal, but Llandovery could have won by a far wider score.

TABLES ARE TURNED ON BONYMAEN

LLANDOVERY'S victory over previously unbeaten Bonymaen in Section A of the West Wales league by 12-3 showed that their win in last season's bowl play-off was no fluke.

Playing into a strong wind in the first half, Llandovery kept gaining ground by strong forward surges and sound tactical kicking by half backs Eifion Hughes and Geraint Williams.

From one such move Llandovery took the lead after 20 minutes play when full back Howell Jones was successful with his second kick at goal, a penalty for off-side.

The line outs were evenly con-

LLANDOVERY.....12 BONYMAEN.....3

tested in this period but Llandovery hooker Wyn Morgan took one strike against the head in the scrum.

The rolling mauls of the Llandovery pack with Wyn Williams and Eifion Jenkins in the van took play back into Bonymaen territory where young Howell Jones slotted a fine penalty from 40 yards into the wind.

Just before half time Bonymaen full back Simon Morris replied with a penalty to make the half time score 6-3.

With the wind at their backs, good play by Ian Jones in the line out and No 8 Dai Giles in the loose made sure that Llandovery kept the upper hand for large parts of the game.

Howell Jones increased the lead to 9-3 with a penalty for elbowing in the line out. There then followed a ten minute period of sustained pressure by Bonymaen with centre Clive Haste showing penetration and outside half Malcolm Dacey testing the Llandovery defence with high kicks but strong tackling with skipper Chris Davies setting a fine example kept them out.

However, Llandovery finished strongly and Huw Morgan was over in the corner only to be recalled for a foot in touch. With time running out Howell Jones kicked his fourth penalty out of six attempts for Llandovery to run out worthy winners by 12-3.

The game was played in difficult conditions but in an excellent spirit and was well controlled by referee David Price.

Best of season

LLANDOVERY pulled off their best win of the season when they took Bonymaen's 100 per cent record on Saturday.

Full-back Hywel Jones was Llandovery's hero kicking all their points from penalties.

With the advantage of the wind Llandovery began to take control and Jones landed his third penalty which was awarded after some elbowing at a line-out.

The visitors then started to display some of the form which had kept them unbeaten so far this season. Swansea outside half Malcolm Dacey put up some testing kicks, but fine Llandovery tackling kept the visitors at Bay.

Llandovery though finished the stronger and missed out on a try when Huw Morgan stepped into touch on his way to the line. The win was finally sealed with Jones' fourth penalty.

W.W.R.U. WELSH BREWERS CHAMPIONSHIP

SECTION A

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Dunvant	7	6	1	0	13
Kidwelly	7	6	0	1	12
Bonymaen	6	5	0	1	10
Tumble	7	3	1	3	7
Llandovery	6	3	1	2	7
Vardre	6	2	1	3	5
Carmarthen	6	2	0	4	4
Ystradgynlais	6	2	0	4	4
Bryncoch	6	1	0	5	2
Felinfoel	7	0	0	7	0



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

Battle royal!

**Llandybie 12
Llandovery 18**

This was a magnificent display by Llandybie against their Schweppes Cup visitors Llandovery, but their efforts tended to be spoilt by the indiscretions of certain players showing dissent to the referee.

Llandovery twice capitalized upon needless penalties offered them by Llandybie, and full-back Hywel Lewis obliged on both occasions.

Other than those mistakes, Llandybie put in a sterling effort against their higher-ranked opponents. The total eclipse of the Llandybie line-out was a measure of how locks Hywel Richards and Simon Evans excelled themselves,

and until Dai Wigley's 15th minute departure due to head injuries it was all Llandybie.

However, Section A side Llandovery weathered the storm and full-back Hywel Lewis gave them the lead with his first penalty. Live-wire scrum-half Eifion Hughes increased it with a neat try, and Lewis slotted over the conversion.

With sub Dylan James at number eight, Llandybie put in some rousing forward play, which saw the ball moved out to left-wing Andrew Lewis on the half-way line, and his chip ahead allowed him to complete a glorious try with the Llandovery defence left standing still.

Mike Lewis converted from the touchline, but another Hywel Lewis penalty

enabled Llandovery to give a swift reply.

A brilliant drop goal by Mike Lewis, having an outstanding last game for Llandybie, enabled them to change over just 12-9 adrift.

Llandybie survived, and play moved back to the Llandovery half, where Mike Lewis slotted over a huge penalty to level the scores.

With time running out, there seemed no danger as Llandybie put in to a five yard scrum, but the referee ruled the ball had gone in crookedly, and from the resulting Llandovery onslaught, Eifion Hughes ploughed through for the winning try, converted by Hywel Lewis.

Elsewhere, Llandybie Youth won 28-7



●DRIVING THROUGH.....Llandovery flanker Elfyn Jenkins goes on the attack against Llandybie on Saturday. (Guardian picture)



●NOT QUITE.....Llandovery's David Giles dives for the Llandybie line but is stopped just short.



●MAGIC!.....Llandovery number eight Eifion Hughes scores the winning try in Saturday's Schweppes Cup derby at Llandybie.



●NO YOU DON'T.....PLAYING his last game for Llandybie, Mike Lewis makes a saving tackle to prevent another Llandovery raid from flourishing. (Guardian picture)



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 WW04

Courtesy Wyn Williams

It's magic Mark!

Pontyberem 6
Llandovery 7

Llandovery earned themselves an away tie at Bridgend in the fifth round of the Scwepes Welsh Cup after just pipping hosts Pontyberem in a tight, forward-based battle.

The Pontyberem forwards gained an early advantage with some effective rucking, and went in front when full-back Robert Daviessupplied the pass for left-wing Arwel Rees to cross for a try. Davies himself speared over a brilliant touchline conversion.

Neither side could claim total command over proceedings, and though Llandovery were awarded a number of penalties, full-back Hywel Jones generally opted to kick for touch to gain territorial advantage, and the ploy had a measure of success, with the home side penned inside their own half as the interval arrived.

Soon after the break, Llandovery full-back Jones reduced the arrears with a well-taken penalty, and Llandovery were beginning to monopolize possession without quite being able to breach some resolute Pontyberem defensive work.

A good touchfinder by Robert Davies relieved the pressure on the home side a little, and they mounted a good counter-attack on the Llandovery line, but full-back Jones remained calm under pressure and cleared his lines.

Llandovery continued to battle for a way through, and eventually were able to open play out a little. This finally paid off as home wing Arwel Rees failed to stop his opposite number Mark Rees diving over in the corner for an unconverted try that ultimately proved to be Llandovery's match-clincher

While a number of games were lost to the weather on Saturday, there was some significant action in all Sections of the West Wales Championship on Saturday.

In Section A, Llandovery boosted their chances of finishing high enough to qualify for a place in the new WRU National Leagues system as they snatched a 4-0 win over Tumble in a

hard-fought game.

The game's crucial score came half-way through the first half, when home flanker Elfyn Jenkins swooped for an unconverted try.

Pontardulais turned on the style on Saturday as they powered through to the first round proper of the Tovali Cup with an emphatic 43-8 win at Tonna.

Pontardulais wing Craig Lewis scored two tries, with fellow wing Stuart Walters, scrum-half Richard Evans, flanker Mark Thomas, Stuart Evans, Ian Walters and Paul Davies getting one apiece. Centre Gary Richards kicked two conversions and a penalty.

Tonna's points came from tries by debut-making teenagers Julian Beynon and Gareth Rise. Trebanos also tasted success, 21-6 over Burry Port, while Penygroes overcame Glais 18-7.

Vardre shook off their league worries to crush Cwmgors 41-4. Steven Rees, Andrew Walters, David Williams, Alan Howells, Jonathan Garland and Nigel Garland (2) were their try-scorers. Jonathan Garland kicked a conversion and Nigel a

conversion and penalty. For Cwmgors, there was a Peter Williams try.

Tumble's defence of their trophy began with a comfortable 32-3 win at New Dock Stars. For Tumble, Perris Williams, Peter Watts, Wayne Richards, Arwel Davies, Les Mathias and Mike Williams scored tries, Eifion Davies converting four. Llandovery though slipped to a 19-9 defeat at Section B side Seven Sisters.

Hywel Jones slotted over three penalties for Llandovery, while the Neath side ran in three tries. Cwmllynfell won 15-10 at Pontyates, and Pontardawe scored a shock 21-18 win over Laugharne. Pontardawe tries came from centre Mark Jones, Nigel Morgan and Steve Webster, with Stuart Edwards converting them all and kicking a penalty.



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Courtesy Wyn Williams



• Carwyn Davies — on the field.

You can be sure that this Christmas, Carwyn Davies-Llangadog farmer and Llanelli left wing-will have enjoyed a home celebration, with plenty of turkey and pud.

Not too much of course, as Llanelli have a busy programme of Christmas and New Year action, and Carwyn will not want to let his fans down.

He has been in sparkling form this season, scoring his one hundredth try a few weeks ago, and says "I think this season has been good, perhaps I was affected by the work abroad in Argentina and

so on last year. These last months, I've concentrated on my game for Llanelli, and my performance in this season's club rugby does seem to have benefitted and fallen into place. It is a privilege to be part of the team who are currently top of the Merit Table."

There was, of course, the black weather to match the "All Black" New Zealand opposition that Llanelli and Carwyn faced earlier in the year.

"The weather was wet and disappointing", he explains, "It certainly didn't help our game against the All Blacks, but it was a good experience for me to play against them. I hope my performance helped win me my place in the Welsh squad of 26 who are off to Port-

ugal in early January."

To round off our chat, one wonders how Carwyn feels about the new ruling that allows rugby stars to formally get payed for various newspaper and television work?

"I think it's good-it's time our loss of earnings were acknowledged, since we often miss several days work because of playing rugby. It will also be a bonus for club rugby, because we won't lose so many players to big pay deals in the North, which will help Wales' club and National performance."

True indeed, and we wish the very best of luck to Wales and Carwyn in their rugby battles during the New Year.

RHIAN EVANS



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

Llandovery fall

Dunvant booked their place in the Welsh National Leagues next season when they opened up a four-point gap at the head of the West Wales Section A table by beating Llandovery 19-11 under lights last Friday night.

Although conditions were heavy underfoot, both sides attempted to open up play, but Dunvant never looked back after opening up a 12-3 interval lead.

Scrum-half Mark Gallager scored an early try for Dunvant, converted by Andrew Hutchings. Mark Purdue then crossed for Hutchings again to convert, before Llandovery reduced the deficit with a Carwyn Williams penalty. In the second half, Nigel Bolton scored Dunvant's third and final try, with Hutchings kicking a penalty.

Llandovery responded with tries by Geraint Williams and Huw Morgan.

Giants prove too strong

Bridgend 30
Llandovery 4

As everywhere else on Saturday, conditions were atrocious as Llandovery attempted to cause a Schweppes Cup giant-killing at Bridgend.

It was not to be how-

ever, as Bridgend subdued the brave efforts of their visitors to move through to a quarter-final tie with Tumble.

Llandovery pressed quickly forward at the start, the home side's Luc Evans needing to make a smart clear-

ance, and Bridgend required a long raking touchfinder by Owain Williams to relieve the pressure.

The home side went in front after 12 minutes, when David Bryant gathered possession from a

lineout and charged over for a try converted by Andy Martin.

With the first-class side beginning steadily to take a hold, further tries arrived in quick succession through Richard Griffiths and Owain Williams. Williams' try emanated from the best move of the match, a sweep that cover-

ed 50 yards, and ended with Martin again adding the conversion.

16-0 down at the break, Llandovery fell further adrift upon the resumption as Kevin Ellis fed Richard Wintle and he dived over for his 12th try of the season.

Further rain and consequent mud made conditions almost impossible, and the referee requested a change of jerseys for the by-now unrecognizable Bridgend.

Fly-half Aled Williams added another touchdown for Bridgend, before Llandovery's moment of glory came via a try by replacement wing Martin Rees.

Tim Davies responded with another Bridgend try, converted by Martin, before the referee abandoned play after 64 minutes.



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

Okay lads — here I go!



●LET'S get at 'em! Llandovery scrum-half Carwyn Williams looks for an opening in his team's crunch game against Vardre on Saturday. His points' tally was two penalties in Llandovery's 10-0 victory. Huw Morgan scored a try.



●DESPERATION... Its last gasp defence for Vardre as they deny Llandovery a try. Guardian picture

Cardiff 52
Llandovery 13

Llandovery ran up against Wales fly-half David Evans in matchwinning form on Saturday as their visit to Cardiff Arms Park ended in defeat.

Llandovery kicked off on a pitch liberally covered in surface water, but Cardiff, with five Internationals in their starting line-up went ahead on five minutes when scrum-half Matthew De Maid went over in the corner.

Undaunted however, Llandovery took the game

to Cardiff, with scrum-half Carwyn Williams and right wing Hugh Morgan to the fore, but the Cardiff defence refused to crack. David Evans then increased the points gap when he swooped on a loosed ball to dart over for a try he converted with a superb touchline kick.

Carwyn Williams then gave Llandovery brief hope with a penalty, but Evans scored another try, then converted one by Mike Hall to put the result beyond doubt.

Just after half time, Cardiff's Richard Jones and Steve Ford both scored tries to make the lead 32-3. Denver Thompson then dashed 50 yards for Cardiff's seventh try, and Llandovery were in dan-

ger of becoming swarmed.

Richard Jones' try put Cardiff past 40 points, before the points-hungry David Evans grabbed and converted his third try to make the gap 46-3.

Llandovery then enjoyed a bright spell, with two fine tries by David Gile and Chris Davies, Williams converting one, but the match pattern was soon resumed as David Evans scored and converted his fourth try to round off an amazing personal haul of 28 points.

Cardiff had effectively emphasized the gap in stature, but Llandovery never gave up trying, and will have benefitted from their second clash with first-class opposition within a few weeks.



All square

Llandovery 4
Llanybydder 4

The Llanelli and District All-Winners clash proved to be a close game, with close marking and strong tackling the distinctive features.

With the score remaining at 4-4 even after extra time, both teams decided against

a replay, and will share the trophy for six months each. Llandovery made all the early running, but missed three kickable penalty chances.

Llanybydder outside-half Mark Wilson was also off target with a 25th minute effort, but they came increasingly back into

the game, bringing their backs into play whenever possible, and on the half-hour, Llandovery number 10 Emyr James was glad to clear his lines under some pressure after a searching run by the opposition wing Brian Thomas.

Llandovery responded with good runs by both wings Martin Rees

and Martin Pritchard, only for the latter to be bundled into touch. From the resulting line-out, scrum-half Adrian Davies set up flanker Hugh Evans for a 32nd minute try.

Llanybydder were dominating the rucks and mauls, but the Llandovery eight regularly managed to push their opposite numbers back, and the Llanybydder prop left the field with a rib injury just before half-time.

Llanybydder right-wing Gareth Hargreaves scored their crucial levelling try in the second half.



Carwyn set to make exit

Llangadog farmer Carwyn Davies is quitting first-class rugby, with his imminent marriage and increasing work commitments now occupying his attention.

26-year old Carwyn is adamant that his decision is final, even though Llanelli have been reluctant to acknowledge the loss of such a talented player, and have until this week been attempting to brief the flying winger with new training schedules for next season.

He says that people outside farming simply fail to appreci-

ate the work involved in the job, and Llanelli coach Gareth Davies' intention to up the Stradey training sessions to three a week have further underlined to Carwyn that his time is too heavily committed to his job.

When Carwyn takes over the running of the two Llangadog farms from his parents, he will find himself responsible for 110 acres and the daily milking of 70 cattle. Carwyn says that in total there are over 100 cattle on the farms, and he's often found himself working from 6am to 6pm, and facing a training session at 6.30!.

He's also faced a 27-mile drive home from Stradey, and with the all-enveloping farm duties he's about to undertake, he needs to be almost constantly on the spot. Carwyn says the decision to go has no bearing on his exit from the Welsh squad after his injury problems in early

February, saying that the time is now simply right to bow out.

He also says that he has no thoughts of turning out occasionally for any club at a lower level, and leaves with few if any regrets, saying he couldn't possibly have played for a better club than Llanelli, and also treasuring his four Welsh caps.

Davies leaves an achievement in the club record books that could remain for many seasons, having two seasons ago set a try-scoring record of 45 to pass Andy Hill's total of 39. In total, he played 158 times for Llanelli, scoring 554 points including 121 tries, and was the highest scorer in the club's 89-90 campaign.

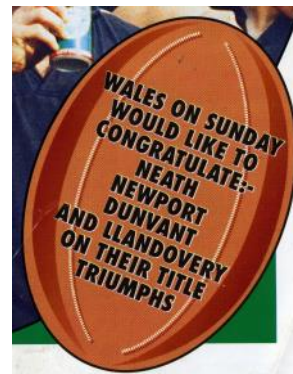
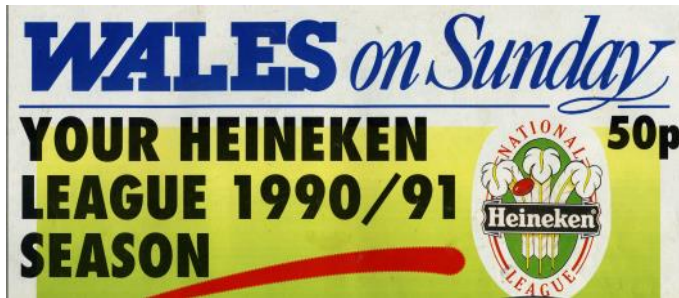
ate the work involved in the job, and Llanelli coach Gareth Davies' intention to up the Stradey training sessions to three a week have further underlined to Carwyn that his time is too heavily committed to his job.

When Carwyn takes over the running of the two Llangadog farms from his



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Courtesy Wyn Williams



Stan's laurels



Pic of the season: Llandovery's muddled heroes celebrate promotion with a dressing room party after the draw against Tenby

CHAMPIONS LLANDOVERY

LAST in, first out was Llandovery's motto this season. The final club to qualify for leagues turned the form book upside down by emerging as champions.

Now they are set to go one better by sweeping through the third division (as it will be called) to join the likes of Dunvant and Llanharan among Welsh rugby's elite.

After finishing fifth in the West Wales championship the season before, Llandovery earned their chance by the narrowest of margins.

The clubs who have done well on the field in the bottom two divisions have also been the ones with the best set up off it. Llandovery, with new facilities and a superb clubhouse built by the community, certainly have that.

They also have top English coach Stan Liptrot, whose ideas did not go down at all well at Maesteg, but have seen a blossoming of Llandovery where he is allowed a free rein.

"I had never before agreed to take over a side without having seen them play, but the gamble was certainly worthwhile with Llandovery," he explained.

"They are prepared to seek excellence, and don't use a nail when a screw is needed.

"Certainly we are confident looking ahead. We class ourselves alongside Dunvant, and see no reason why we should not follow their success."

Liptrot has brought into their rugby management the everyday principles used in business.

"Creating the right environment makes one hell of a difference. In business you try to have zero defects, and translated into rugby that means zero penalties," explained Liptrot.

"So we do things such as analysing who gives penalties away, and why, and in one league game we only conceded two penalties which is pretty good going.

"The number of points we gave away is lower than everyone else in any of the leagues apart from Newport, who played four games fewer, and Dunvant by three points."

To be confident of success in the higher division Llandovery are hoping to strengthen their squad with outsiders, which could cause friction.

Players to watch: Welsh Youth prop **Arwel Evans** will get some games along with highly promising Under-19s hooker **Barry Williams**. Full back **Hywel Jones** only came into the side at the end of the season but did well. **Prospects:** Promotion again.

Third Division

LLANDOVERY P18; W14; D2; L2
PTS for 332 Against 136
Top scorer Carwyn Williams 128

TENBY UNITED ... P18; W13; D2; L3
PTS for 369 Against 200
Top scorer Ben Childs 191

TUMBLE P18; W12; D0; L6
PTS for 286 Against 155
Top scorer Jared Davies 128

CILFYNYDD P18; W11; D2; L5
PTS for 288 Against 180
Top scorer Paul Jones 104

ST PETER'S P18; W9; D1; L8
PTS for 335 Against 233
Top scorer Simon Harries 131

BLACKWOOD P18; W8; D0; L10
PTS for 307 Against 264
Top scorer Grayson Williams 67

KIDWELLY P18; W7; D0; L11
PTS for 264 Against 283
Top scorer Peter Davies 58

KENFIG HILL P18; W6; D1; L11
PTS for 265 Against 277
Top scorer Huw Watkins 71

PONTYPOOL U P18; W6; D0; L12
PTS for 185 Against 294
Top scorer Paul Gwatkin 67

RUTHIN P18; W0; D0; L18
PTS for 72 Against 681
Top scorer John Tudor 21



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

Battles

The fixture list has been published for the new Heineken National Rugby leagues which begin in September, and both Llandovery and Tumble have some interesting battles in store in their Division Three campaigns.

Tumble begin on September 22 with a visit to Ruthin, with their first home match coming a week later against Kidwelly. Llandovery set off away to Clifynydd, then greet Ruthin the following week.

THE WEST Wales rugby season kicks off on Saturday with an unfamiliar look about it, with Tumble, Llandovery, Dunvant, Bonymaen and Kidwelly gone to seek fame and fortune in the Heineken League.

In Section A its up to the likes of newly promoted Pontarddulais, along with Vardre, Ystradgynlais Loughor and Waunarlwydd to take over the reigns at the top.

Pontarddulais, who were promoted as runners up to Seven Sisters last year start their campaign against familiar opposition in the shape of Waunarlwydd who followed them up in fourth place.

Vardre, who finished bottom of Section A last term, travel to Bryncoch for their first match and will be looking for a marked improvement on last year.

Ystradgynlais must travel to face Carmarthen, while Loughor take on Seven Sisters.

Last season's Section C champions Brynman

start their season in Section B with a home match against Abercrave, who failed to impress last time round.

Llandeilo entertain Laugharne, while Llandybïe boosted by the return of wandering outside half Mike Lewis will hope for a winning start at home to Morriston.

Ammanford will be hoping their free-running backs can keep up their pre-season form at Pontyberem.

In Section C Hendy are at home to promoted Glynneath and Gorseinon will be taking a trip to the seaside to face Penclawdd, who clocked up an impressive 71 tries during their promotion campaign.

Amman United will be visited by Crynant in Section D on the opening day,

and Trebanos will be glad to get the long trip to Llanpeter out of the way early on. Ystalyfera get the chance to run the rule over Section E champions Trimsaran. Gowerton are the odd team out this week and don't play.

The earth could move in Section E, when the two "Cwm's" - Cwmgors and Cwmllynfell - come together at G-C-G in a clash which is unlikely to be one for the faint-hearted. Penygroes kick off their centenary season by entertaining Pontardawe.

Alltwen, who narrowly missed out on promotion from Section F kick off at home to Newcastle Emlyn, and relegated Cefneithin start off life in Section F against Glais, who suffered the drop along side.



● CELEBRATIONS . . . The Llandovery RFC side which drew 28-all with a Welsh Golden Oldies XV to celebrate the opening of Llandovery's new club house. But the Towy Valley side face a more serious match on Saturday when they travel to Clifynydd in the Heineken League. Tumble, also in Division Three, face the long trek north to Ruthin.



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

Meanwhile Llandovery, who were narrowly beaten at much-fancied Cilfynydd, get their chance to test Ruthin at home, and should open their league points account.

Last Saturday Cilfynydd's Anthony Gough was Llandovery's main tormentor with 10 points. The visitors' scores came from two penalties from full-back Hywel Jones.

A DOUBLE BOOST FOR LLANDOVERY

LLANDOVERY RFC enjoyed a double celebration last week when the announcement of former Welsh International Carwyn Davies' return to the club was followed by Saturday's emphatic Heineken League win over Ruthin.

Coach Stan Liptrout described the record breaking Llanelli's winger's return to the club as a "great boost to the side."

"He will miss the game against Tumble but he will be in for the Kidwelly match. He is looking forward to playing in our talented back line. I think he will fit in very well."

The coach was also delighted with Saturday's emphatic 42-12 win over the North Walsians - the highest score of the day - which lifted them into third place.

He said: "It was a good performance in dreadful weather. It was a great

and controlled the match in the first half. Lost their way for 20 minutes in the second, but then finished the match strongly.

Picked out for particular praise were captain Wyn Williams, full-back Hywel Jones, outside-half Carwyn Williams and back row men Chris Davies, Elfyn Jenkins and Nigel Clarke.

Llandovery's try scorers were wing Arwel Rowlands (2); hooker Gerald Lewis; M Pritchard; Nigel Clarke; Wyn Williams; Carwyn Williams and Elfyn Jenkins. Hywel Williams landed five penalties.

'MATCH OF THE DAY'

WEST WALES rivals Llandovery and Tumble clash head-on this weekend in the Heineken League Division Three "match of the day."

Going into the match Llandovery have one or two injury worries following their 14-9 win at Builth Wells last Wednesday. Hooker Wyn Morgan (ribs) and centre Alun Thomas (shoulder) the injured parties.

But a Llandovery try scorer against Builth, Carwyn Davies, definitely won't be playing as he is

not yet eligible in the new leagues.

Meanwhile Tumble have an unusual player problem with Julian Parker, the huge 6ft 8 ins lock who joined them from Briton Ferry during the summer.

Parker is the only player in the Tumble squad who does not speak Welsh. He stopped taking

lessons when he was nine.

Now the 25-year-old teacher must start learning the language again so he can understand the line-out calls and team talks.

Tumble also had a successful warm up for Saturday's match when they beat second division side Dunvant 17-9.

Llandovery won't relish the visit to Parc Y Mynydd Mawr, especially if the conditions are wet - just how Tumble like it.

But with Llandovery's

talented backs it is unlikely there will be much between the sides at the end.

Indeed, when the teams met in the West Wales Championship at the turn of the year Llandovery edged the result by 4-0. At the end of the season both teams were locked on 20 points and shared almost identical records.

Tumble pipped Llandovery for fourth place by virtue of the fact they had scored more tries.



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Courtesy Wyn Williams

Tumble 6 pts, Llandovery 9

THREE penalties by fly half Carwyn Williams was just enough to give Llandovery an excellent away win against their great West Wales rivals.

Defeat for the Magpies means that they slip from top spot and lose their unbeaten record as well.

With both sides knowing each other's pattern of play inside out, anything other than a tight forward dominated encounter would have been a surprise. As it was, Llandovery successfully countered the threat of Tumble's giant lock Julian Parker, and with parity in the line-outs they were able to gain the upper hand in the other phases of play.

Llandovery now face another



● **AERIAL DUEL . . .** Where the match was won - Llandovery managed to stifle Tumble in the lines-out, but this time it's the Magpies who get highest. Guardian picture.

STAND-INS COME GOOD

LLANDOVERY coach Stan Liptrot was this week delighted at the way his side pulled off Saturday's Heineken League win at Tumble, despite being depleted by last minute withdrawals.

Five first team players pulled out leaving his back line manned by second teamers and players operating out of position.

He said: "At the eleventh hour we had a number of injuries and had to play five players who would not have been in the side."

Only on Thursday night did the coach learn he

would be without lock Ian Jones, centre Alun Thomas and full back Hywel Jones.

"That was serious and after losing Huw so early on in the match, the omens did not seem too good."

But the team stuck to their carefully laid plans to nullify the threat of Tumble's 6ft 8 in second row Julian Parker and to

win fast ball.

Although the dry conditions were more suited to Llandovery's usual style of back play Mr Liptrot said it was his forwards who won the day.

"The forwards picked up the mantle and delivered. Nigel Clarke moving up to second row had a superb game."

All Llandovery's points came from the boot Carwyn Williams who placed three penalties including a huge 50 metre matchwinning effort in the last few minutes.

Previously unbeaten in the league, Tumble, who were without captain and hooker Eroll Price, replied with a Jarrod Davies penalty and drop goal.

Despite this setback the team from Parc Y Mynydd Mawr are still in second place above Llandovery in fourth on points difference.

One cause for celebration in the Tumble ranks was that veteran scrum-half Arwel Davies picked up the third division player of the month award.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 ww04

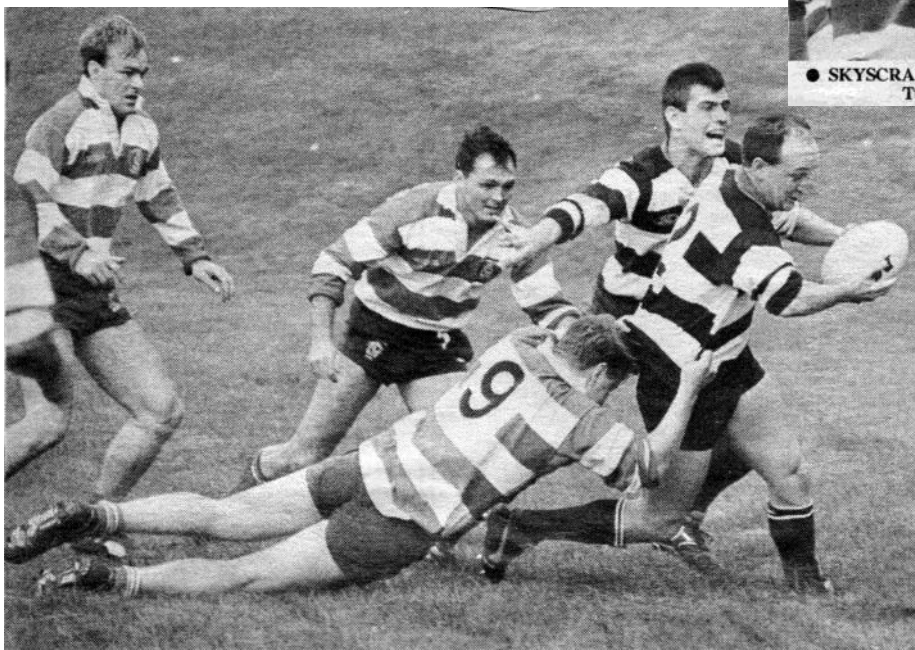
Courtesy Wyn Williams



● **LLANDOVERY WALL** . . . Wyn Williams gets enough protection from his team mates to get the ball away to his scrum-half, despite the attempts of a Tumble player to swap shirts during the game. Guardian picture.



● **SKYSCRAPER** . . . Llandovery's Chris Davies soars high above his Tumble opponents to claim a valuable line out ball.



● **GOT YOU** . . . Tumble's Aled Owen is hauled back by Llandovery's scrum-half as he makes a break for the line.



Brilliant Llandovery

IT'S BACK to league action for most local rugby clubs after last week's cup and friendly matches.

In the Heineken League Llandovery travel to Kidwelly hoping to carry on where they left off in their last league match when they beat Tumble.

For the first time this season former Llanelli wing and Church Bank favourite, Carwyn Davies, will be eligible to play in a league match.

Last Saturday Llandovery warmed up for the clash against Kidwelly with a 40-6 thrashing of second division Bonymaen, during which they chalked up eight tries.

The Towy Valley side, who are now in third place in the league are also third favourites for the title at 5-1.

THE National League division two and three clubs took advantage of an "open league" date to hone their game in friendly fixtures.

Some fascinating results emerged from these games, none more so than division three side's Llandovery's eight-try drubbing of Bonymaen.

The Swansea side have yet to show any of their pre-season form in the league's second division and any hopes of a confidence boost at Llandovery were quickly destroyed as the home side surged into a 25-6 interval lead.

The home flankers of Elfyn Jenkins and Chris Davies

though the Quins eventually run out 19-12 winners, this result is bound to cause them some concern.

Cwmgwrach secretary Randall Giddings said, "This result will be a good morale booster for our boys, particularly as the Quins are six divisions above us."

Flanker David Smith, wing Paul Bamsey and prop Mark Gibbon scored the Quin's tries, acting skipper Michael Jones adding two conversions and a penalty.

Whitrow claimed a full set for Cwmgwrach, scoring a try, a conversion, a penalty and a drop goal.

Division three side Kidwelly must have seen confident of gaining a morale-boosting win when they led unbeaten division two side Dunvant 12-3 at the interval.

Full back Peter Williams and wing Stevie John scored early tries for the home side, but the indiscipline which has plagued Kidwelly in the league was again in evidence and allowed Dunvant's outside half Andrew Hutchings to kick four penalties and convert tries by wing Paul Farnworth and scrum half Chris Hutchings as Dunvant secured a 24-18 victory.

Briton Ferry experienced league standard rugby when they

grabbed a brace of tries each as did full back Arwel Rowlands.

Lock Gerald Lewis and scrum half Adrian Davies also scored a try each, fly half Carwyn Williams kicking five penalties and a penalty as Llandovery ran out 40-6 winners.

This defeat will do nothing for Bonymaen's league hopes when they travel to meet another struggling side, Aberavon Quins next Saturday.

The Port Talbot side were also in action, visiting West Wales league section E side Cwmgwrach.

The Neath Valley side actually led 3-0 at the interval thanks to a penalty by Ian Whitrow, but al-

entertained Clive John's Tumble side.

The Ferry led 9-4 at the interval after outside half Paul Watkins had kicked two long-range penalties, a feat he repeated in the second half before White's audacious drop goal.

Tumble's greater experience eventually told, however, overcoming some stern Ferry tackling to score five tries by centres Mark Lewis and Kevin Evans, half backs Richard Evans and Iefion Davies and prop Peter Watts. Davies added two conversions.

In Pembrokeshire, division two side Narberth played at Pembroke Town.

Narberth wing Chris Oliver put the first points on the board with a first-minute try, converted by fly half Clive James, who also added a first half penalty.

Home flanker Jonathan Wellington scored a try for Pembroke, converted by full back Jonathan Williams, who levelled the scores with a penalty for the sides to change round 9-9 at the interval.

The game continued at a furious pace, but Narberth's superior fitness eventually proved decisive as a sweeping 75 metre movement resulted in the match-winning try.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 WW04

Courtesy Wyn Williams

THIRD DIVISION



BLACKWOOD v TUMBLE

Blackwood: A Royle; S McCracken, M Hodges, G Lewis, G Thomas; G Williams, R Lewis; P Bishop, M Tyson, L Rees, N Coles, P Fletcher, M Barber, M Thomas (capt), S Williams.
Reps: M Dimmick, C Davies, L Graves, P Moyle, S Willsted.

Tumble: W Richards; R Rees, A Owen, K Evans, M Williams; J Davies, A Davies; M King, A Thomas, R Williams, C Lewis, J Parker, L Mathias, G Davies, T Davies. Replacements: I Flear, Richard E Evans, Richard Evans, I Morgan.

Kick-off: 3.0

Referee: B Wallis

KIDWELLY v LLANDOVERY

Kidwelly: Team still to be selected

Llandovery: E James; A N Other, A Thomas, E Jones, A Rowlands; C Williams, A Davies; E Evans/D Thomas, G Lewis, A Evans, W Williams (capt), I Jones, E Jenkins, N Clarke, C Davies.
Kick-off: 3.0

Referee: G Bowden

Kidwelly are going through a rough patch, and crashed to a 27-6 defeat against Llandovery at Parc Stephens.

Scrum-half Adrian Davies pounced for two of the Llandovery tries, and there was one each for No.8 Nigel Clarke and wing Huw Morgan. Fly-half Carwyn Williams added one conversion, two penalties and a dropped goal.

Kidwelly's sole consolation was a try by hooker Haydn Tong, which full-back Peter Williams con-

WILD WEST SHOOT-OUT

Kidwelly 6 Llandovery 27

LLANDOVERY move up into second place in the Heineken League third division having beaten their West Wales rivals Tumble and now Kidwelly in the last three weeks.

Only a try in injury time prevented a complete whitewash as Llandovery dominated all aspects of play. Locals could not remember a time when their side had been so comprehensively beaten.

Kidwelly had the advantage of a stiff breeze in the first half, but it was Llandovery who went ahead after ten minutes.

The visitors won possession against the head and outside half Carwyn Williams dropped a goal from 30 metres.

Kidwelly, when they had the ball, relied on outside-half Julian Edwards to kick for possession, or

in attack, with high up and unders.

However, it was Llandovery who were to go further ahead. From a scrum a few metres from the Kidwelly line, number eight Nigel Clarke broke down the blindside and put scrum-half Adrian Davies over, making the half-time score 7-0 to Llandovery.

Man of the match Adrian Davies was having an inspired game at scrum-half, and it was he who virtually sealed Kidwelly's fate five minutes into the second half with his second try of the match.

A further long range

penalty from Carwyn Williams, and a Nigel Clarke pushover try, were followed by the best try of the afternoon.

A fierce tackle by Alun Thomas saw the ball go loose on the 22 metre line, Carwyn Williams' pick up saw Huw Morgan score virtually unopposed.

Williams converted and kicked a further penalty when Kidwelly were penalised for giving unwanted advice to referee Gwyn Bowden.

A consolation try by Haydn Tonge, converted by captain Peter Williams, was Kidwelly's only scoring contribution.

Meanwhile, Blackwood, Llandovery's op-

ponents next Saturday were finding out how hard it is to score a try against Tumble these days.

The Magpies are the only Heineken League side yet to concede a try this season. The only points registered against them so far are seven penalties.

But Tumble had to work hard for their 15-9 away win and had to rely on the boot of outside-half Jared Davies, who landed two penalties, a conversion and a late drop goal which clinched the match.

Tumble's only try came from Mike Williams early in the second half following a blind-side move.

The Gwendraeth Valley side, Llandovery and Tenby United are now tied on six points behind unbeaten Cilfynydd, who have a maximum eight.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 WW04

Courtesy Wyn Williams

Going gets tough for Kidwelly

Kidwelly suffered their third consecutive defeat in the third division of the Heineken National League, going down heavily at Parc Stephens to a much better side.

They came second best in most phases of play. It was only in the lines-out that they won better ball than Llandovery, due to the excellent two handed catching of Paul Burt, but for most of the time even this valuable possession was not utilised. Poor protection for the young lock allowed Llan-

doverly to prevent any good use made of hard won ball.

The Black and Ambers, in spite of playing second fiddle, did well to hold them to a seven point interval lead through an early dropped goal by fly half Carwyn Williams, and a try by the hard working scrum half Adrian Davies.

It was one-way traffic after the interval. With the visiting back row in tremendous form, and Elfryn Jenkins quite outstanding, Kidwelly had no answer to their driving play.

Kidwelly 6pts Llandovery 27pts

They increased their lead early in the second half, when Adrian Davies got his second try of the match before Carwyn Williams landed a penalty goal. And to take a comfortable lead in the last quarter, number eight Nigel Clarke crossed for a try.

Kidwelly lost fly half Julian Edwards with a back injury, and Jeremy Williams came on at full back, allowing skipper

Peter Williams to move up to fly half.

Llandovery also suffered a loss through injury, as captain and lock Wyn Williams left the field to be replaced by Huw Protheroe. This didn't make any difference to the Red and Whites who were in the most dominating form. They added a fourth try through winger Huw Morgan, which Carwyn Williams converted, and just on time, Williams again punished Kidwelly with a penalty goal.

In the second minute of time added on for injury, Kidwelly got a consolation score, and it was hooker Haydn Tonge who was awarded the try, Peter Williams added the points with an angled conversion.

This was scant reward for Kidwelly, who are in the doldrums at present. They desperately need a win to get their confidence back, as they are now firmly entrenched at the bottom of the division, with only Ruthin between them and bottom spot.

Man of the match: Adrian Davies, Llandovery (Scrum Half).

● Before the start of the match, Kidwelly Team Manager, Hywel Rees made a presentation on behalf of the League sponsors to two players who were joint top scorers in September with two tries apiece. Tankards and two dozen cans of Heineken Lager were awarded to Kidwelly winger Wayne John, and Llandovery winger Arwel Rowlands.

Winners on form

KIDWELLY 6
LLANDOVERY 27

LLANDOVERY CONTINUED their winning form in Division Three of the Heineken leagues with a convincing victory over Kidwelly at Station Road.

Llandovery pack monopolised possession throughout which allowed half backs Adrian Davies and Carwyn Williams to dictate the pattern and pace of play.

It was Williams who gave the visitors the lead with a drop goal after 10 minutes.

To their credit Kidwelly got on the scoreboard in injury time with a fine try by hooker Haydn Tonge converted by full back Peter Williams.

SCORERS — Kidwelly. Tries: Haydn Tonge. Conversions: Peter Williams.
Llandovery. Tries: Adrian Davies (2), Nigel Clarke, Huw Morgan. Conversions: Carwyn Williams. Penalties: Carwyn Williams (2). Drop goal: Carwyn Williams.

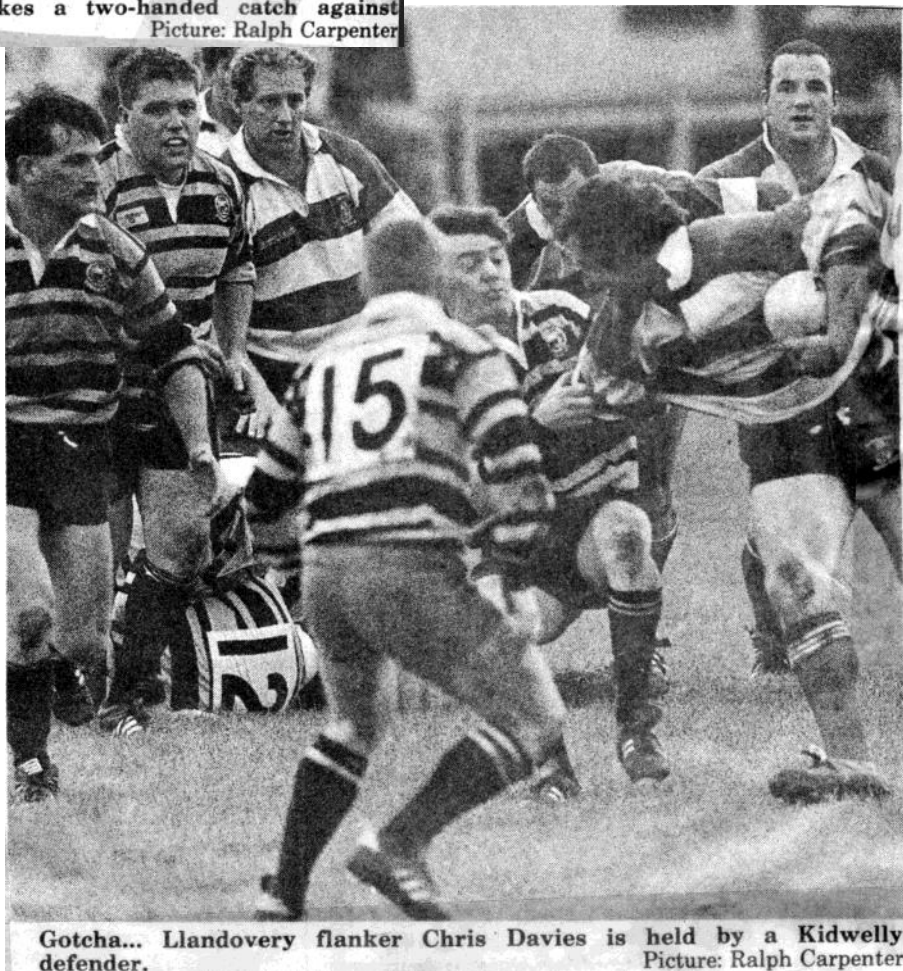


Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 ww04

Courtesy Wyn Williams



Going up... Kidwelly's Paul Burt makes a two-handed catch against Llandovery.
Picture: Ralph Carpenter



Gotcha... Llandovery flanker Chris Davies is held by a Kidwelly defender.
Picture: Ralph Carpenter



LOCAL HEROES TOP THE TABLE

WEST WALES rivals Tumble and Llandovery are this week looking down at the rest of the Heineken League third division from the top two positions in the table.

Tumble are in top spot by virtue of their remarkable defensive record. They have yet to concede a try in the league and completely shut out Pontypool United on Saturday by 20-0.

Veteran scrum-half Arwel Davies opened the scoring after 15 minutes when he scored a try from a close range scrum.

The lead was extended just four minutes later when prop Paul Jones forced his way over after a rolling maul took the Magpies within striking distance of United's line.

Kevin Edwards added a third try which wing Eurig Morgan converted, before outside half Jarrod Davies rounded off a fine display by scoring under the posts. Morgan again converted.

Meanwhile Llandovery were having a tougher

time at home to Blackwood and were a little fortunate to claim the points.

It was only excellent, and at times, uncompromising defence that prevented Blackwood scoring in the second half.

The Gwent side had an excellent front five, with loose head prop Rees, and second row Coles outstanding.

The first scrum demonstrated Blackwood's forward power, but gradually Llandovery built up a points margin which they relied on later.

Within five minutes

Carwyn Williams kicked a penalty following a line-out offence, but Geoff Williams levelled the scores for the visitors.

However, Adrian Williams gave Llandovery the lead following a charge down. Carwyn Williams added the conversion.

A further Williams penalty gave Llandovery a 12-3 interval lead - a score which could have been greater as Nigel Clarke seemed to score a good "try".

Immediately after the break Blackwood reduced the arrears to 12-6, and

for the rest of the half Llandovery spent most of the time defending with Blackwood winning the lion's share of possession.

Although former Llanelli and Wales winger Carwyn Davies came on for Llandovery, he was rarely given a chance to show his skills.

The game was decided on the defensive skills of the Llandovery back-row of Nigel Clarke, Elfyn Jenkins and man of the match Chris Davies.

Mention must also be made of the strong running of Blackwood's former youth schoolboy Steve McCracken and the tackling of the Llandovery backs.

THIRD DIVISION



Taking over the top spot

Pontypool United 7 Llandovery 20

LLANDOVERY took over from their West Wales rivals Tumble at the top of the Heineken League third division following this tough match against Pontypool United.

And the Church Bank side's supporters will be pleased to hear that centre Alun Thomas and influential forward Nigel Clarke should be available for this Saturday's Schweppes Cup tie against Bonymaen, despite picking up knocks.

On a Pontypool pitch which was not best suited

to running rugby, Llandovery did well to rattle up five tries after being more than matched by the Gwent side up front.

And it was those tries which secured Llandovery's top of the table slot, with one try more than Tenby United.

At half time it was one try each. Paul Goodchild

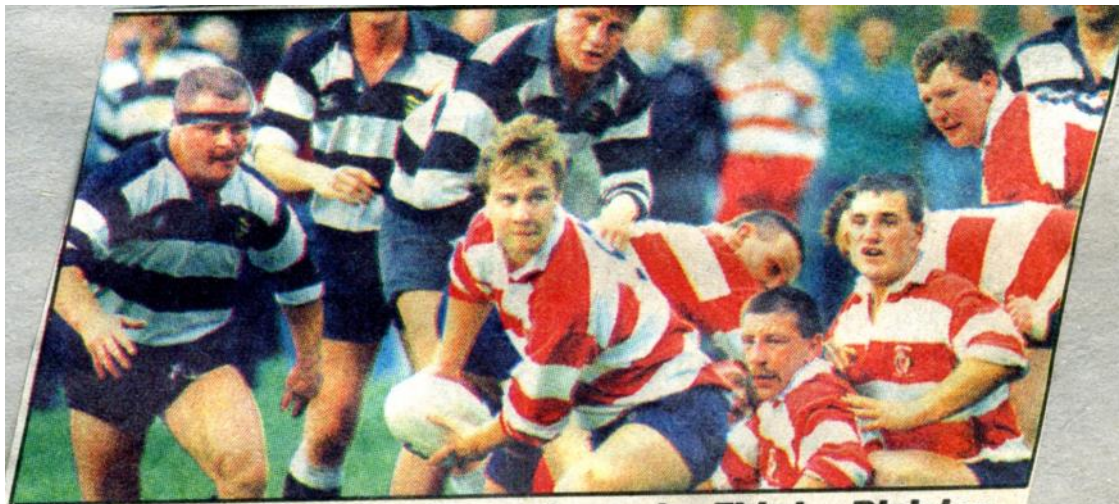
for Pontypool, after 26 minutes, and Huw Morgan replying for Llandovery right on half time.

Alun Thomas put Llandovery ahead before Morgan ran in for his second. Following Thomas' injury Arwel Rowlands took over at centre and showed how quickly he can adapt by scoring two tries.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 ww04

Courtesy Wyn Williams



**Heineken League Second and Third Division
round-ups.....**

Among those who will take no further part in the competition are Llandovery, who crashed out of the competition at rain-lashed Bonymaen.

Given first use of a strong wind at their backs

the Towy Valley side took the lead when Chris Davies crossed for an unconverted try. Carwyn Williams dropped a goal before the interval.

But the 7-0 lead wasn't enough and second division Bonymaen were soon ahead and opened up a 16-7 lead. Arwel Rowlands replied with an unconverted try for Llandovery, but it came too late.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 ww04

Courtesy Wyn Williams

Llandovery 12 pts St Peter's 3

WYN Williams, Llandovery's second row and skipper, led his side to the win that keeps them at the top of the division, then paid tribute to the work coach Stan Liptrot has put into the club.

"The coach has made a tremendous difference to our game this season," said Williams. "He has worked very hard to improve the fitness levels of all the players and at the moment everything is going according to plan."

Although good value for their victory, Llandovery's performance was far from being their best of the season and Williams pointed this out.

"We were a bit sloppy at times," he said, "but under the conditions we're quite pleased to come out with a win."

Full back Hywel Jones, taking over the place kicking in the absence of Carwyn Williams, landed four shots for Llandovery, while his opposite number Simon Harris managed just one.

Llandovery: Pens — H Jones (4).
St Peter's: Pen — S Harris.



● HERE'S HOW . . . Llandovery full back Hywel Jones showing the kicking technique which helped him land all of his side's points in their win over St Peters.



● TRY AND STOP ME . . . Llandovery's Huw Thomas throws down a challenge to St Peters by running at their defence.



SEASIDE SHOWDOWN

LLANDOVERY kept their place at the top of the Heineken League third division in a match dominated by penalties.

This result now sets the scene for a cracking match on Saturday when Llandovery travel to second placed Tenby for what should be a real "top of the table clash".

St Peters came to the Church Bank field with a reputation for being strong up front and boasting a talented back line.

The heavy ground conditions and driving rain meant the game was kept close to the forwards, and for only the second time this season Llandovery failed to score a try.

Once again the home side's back row did well with man of the match Elfyn Jenkins outstanding.

**Llandovery 12
St Peters 3**

Both sides had opportunities to take the lead before Hywel Jones kicked Llandovery ahead, only to see full-back Harries level the scores.

Another penalty just five minutes later put Llandovery back in front.

A missed penalty just on half time meant the teams turned around with the home side 6-3 ahead.

The second half saw Llandovery comfortably soak up the St Peters pressure and two further penalties from Hywel Jones made the game safe. Tumble have now slipped

four points behind the league leaders following their 21-13 home defeat at the hands of Tenby United.

But for a late try by prop Peter Watts, which was converted by Jarred Davies, Tumble would have suffered a more embarrassing defeat. The Magpies' other points came from a try by second row Williams and a Davies penalty.

Drovers

This top of the table clash, given 'Match of the Day' status by the BBC, fully lived up to expectations.

Nearly 50 points were scored with the lead changing hands in the first half when the visitors were playing up a slope that was reminiscent of a ski run. Llandovery obviously were aware of Ben Childs' kicking ability and whilst the Tenby outside half was accurate with his place kicking, his tactical kicking was generally below par.

The Tenby supporters chant of 'kick us up there, Ben' turned out wishful thinking as he was houn-

Tenby 18pts Lla

ded by the Llandovery back row of Chris Davies, Dai Giles & Elfyn Jenkins.

The presence of Carwyn Davies on the left wing for the visitors acted as a deterrent to Childs' kicking in the first half, in particular when the slope was in Tenby's favour. So the Childs' play became just that, and Tenby will look for a Bill to complement Ben in future!

Llandovery opened the scoring within 10 minutes of the start a high up and under by man of the match Carwyn Williams

But Llandovery remain in pole position following a breathtaking 30-18 win at Tenby United.

For Llandovery, fly-half Carwyn Williams scored a try, landed two penalties and converted two of the tries by wing Arwel

Rowlands, scrum-half Rowlands, Adrian Davies, centre Huw Thomas and powerful forward Nigel Clarke.

have fun at the seaside

Llandovery 30

was not fielded cleanly and Nigel Clarke gathered a bouncing ball and Williams converted.

Tenby came back strongly down the slope. Childs kicked a penalty but again Williams replied for Llandovery.

The visitors came under intense pressure however and often several top penalties pro Carl Evans scored and Childs converted. Tenby continued to use the slope and a high up and under saw Tenby break through when Truman scored and Childs

converted and kicked a penalty.

At this point the game was in danger of going away from Llandovery, but the Tenby progress was stopped and the whole nature of the game changed just on half time.

From a scrum 30m out, outside half Williams missed out his centres on a misscore before noticing the Tenby fullback out of position.

Williams' diagonal kick was inch perfect for rightwing Arwel Rowlands to calmly pick up and score.

So at half time Tenby

had a five point lead - a lead that was to prove inadequate as the red and white tide came down the slope in the second half.

Immediately from the kick off Llandovery established camp in the Tenby 22m area and from a 5m scrum No8 Dai Giles fed Adrian James and the scrum half's strength took him over.

Whilst T.V. comments questioned where the Tenby back row were, it is only fair to say that the Tenby scrum was under tremendous pressure from the visitors into the lead.

A neat centre move involving fullback Emyr James almost brought another try before Eirian Jones & Huw Thomas combined cleverly for Thomas to score under the posts and Williams to convert.

Tenby were now continually on the defensive and when Childs was caught in possession the relieving kick failed to find touch. Carwyn Davies fielded the ball skipped inside his wing, handed on to Carwyn Williams who sold the defence an outrageous dummy because scoring Llandovery's fifth try.

The five tries take Llandovery's tally to 23 for the season, just enough to keep them top of the table above Cilfynydd who managed 10 tries against Rythin.

Next Saturday sees Llandovery playing Kenfig Hill at home (2.30 ko). Kenfig Hill can not be underrated - the last encounter in the cup saw Llandovery scrape through by 7-6.

Kinfig are a renowned forward dominated side so the game will be vital for Llandovery.



Carwyn on top in fly half duel

**Tenby 18 pts
Llandovery 30**

MALCOLM LEWIS watches Llandovery take a two points lead in Division Three.

LLANDOVERY outside half Carwyn Williams expertly exploited the tricky slopes of Heywood Lane in lifting his side two points clear at the top of the Heineken League Third Division.

He outshone Tenby captain Ben Childs who, apart from his goal-kicking, was well below his best in the fly half duel between two of the most influential players in the division.

"It was a big plus for us to win the toss," said Williams, who used the slope advantage in the second-half to pin down the home side with finely judged line-kicking.

Surprisingly, he made much better use of it than did Childs, who looked a stranger on his own pitch, particularly in trying to find touch to ease the remorseless pressure that Llandovery applied after turning round 18-13 in arrears.

Llandovery skipper Wyn Williams admitted that he feared the worst after Tenby had shot into an 18-9 lead.

"At that time, I thought it was going to be very hard for us to come back," he said, "but we scored right on half-time and that really set us up for the second-half."

Tenby, outscored 5-2 in tries in this battle for the Third Division leadership, had no excuses for going down to only their second

League defeat.

"They took us apart in the second-half," conceded team manager Tony Powling. "They gave us a lesson as to how to play tactically."

Coach Glyn Davies, a former Cardiff full back, also praised the Llandovery effort. "They played better downhill than we did," he said. "We put pressure on ourselves by making mistakes and missing with our touch-kicks."

Such was the sure touch of Williams that Tenby must have felt they were playing uphill for most of the match on a pitch which slopes sideways as well as lengthways.

Llandovery opted to play up the slope while they were still fresh and a side-effect of their decision was the difficulty their forwards encountered in holding a strong Tenby shove.

The signs were ominous for them but by the second-half their scrum had become rock solid once it became the turn of Tenby to push uphill.

The Tenby front row of Colwyn Harts, John Richards and Carl Evans did well to take three strikes against the head but the line-out possession was less consistent.

It began to dry up after the interval with Nigel Clarke and David Giles in particular assert-

ing themselves for Llandovery.

But with not a lot separating the packs, the real influence came from the Llandovery outside-half.

In addition to his goal-kicking, he engineered two first-half tries for his side with perfectly placed kicks and scored the last himself for a 14-point contribution.

That final try summed up Tenby's big failing. Scrum half Rob Brown's clearance kick dropped short of touch to Carwyn Davies.

The former Llanelli wing, making his first full League appearance for his home club, collected and sent Williams away on a finishing burst to the corner.

Childs was immaculate with his place-kicking. He converted all four goal chances, but with the ball in the hand he was far less effective.

Tenby: G Scotcher; D Cavill, Chris Evans, N Truman, G Thomas; B Childs (capt), R Brown; C Harts, J Richards, Carl Evans, A Swales, S Lewis, M Evans, E Lewis, S Vickery.

Llandovery: E James; A Rowlands, H Thomas, E Jones, C Davies; C Williams, A Davies; E Evans, G Lewis, A Evans, W Williams (capt), N Clarke, C Davies, D Giles, E Jenkins.

Tenby: Tries, Carl Evans, N Truman. Cons, B Childs (2), pens Childs (2).

Llandovery: Tries, N Clarke, A Rowlands, A Davies, E Jones, C Williams. Con, C Williams (2), pens, Williams (2).

Referee: Mr J G Morgan (Pontyclun).



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 ww04

Courtesy Wyn Williams



MY TRY! Llandovery's Arwel Rowlands crashes across the Tenby line.



In at the corner...Llandovery right wing Carwyn Williams scores the final try in his side's top of the table clash with Tenby United.



Llandovery RFC Team Records 1989-90 ww04

Courtesy Wyn Williams



Man and ball...Llandovery prop Nigel Clarke is caught in possession as he drives forward by a determined Tenby forward. Picture: Ralph Carpenter.



LEAGUE TABLES

Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	Pt
Neath.....	8	8	0	0	179	107	22	16
Llanelli.....	8	5	1	2	160	101	21	11
Bridgend.....	8	5	1	2	116	107	13	11
Cardiff.....	8	5	0	3	178	113	25	10
Pontypool.....	8	4	0	4	143	117	20	8
Swansea.....	8	4	0	4	130	124	15	8
Pontypridd.....	8	2	1	5	140	134	20	5
Newbridge.....	8	2	0	6	123	124	22	4
Glam Wands.....	8	2	0	6	82	183	8	4
Abertillery.....	8	1	1	6	70	214	5	3

Second Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	Pts
Dunvant.....	7	7	0	0	135	44	16	14
Mount Ash.....	8	6	1	1	137	43	23	13
Llanharan.....	8	6	0	2	188	79	24	12
Blaina.....	8	4	1	3	118	96	17	9
Treorchy.....	7	3	1	3	120	111	15	7
Rumney.....	8	2	2	4	77	114	13	6
Bonymaen.....	8	3	0	5	84	144	10	6
Narberth.....	8	2	1	5	107	133	14	5
Wrexham.....	8	2	0	6	75	194	8	4
Aberavon Q.....	8	1	0	7	97	189	11	2

First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	Pts
Newport.....	6	6	0	0	213	42	32	12
Aberavon.....	6	5	0	1	116	88	18	10
Maesteg.....	6	4	0	2	106	64	18	8
SW Police.....	6	4	0	2	100	80	12	8
Ebbw Vale.....	5	2	0	3	69	94	10	4
Cross Keys.....	6	1	0	5	62	116	8	2
Tredegarr.....	5	1	0	4	32	95	5	2
Penarth.....	6	0	0	6	44	173	5	0

Third Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	Pts
Llandovery.....	8	7	0	1	158	71	23	14
Cilfynydd.....	8	7	0	1	166	83	22	14
Tenby Utd.....	8	6	0	2	158	97	20	12
Tumble.....	8	4	0	4	122	73	15	8
Blackwood.....	8	4	0	4	107	82	13	8
St Peter's.....	8	3	1	4	136	95	19	7
Kenfig H.....	8	3	1	4	124	110	17	7
P'pool Utd.....	8	2	0	6	98	140	14	4
Ruthin.....	8	0	0	8	24	304	1	0



TUMBLE'S BIG BOOST

TUMBLE gave themselves and fellow West Walsians Llandovery a big boost when they beat Cilfynydd in the third division of the Heineken League on Saturday.

For the Magpies it was a vital result to get them back into winning ways, while for Llandovery it meant they were able to open up a two point gap over Cilfynydd at the top of the table.

Tumble took advantage of the fact that several Cilfynydd players were missing because of a wedding, and decided to play the game the way they now best - close to the forwards.

The Tumble tries came

from prop Robert Williams and flanker Les Mathias, while Eurig Morgan kicked a conversion.

Meanwhile Llandovery were chalking up their eighth league win in a row, which sets up a vital home match against Cilfynydd at Llandovery a week on Saturday. A win would open a four point gap between the sides.

Despite playing into the bitter wind during the first

half the Drovers shook Kenfig Hill with a try within three minutes by Chris Davies, which Carwyn Williams converted.

The Mules, as Kenfig Hill are known, scored with a Huw Watkins penalty before Llandovery went further in front when full-back Evans made a mess of a high up and under. Huw Williams kicked through for Eirian Jones to score. Williams again converted.

The home side may have relaxed at this point, in any case Kenfig hit back strongly with a try by left wing Ian Morgan, followed by a conversion

and penalty by outside half Watkins.

With score at 12-12 as the teams turned around it was Llandovery's turn to feel the wind at their backs.

Two further tries by prop Dai Thomas and man-of-the-match Chris Davies pushed the Llandovery try total for the season up to 27.

Carwyn Williams kicked two more penalties and two conversions.

Next Saturday a Bridgend XV travel to Church Bank and seven days later the Drovers will face the "big one" against the only side to beat them this season.

Drovers herd 'mules' into tight corner

Llandovery 33 Kenfig Hill 12

Llandovery extended their winning run to eight league games and with local rivals Tumble beating Cilfynydd, the Drovers are now two points clear at the top of the Heineken league.

Llandovery played into the biting cold wind in the first half, but immediately showed their intentions when Chris Davies scored and Carwyn Williams converted to give the home side a six point lead within three minutes.

The 'Mules' as they are known, reduced the arrears with a Huw Watkins penalty before Llandovery went further ahead. Full-

back Evans made a mess of a high up and under and Huw Thomas kicked through for Eirian Jones to score and Williams to convert.

Perhaps this was too easy for the home side and they may have relaxed - in any case Kenfig came back strongly with a try by left wing Ian Morgan and a conversion and a penalty by outside half Watkins.

So Llandovery had been pegged back to 12 all at half time but with the wind at their backs they scored 19 points in the

second half without Kenfig at any time looking like scoring.

Two further tries by prop Dai Thomas and man of the match Chris Davies pushed up the try total to 27 for the season. Carwyn Williams kicked two further penalties and two conversions for a personal points best.

Next Saturday a Bridgend side visit Llandovery with the league programme commencing the second half with a vital home game against Cilfynydd - the only side to beat Llandovery in the league so far.



Division leaders clash

LLANDOVERY coach Stan Liptrot is hoping for plenty of support when his side takes on Cilfynydd in the Heineken League Third Division top of the table clash at the Church Bank ground on Saturday.

If Llandovery win, they will go four points clear at the top of the table.

Coach Liptrot says all league games are important but he adds: "A win would put us in a very good position and there will be a bit of pride at stake as they are the only side we have lost to.

"We hope to get a good crowd, they have been a bit sparse this season, but to be fair we have tended to have bad weather. So I hope its a nice day and we get a big crowd."

Meanwhile Tumble entertain Ruthin who they hammered 34-0 on the first day of the season.

Drovers are held by title chasers

Llandovery 10
Cilfynydd 10

LLANDOVERY maintained their two point lead at the top of the Heineken league third division after this 10-10 draw with Cilfynydd.

But they could easily have been four points clear had Cilfynydd scrum-half Andy Mathews not scored a late try to claim a share of the points.

Llandovery looked to be on their way to avenging their only defeat of the season against Cilfynydd, when they opened up a 10-0 lead.

Two penalties from Carwyn Williams and a try by former Wales wing Carwyn Davies looked to have paved the way for a convincing win.

But Cilfynydd had other ideas and two penalties from Anthony Gough pulled them back into the match, before Mathews claimed his all-important try.

At Parc Mynydd Mawr Tumble were chalking up the double against North Walians Ruthin with a 34-10.

The North Walians, who are finding life hard in the Heineken league shocked Tumble by taking the lead, and were holding the Magpies 10-10 at the break.

But Tumble's extra strength and experience told in the second half as they pulled away to win comfortably.



DROVERS MOVE FURTHER AHEAD

Ruthin 0 Llandovery 37
LLANDOVERY extended their lead at the top of the Heineken League Third Division when they overwhelmed Ruthin by 37-0, while title challengers Cilfynydd were going down to a shock defeat against Blackwood.

And the man who led Llandovery to victory was former Wales wing Carwyn Davies, who

proved too much for the North Walsians, who put up a spirited fight but were never really in contention.

Davies opened the scoring after six minutes when he jinked past the home defence. He also closed the scoring with a 40 metre solo try. In between, the Llangadog farmer scored another try in the second half.

The Drovers' other tries

came from back row men Chris Davies, Elfyn Jenkins and Nigel Clarke, and centre Alun Thomas. TUMBLE are still serious candidates for promotion from the Heineken League Third Division and their veteran scrum-half Arwel Davies showed he is still a force to be reckoned with.

An eighty-yard interception try from the 34-

year-old fireman showed that any plans he had of retiring at the end of last season would have been a mistake had he taken them further.

That was the only try in the 13-0 victory the. The Magpies other points came from the boot of Jared Davies, who kicked three penalties. The win keeps Tumble in touch in fourth place.