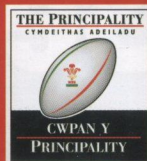
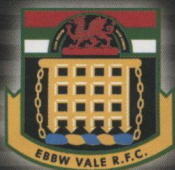


The Principality Cup Cwpan Y Principality



Saturday 13th April 2002, Millennium Stadium

The Semi Finals



SEMI FINAL 1

**Ebbw Vale
v Llanelli**

Kick Off 3.00pm



Sponsored by

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SEMI FINAL 2

**Cardiff v
Pontypridd**

Kick Off 5.30pm



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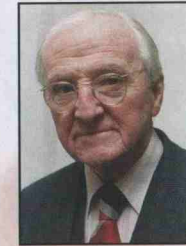
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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I suppose that most, if not all, Welsh people will, with a sigh, turn their attention away from the international rugby scene and welcome today's semi-finals for reassurance that the domestic game in Wales really is in a healthy state and indicates that we shall soon be returning to winning ways in international matches.

Faith in a revival of success in matches against the leading nations such as, not so long ago, we came automatically to accept, justifiably upon our record, has been shaken of late. Loyal supporters wonder whether we are in a trough out of which we shall not emerge and gain the high ground upon which we have proudly stood. Is the respect in which we were held diminishing? Is our lowly state reversible?

I firmly believe that we are capable, or soon will be, of regaining our erstwhile position among the leading nations. Young talent abounds to a very encouraging extent. Performances of our "A" and lower teams show that clearly. Some of it will be on display this afternoon and evening. Good luck to the youths especially in these mighty battles to reach the final.

Ebbw Vale has only once played in the final. Beaten then by Llanelli, the men from North Monmouthshire will strive might and main to keep out of it a club which has, more often than any other, won the coveted cup in this, the 31st tournament, which has been a tremendous success in our domestic game.

Cardiff too has been very successful over the years and will strive to prove that they maintain the will to win and the capability of doing so.

But Pontypridd are no mean cup competitors. Their team is sound and strong fore and aft. Moreover, their rivalry with Cardiff is keen and of long standing. That will be obvious, I anticipate, in what is likely to be a pulsating affair.

Yr wyf fi'n tybio, os na fydd pawb yn troi gydag ochenaid oddi wrth y byd rygbi rhyngwladol, fe fydd y rhan fwyaf o'r genedl yn gwneud hynny, gan groesawu gornestau'r rownd gynderfynol heddiw. Mae angen sicrhad bod y gêm yng Nghymru mewn cyflwr iach, a'i fod yn dangos y dychwelw'n yn fuan at yr arfer o ennill gornestau rhyngwladol.

Mae'r ffydd mewn adfywiad i ennill yn erbyn y prif genhedloedd, megis y rheini y buom yn disgwyl eu curo, heb fod ymhell yn ôl, a chyda chyfiawnhad wrth gofio ein record, wedi ei hysigo'n ddiweddar. Mae'r cefnogwyr ffyddlon yn meddwl, tybed, a ydyn mewn twll na allwn godi allan ohono ac adennill y tir uchel y buom yn sefyll arno â balchder. A ydy'r parch fu gennym yn lleihau? A ydyw hi'n bosibl i ni godi o'n cyflwr dinod?

Yr wyf fi'n credu'n sicr y gallwn, yn fuan iawn, adennill ein safle blaenorol ymhlith y prif genhedloedd. Mae toreth o ddoniau ifainc ar gael i raddau helaeth calonogol. Mae gorchestion ein timau A â'n timau iau'n dangos hynny'n glir. Bydd peth ohono i'w weld y prynhawn 'ma a heno. Pob hwyl i'r ieuencid yn enwedig yn y brwydro ffyrnig i gyrraedd y rownd derfynol.

Unwaith y mae Glyn Ebwy wedi bod yn y rownd derfynol, pan gurwyd nhw gan Lanelli. Bydd y chwaraewyr o Ogledd Gwent yn ymdrechu'n arw i gadw'r clwb rhag cyrraedd y rownd olaf y maen nhw wedi ei hennill fwy na'r un arall, cystadleuaeth sy wedi bod yn llwyddiant enfawr yn ein gêm genedlaethol.

Mae Caerdydd hefyd wedi bod yn llwyddiannus iawn dros y blynyddoedd, a byddant yn ymgeisio er cadw'r ewylls i ennill a allant ei wneud.

Ond mae Pontypridd yn wrthwynebwyr teilwng yn y cwpan. Mae eu tîm yn gryf ymysg eu blaenwyr a'u holwyr, ac ar ben hynny, mae eu cystadlu'n erbyn Caerdydd yn llym, ac wedi bod ers tro. Bydd hynny'n amlwg, welaf fi, mewn gornest a fydd yn debyg o fod yn gynhyrfus.

Tasker Watkins

The Right Honourable Sir Tasker Watkins, VC GBE DL
President, Welsh Rugby Union

Y Gwir Anrhydeddus Syr Tasker Watkins, VC GBE DL
Llywydd, Undeb Rygbi Cymru

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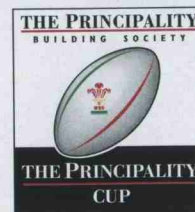
Refreshing the fans of Welsh Rugby



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THE PRINCIPALITY

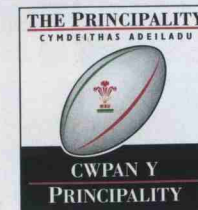
CYMDEITHAS ADEILADU • BUILDING SOCIETY



A welcome from
Peter Griffiths,
Chief Executive,
Principality Building Society
Sponsors of the Principality Cup



Peter Griffiths (Chief Executive)



Croeso oddi wrth
Peter Griffiths,
Prif Weithredwr,
Cymdeithas Adeiladu'r Principality
Noddwyr Cwpan y Principality

On behalf of Principality Building Society, I am delighted to welcome you to semi final Saturday of the Principality Cup. We are especially proud to be associated with today's two matches as they represent the second Principality Cup semi-final 'double-header' in the magnificent setting of the Millennium Stadium.

Back last September, when this year's tournament began, 238 teams embarked on the quest for cup success. After much competitive football through the winter months, they have been whittled down to the last four, namely Cardiff, Ebbw Vale, Llanelli and Pontypridd. All 4 are clubs steeped in the traditions of Welsh rugby's flagship competition, and they will all be striving to reach next month's Principality Cup final. Tradition is also very important at the Principality, as we have a long history of 142 years' service to our members across Wales.

We are particularly pleased that our sponsorship of the Principality Cup has enabled the WRU to support Welsh rugby at grass roots level. We believe that the development of their youth programmes at local clubs together with skill workshops will be the key to future success at both club and international level. We also believe the Society's success derives from the strength of our roots in communities throughout Wales, in much the same way as Welsh rugby's strength derives from its roots in healthy competition between club communities.

I wish all four teams the best of luck in the home of Welsh rugby and hope that today, skill and teamwork will be rewarded in equal measure.

Enjoy the Principality Cup.

Peter Griffiths
Chief Executive, Principality Building Society.

Ar ran Cymdeithas Adeiladu'r Principality, hoffwn estyn croeso i chi i gêmiau Sadwrn cynderfynol Cwpan y Principality. Rydyn ni'n arbennig o falch i fod yn gysylltiedig â'r ddwy gêm heddiw oherwydd dyma'r ail gyfres o gêmiau cynderfynol Cwpan y Principality ar faes gwych Stadiwm y Mileniwm.

Fis Medi diwethaf, pan ddechreuodd gornest y flwyddyn hon, fe gychwynnodd 238 o dîmau ar drywydd llwyddiant y cwpan. Ac ar ôl cystadlu'n ffyrnig dros fisoedd y gaeaf, mae pedwar tîm ar ôl yn y gystadleuaeth, sef Caerdydd, Glyn Ebwy, Llanelli a Phontypridd. Mae'r pedwar i gyd yn glybiau â'u traddodiadau'n ddwfn ym mhrif gystadleuaeth rygbi Cymru a byddant yn brwydro i gyrraedd gêm derfynol Cwpan y Principality fis nesaf. Mae traddodiad yn bwysig iawn i'r Principality hefyd, gan fod i ni hanes hir o 142 o flynyddoedd o wasanaeth i'n haelodau ledled Cymru.

Rydyn ni'n arbennig o falch fod ein nawdd i Gwpan y Principality wedi galluogi Undeb Rygbi Cymru i gefnogi rygbi yng Nghymru ar lefel sylfaenol y clybiau. Credwn mai datblygu eu rhaglenni i'r ifanc mewn clybiau lleol, ynghyd â gweithdai ymarferol, fydd yr allwedd i lwyddiant ar lefel y clybiau ac yn rhyngwladol. Credwn hefyd fod llwyddiant y Gymdeithas yn deillio o gryfder ein gwreiddiau mewn cymunedau ledled Cymru, sy'n ddigon tebyg i'r ffordd y mae cryfder rygbi yng Nghymru yn deillio o gystadleuaeth iach ar lefel y clybiau.

Hoffwn ddymuno bob lwc i'r pedwar tîm yng nghartref rygbi yng Nghymru gan obeithio y bydd dawn a chwarae fel tîm heddiw yn ennill yr un clod.

Mwynhewch Gwpan y Principality.

Peter Griffiths
Prif Weithredwr, Cymdeithas Adeiladu'r Principality.



Have a BIG break...

THE MAGIC OF THE CUP

BY MICHAEL BOON, Welsh Sports Journalist of the Year, 2001-02

This anecdote – true in every detail, I swear – comes from the clubroom of Pontypool RFC who have contributed so much to enliven this season's Principality Cup. David Morris, club president and leading barrister, was just receiving the congratulations of that great Pontypool servant, John Perkins, on being made a judge.

The alert 'Perky', robust but graphic in his use of the English language, suddenly spied the president of the opposing club making his way towards them.

"Tell me," he urged, never slow in the stakes one one upmanship, "how should we address you now?" David Morris groped for an answer, did not want to sound stuffy in trotting out the full rigmarole of 'His Honour, the Judge David Morris' and, for once in his career of eloquent legal argument, hesitated for a fateful few seconds.



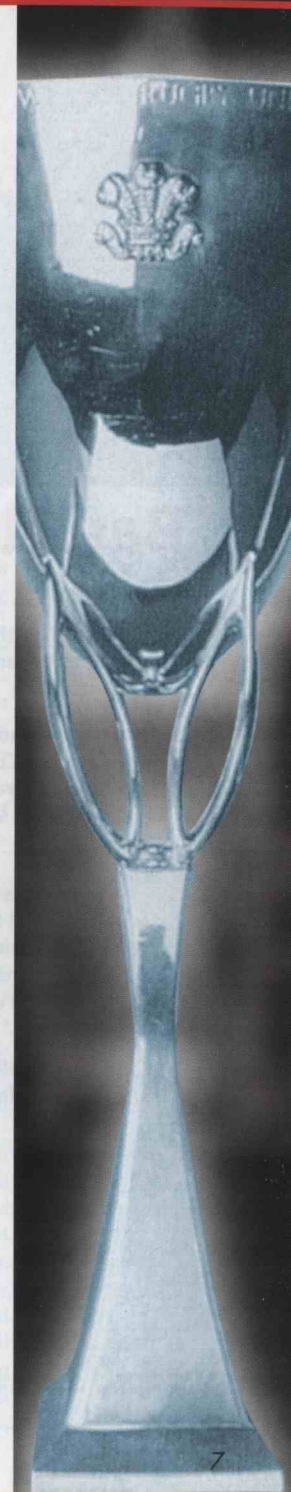
John Perkins.

Too late. The opposing president closed in and 'Perky', never one to be lost for words, pronounced "I'd like you to meet our president Judge Dave". And, from that day to this, Judge Dave in how His Honour is known at Pontypool.

Why start with such a soft landing at a time when Welsh club rugby is locked into perhaps the fiercest debate in the history of organised rugby in this nation? Because it sums up the community spirit of clubs, the humour of a great game, the wonderful atmosphere in which rugby football is played and celebrated . . . please, please make those qualities survive for the generations yet to come.

Every cup competition needs an upset to bring it to life. Although they are not here today, Pontypool have done exactly that this season. Their triumph over Swansea rejuvenated this once mighty club of the Gwent valleys and, although they lost narrowly to Ebbw Vale in the quarter-finals, that one result lifted them back into the headlines that the legendary front row, Jeff Squire, Terry Cobner, David Bishop, John Perkins and many more once commanded as of right.

It was wonderful to see that master of motivation, Ray Prosser, beaming from the committee box during the clash against Ebbw Vale. The pulse of some men with enduring priorities and love of the game pumps as vigorously in the 21st century of professionalism as it did in the 20th





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century of amateurism.

We all anticipated that today's semi-final shakedown would be between four Premier Division clubs, but let's look more closely at the excitement that Pontypool have generated in this season's competition. And do not forget that, some four seasons ago, here was a club on the point of self destruct. If I had to name one game in my career that almost overwhelmed me with its drama, it would be then Southern League Hereford's FA Cup victory over the giants of Newcastle United in 1972 - it was the making of Hereford for many years and only sensational cup results can achieve that. Pontypool's humbling of Swansea was almost on that scale and we should pay tribute to the men who made it possible. I do not mean the players, as fired up as they were on the day, but the committed members who kept the club alive in its days of desperation.

'Judge Dave' is but one of them, albeit at the pinnacle of its behind-the-scenes administration. All he ever wanted in his few, very few, moments of relaxation was to serve the club he had followed as a boy. "I was a member of an exiled South Wales family and we always had our local paper, the Monmouthshire Free Press, sent to us - which, of course, had extensive coverage of Pontypool RFC," he recalls.

"As a child living in Berkshire, but returning to South Wales for all our holidays, I would be taken by my father, or another relative, to enjoy games at Pontypool Park; later I took myself off on my own to see the great men in the famous colours. I was a keen rugby player myself starting from the days when I was scrum-half in the first XV at Abingdon School. I went on to play for Berkshire Schools, London Welsh schoolboy XV, London Welsh reserve sides and then Saracens who fielded 13 teams on a Saturday - thus guaranteeing me a game

somewhere!"

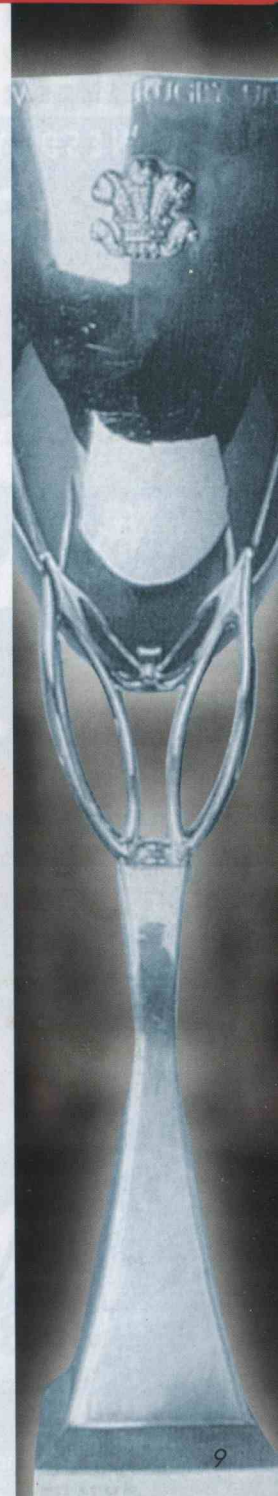
After a break looking after the needs of a growing family, he returned once more to Pontypool Park as, if this does not sound disrespectful to a distinguished lawyer, a fan. At that time John Perkins, as a leading figure in running the club, was keen to widen its remit on and off the pitch. He held an open evening for those who wanted to see Pontypool succeed once more and David Morris went along to find himself co-opted onto the club committee. He was later elected vice-president and, four years ago, stepped up to become president.

"It was a time of change; change that was hard to take in many ways. Pontypool went from an era of being run by the traditional hands-on club committee to the professionalism imposed on us which took everyone by surprise," reflects David Morris.

"Being president suddenly became an onerous position. We refused to make promises we knew we could not keep to players. The result was that players left us or did not come to us in the first place. We were close to dropping into a lower division having already left the then first division. Events became quite dire.

"We struggled. There is no big money, in commercial sponsorship terms, in or around Pontypool: we had to do the best we could with those players prepared to make themselves available, mostly the previous season's youth side. The coaches, who included the return of the great David Bishop as player-coach, were left with very meagre resources."

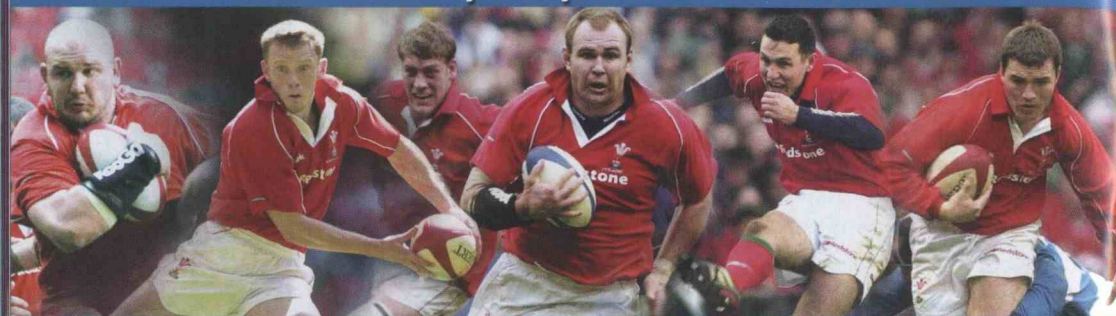
I remember it well. I reported a game at Maesteg which Pontypool had to win - and did - to survive a relegation that might have destroyed the club for all time. David Bishop, unfit and injured for most of the game, was inspirational and said defiantly afterwards, "Booney, I'll keep playing as long as you keep writing." I'm not sure which one of us



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David Bishop.

won that race but Pontypool patched together a future and I still manage the odd word here and there.

David Morris and three men on the management committee came to the conclusion that professionalism on the pitch had to be matched by professionalism in administration. They entered discussions with a group of local businessmen concerned about the pitiful state of the once feared club; the assets and liabilities were transferred in a buy out. Some money was instantly forthcoming, key players were signed from Bath including Will James whose family had originally come from Pontypool and Alex Brown who is now playing for Bristol and England A.

"We held our place in the division," says David Morris who had stayed on as president. "Although there was another change of ownership and a new limited company took over, our club is now being run on a proper business basis and we now have first class chairman, Bob Jude. We are now relatively secure, playing well in the first division and, after the win against

Swansea, a name to be reckoned with once more."

This season's Principality Cup has performed a tremendous service to Welsh rugby. It has restored to competitive health one of the game's great clubs. Make no mistake about it, Welsh club rugby is the heartbeat of the game here – without it, there would be no shop window of a national side; nothing for youngsters to aim at either.

As this article illustrates, too, it brings together men from every strata on Welsh society and bonds them in common purpose. For the sake of the game, for the sake of the country itself, which projects so much of its pride through the medium of rugby football, let's wish the WRU and its clubs every success in the days ahead.



TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE



BARRY John and Gareth Edwards were the half backs for Cardiff when the blue and blacks featured in one of the opening two WRU Challenge Cup semi-finals back in 1972.

But it was Neath who came out on top and eventually went on to win the cup in its first year.

There were only 12,500 at the National Ground, Cardiff Arms Park for that first final - half of the crowd expected to turn up at the Millennium Stadium today for the two Principality Cup semi-final showdowns. How times have changed!

Two of the clubs who contested those first semi-finals are back in the last four again today - Llanelli and Cardiff.

In fact, in the 30-year history of the

cup tournament to date, the Scarlets have reached 22 semi-finals before today. They will be aiming for their 15th final.

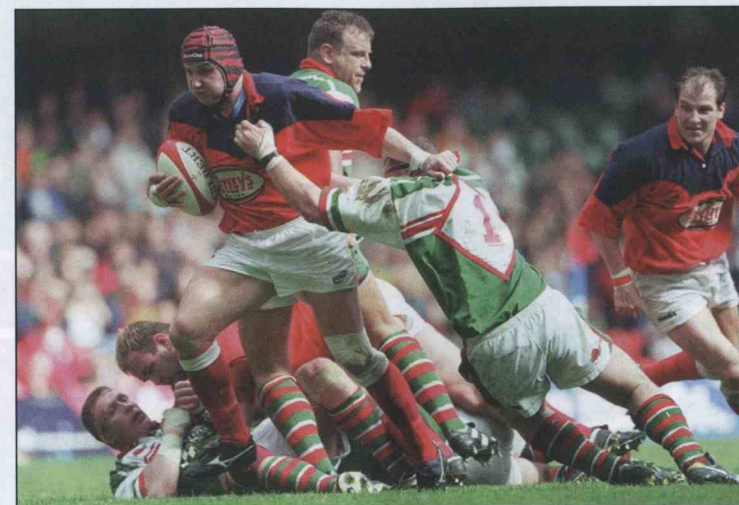
Only 10 clubs have reached the final, four of them winning the trophy 24 times between them - Llanelli 11, Cardiff 7, Swansea 3 and Neath 3 - and only 14 have reached the semi-finals.

All four clubs today have been not only been to this stage, but also to the final before, and only Ebbw Vale have yet to lift the cup.

At the semi-final stage, Maesteg, Newbridge, Seven Sisters and Cross Keys all battled their way through before bowing out to one of the traditional cup heavyweights.

"There is still a magic about the cup. Anything can happen and the ultimate

Below: Andy Moore of Cardiff clears the ball despite the attention of Pontypridd's Dale McIntosh during the 1993/94 cup semi-final (the teams' last cup meeting).



Above: The last time Ebbw Vale and Llanelli met in the semi-finals was in 2000. Llanelli eventually ran out winners 38-26.

honour is getting to play in front of a huge crowd at the Millennium Stadium," said Ebbw Vale, coach Mike Ruddock.

"I played for Swansea against Newbridge in the 1983 semi-final and it was a great feeling going through to the final.

"It was a tough game because Newbridge had a strong pack and Paul Turner called the shots behind the scrum. Our back row played particularly well on the day, but then we went on to lose to Pontypool in the final.

"We simply didn't turn up for the final and Pontypool strangled the life out of us. It is always disappointing to lose in a final, but I think it is often even worse going out in the semis.

"At least, there will be little pressure on us to beat Llanelli. After all, they are in the semi-finals of the Heineken Cup and have a very strong squad.

"It means we can go to the Millennium Stadium and not have to worry about anything other than performing to the best of our ability. We have reached our goal of making the semi-finals; anything else will be a bonus.

"On a personal note, it will be great to

lock horns with Gareth Jenkins, the Llanelli coach, once again. I have the utmost respect for him and he has done a marvellous job over so many years at Llanelli.

"We've met in the cup before, when I was working at Swansea, and he's got the edge to date. It would be a great feeling to even things up."

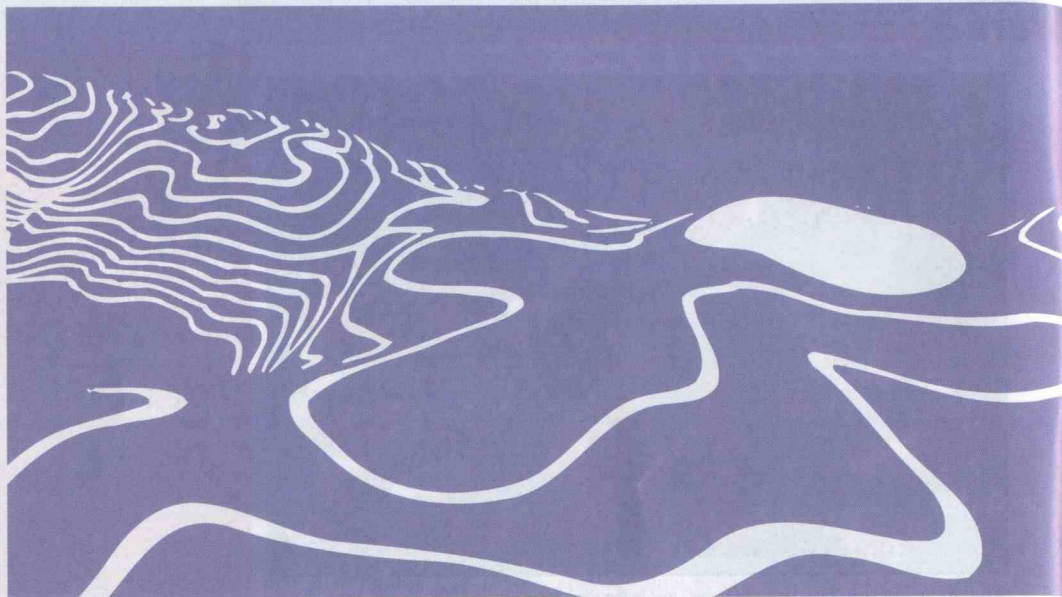
Jenkins is another coach who has played in both the semi-finals and final of the cup, while Pontypridd coach Lynn Howells took his club to two finals in the nineties.

"There is still a magic about the cup. Anything can happen and the ultimate honour is getting to play in front of a huge crowd at the Millennium Stadium."

Mike Ruddock

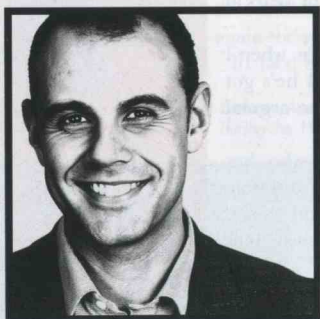
Below: Cross Keys made it to the semi-final stage in 1999 only to lose out to Swansea 60-3.





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THE WELSH RUGBY UNION CHALLENGE CUP



CWPAN SIALENS UNDEB RYGBI CYMRU

Semi-Final Focus

BY JOHN GRIFFITHS



● The Welsh Rugby Union stages back-to-back semi-finals at the Millennium Stadium for the third time, though twice before, in 1991 and 1992, the matches were played as a double-header at the old National Stadium.

● Pontypridd, semi-finalists for the ninth time (three wins and five defeats previously at this stage), take on Cardiff, who make their 17th appearance in the semi-finals (ten wins and six defeats to date). In the Welsh-Scottish league this season, Cardiff won each encounter by a narrow margin: 28-20 at home on Boxing Day and 21-18 at Sardis Road on March 16th.

● Llanelli are semi-finalists for a record 23rd time, having won 15 and lost seven. Today they appear at this stage for the 13th time in the past 15 seasons. They missed out in 1990 and again last year.

● Ebbw Vale are in the last four for the seventh time (one win and five defeats). Vale reach this stage for the third season running, though it is the Scarlets who start as favourites today, having won the League encounters this season 46-16 on the opening Saturday of the season back in August and 16-3 at Ebbw Vale on February 9th.

● The most semi-final wins in the 30 years of competition is 15 by Llanelli including a record five in a row at the start of the tournament, 1972 to 1976. Cardiff and Swansea have each won ten semi-finals, Neath eight, Bridgend five, Newport four, Pontypridd three, Pontypool and Aberavon two each and Ebbw Vale's only success to date was in 1998.

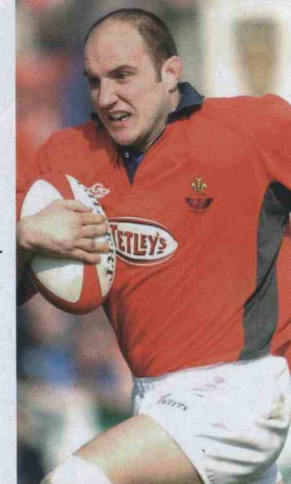
● Swansea hold the record for the biggest winning margin in a semi-final. They defeated Cross Keys 60-3 in 1999. Llanelli's 61-16 score-line against Seven Sisters in 1998 - the highest points aggregate for a semi-final - is the highest score by a team in a semi-final.

● The only side that has failed to score in a WRU Cup semi-final to date is Aberavon who were beaten 38-0 by a Llanelli side that ran in seven tries at St Helen's, Swansea, in 1988.

● The record for most tries in a semi-final is ten set by Llanelli in 1998. That year they beat the only village club to reach this stage (Seven Sisters) after falling behind three times during the match.

Results of this year's quarter-finals:

CARDIFF 20, Newport 14
LLANELLI 46, Bridgend 24
Pontypool 22, EBBW VALE 27
PONTYPRIDD 46, Caerphilly 31



Above:
Llanelli's Ian Boobyer scored two tries in the quarter-final victory over Bridgend.

RESULTS OF THE PREVIOUS SEMI-FINALS: 1972-2001

1972	Llanelli	13-7	Aberavon	Neath	16-9	Cardiff
1973	Llanelli	6-3	Neath	Cardiff	12-8	Swansea
1974	Llanelli	16-14	Pontypool	Aberavon	9-4	Cardiff
1975	Llanelli	35-6	Bridgend	Aberavon	10-9	Pontypridd
1976	Llanelli	10-4	Ebbw Vale	Swansea	22-14	Pontypool
1977	Cardiff	15-6	Aberavon	Newport	7-3	Ebbw Vale
1978	Swansea	18-13	Cardiff	Newport	10-6	Aberavon
1979	Bridgend	18-13	Llanelli	Pontypridd	6-3	Aberavon
1980	Bridgend	18-10	Llanelli	Swansea	23-13	Newport
1981	Bridgend	22-15	Llanelli	Cardiff	18-7	Swansea
1982	Bridgend	9-6	Aberavon	Cardiff	21-11	Newbridge
1983	Pontypool	16-3	Bridgend	Swansea	19-6	Newbridge
1984	Cardiff	26-6	Llanelli	Neath	12-3	Aberavon
1985	Cardiff	24-3	Pontypool	Llanelli	24-10	Bridgend
1986	Cardiff	17-9	Bridgend	Newport	15-6	Aberavon
1987	Cardiff	16-6	Neath	Swansea	20-3	Newbridge
1988	Llanelli	38-0	Aberavon	Neath	20-9	Pontypridd
1989	Llanelli	26-24	Newbridge	Neath	19-12	Cardiff
1990	Bridgend	12-6	Aberavon	Neath	24-16	Swansea
1991	Llanelli	22-10	Neath	Pontypool	28-7	Swansea
1992	Llanelli	27-6	Pontypridd	Swansea	23-9	Newport
1993	Llanelli	29-18	Swansea	Neath	33-15	Bridgend
1994	Llanelli	23-7	Maesteg	Cardiff	9-6	Pontypridd
1995	Pontypridd	20-14	Llanelli	Swansea	16-9	Cardiff
1996	Pontypridd	35-17	Llanelli	Neath	24-22	Newport
1997	Cardiff	36-26	Llanelli	Swansea	26-15	Ebbw Vale
1998	Llanelli	61-16	Seven Sisters	Ebbw Vale	44-10	Newport
1999	Llanelli	39-10	Cardiff	Swansea	60-3	Cross Keys
2000	Llanelli	38-26	Ebbw Vale	Swansea	32-22	Pontypridd
2001	Newport	19-12	Ebbw Vale	Neath	26-17	Swansea

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PREVIOUS CUP ENCOUNTERS



PREVIOUS CUP RESULTS

1975-76	Llanelli	10-4	(Semi-finals)
1979-80	Llanelli	15-9	(Third round)
1987-88	Llanelli	41-0	(Fifth round)
1997-98	Llanelli	19-12	(Final)
1999-2000	Llanelli	38-26	(Semi-finals)

● The clubs meet for the sixth time in the WRU Cup. Llanelli have won all of the previous encounters.

● Llanelli's best Cup win against Ebbw Vale was 41-0 in the 1988 fifth round.

CUP FLASHBACK

Llanelli's 19-12 win in the 1998 Cup final meeting between the sides is unique in the history of the competition. Played at Ashton Gate, Bristol, it remains the only WRU Cup-tie to date to be staged in England.

LLANELLI: D Williams; W T Proctor, N Boobyer, N G Davies, G Evans; C Warlow, R H St J B Moon; A Jones, R C McBryde (captain), M Madden, V Cooper, M J Voyle, C Wyatt, H Jenkins, I Jones
Substitutions: A Gibbs for Wyatt (62 mins); M E Wintle for Boobyer (63 mins)
Scorers: Try: Madden **Conversion:** Warlow
Penalty Goals: Warlow (4)

EBBW VALE: S Taumalalo; A Harries, J Hawker, J Funnell, L Woodard; B I Hayward, D Llewellyn; A Phillips, L Phillips, M Wilson, C Billen, K Faletau, R G Collins, M A Jones, K P Jones (captain)
Substitutions: J Strange for Hawker (71 mins); S Jones for L Phillips (72 mins)
Scorers: Penalty Goals: Hayward (3)
Dropped Goal: Hayward
Referee: C Thomas



PREVIOUS CUP RESULTS

1978-79	Pontypridd	9-7	(Quarter-final)
1979-80	Pontypridd	13-6	(Third round)
1993-94	Cardiff	8-6	(Semi-finals)

● Two clubs who first played each other on November 7th 1878 at the original Cardiff Arms Park meet for only the fourth time in the WRU Cup. Pontypridd lead by two wins to one in the Cup to date, but there has never been more than seven points between the sides.

● Cardiff's sole Cup victory over Pontypridd was 8-6 in the only previous semi-final between the sides, staged on neutral territory at Rodney Parade, Newport, in 1994. Ponty, who were without Neil Jenkins that day, led 6-0 at half-time through two penalties by his stand-in, Crispin Cormack. Adrian Davies landed a penalty for Cardiff before Colin Laity gathered a high kick ahead to score the winning try on the hour.

CUP FLASHBACK

Pontypridd dominated territorially in this 1980 third-round tie at the Arms Park against a Cardiff side that included eight Welsh caps. Tom David's storming run set up the second-half try for back-rower Don Jones to score the decisive try of a 13-6 victory.

PONTYPRIDD: I Walsh; A Rose, C Riley, J Poole, K Swain; J Hazzard, R Morgan; K Salmon, M Alexander, S O'Sullivan, R Penberthy, J Luff, M Shellard, T P David (captain), D Jones
Replacement: B Cooksley for Shellard (30 mins)
Scorers: Tries: Rose, Jones **Conversion:** Hazzard
Drop Goal: Walsh

CARDIFF: C Webber; D Thomas, D H Burcher, P C T Daniels, A Yeandle; W G Davies (captain), T D Holmes; B Newman, M Watkins, I H Eidman, P Soulo, R L Norster, B Lease, R Lane, S M Lane
Scorers: Try: Watkins **Conversion:** Davies
Referee: K Parfitt



Above: Byron Hayward kicked three conversions in the 1998 Cup final.

Below: Tom David set up a try in the 1980 third round clash with Cardiff.

Below Left: Llanelli celebrate victory in the 1998 final.





EBBW VALE

Ebbw Vale have played one more Principality Cup match this season than the other three semi-finalists. They were the only Premier side who had to play in the Sixth Round and travelled to Llandoverly for the second successive season, following up last season's 27-5 win with a 43-15 one this time.

They then faced the only all-Premier game in the Seventh Round, but were given a home tie against Neath and pulled off a splendid win by 20-10 that gave them a tough tie at Pontypool in the quarter-finals.

Facing them at Pontypool Park was the very man who had scored all their points in their only final appearance - Byron Hayward, whose travels had taken him to Llanelli and Gloucester before joining Pontypool this season.

Hayward was in good form, but Gareth Cull matched him with five penalties and a conversion each. It was also try for try with prop Iestyn Thomas going over early on for Ebbw Vale. Stuart Lawrence pulled one back for Pontypool, but a swerving run by former UWIC centre Paul Matthews gave Ebbw Vale the win.

Cull, formerly with Kenfig Hill and Bridgend, has been the top scorer in league play with 187 points from two tries, 11 conversions, 47 penalty goals and one dropped goal. His 99 points in the European Parker Pen Shield and 47 in the Principality Cup has put him on 333 for the season thus far.

With Scott Mitchell out injured, Ebbw Vale have used the former Garndiffaith and Newbridge full back, Matt James, as the pivot. He has also won an A cap and Neil Edwards has also come forward to gain similar honours, now that skipper Chay Billen is out with injury.



THE EBBW VALE CUP FINAL RECORD

1998 Finalists Llanelli 19 EBBW VALE 12

EBBW VALE'S PRINCIPALITY CUP RUN (2001/2002)

Round Six: 19 January 2002.

Llandoverly 15 EBBW VALE 43

(Tries: P Matthews 2, K Ellis, K Tuipulotu; Cons: G Cull 4;

Pens: G Cull 5)

Round Seven: 23 February 2002.

EBBW VALE 20 Neath 10

(Tries: A Takarangi, T Morris; Cons: G Cull 2; Pens: G Cull;

DG: M Meenan)

Quarter-final: 30 March 2002.

Pontypool 22 EBBW VALE 27

(Tries: I Thomas, P Matthews. Con: G Cull; Pens: G Cull 5)

PREVIOUS CUP MEETINGS

1975/1976: Llanelli 10 EBBW VALE 4 (semi-final)

1979/1980: Llanelli 15 EBBW VALE 9

1987/1988: Llanelli 41 EBBW VALE 0

1997/1998: Llanelli 19 EBBW VALE 12 (final)

1999/2000: Llanelli 38 EBBW VALE 26 (semi-final)

EBBW VALE'S CUP RECORD

Played 99; Won 69; Lost 30.

Neil Edwards.



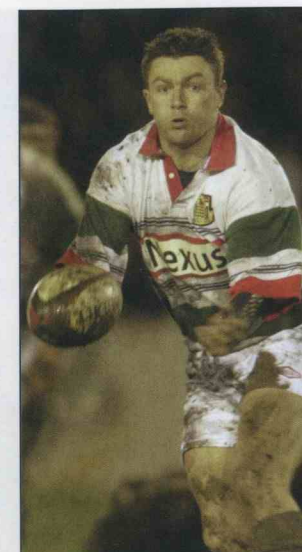
THE EBBW VALE SQUAD

CHAY BILLEN (captain)

Position:	Lock
DoB:	18.12.74
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	18st 12lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps

GARETH CULL

Position:	Full Back/Wing
DoB:	20.01.77
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	14st 6lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps (30 pts - 6c, 6p)



Gareth Cull.

KEVIN ELLIS

Position:	Scrum Half
DoB:	29.05.68
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	13st 10lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app (5 pts - 1t)

JONATHAN EVANS

Position:	Hooker
DoB:	08.04.72
Height:	5'8"
Weight:	15st 0lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app

MARTIN JONES

Position:	Prop
DoB:	01.02.80
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	18st 7lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps

LLYR LANE

Position:	Scrum Half
DoB:	23.10.80
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	12st 10lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app

OCKERT BOOYSE

Position:	Lock
DoB:	25.10.73
Height:	6'8"
Weight:	18st 6lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps

NEIL EDWARDS

Position:	Lock
DoB:	07.09.74
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	16st 2lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps

MATTHEW JAMES

Position:	Full Back/Outside Half
DoB:	04.11.77
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	12st 8lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app

PAUL MATTHEWS

Position:	Centre
DoB:	26.04.77
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	13st 10lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps (10 pts - 2t)



THE EBBW VALE SQUAD



Iestyn Thomas.

TYRONE MORRIS

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	28.04.80
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	15st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps (5 pts - 1t)

DAMIEN PENISINI

Position:	Prop
DoB:	01.07.73
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	18st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

LEYTON PHILLIPS

Position:	Hooker
DoB:	30.11.69
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	15st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

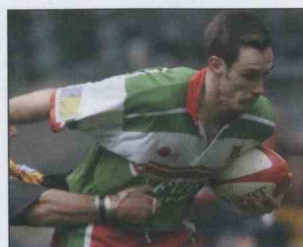
MARTIN RIDLEY

Position:	Centre/Wing
DoB:	06.03.77
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	15st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	0 apps

RHYS SHORNEY

Position:	Centre
DoB:	28.03.77
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	15st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

Rhys Shorney.



AARON TAKARANGI

Position:	Wing
DoB:	10.08.74
Height:	6'3"
Weight:	14st 7lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps (5 pts - 1t)

LESTYN THOMAS

Position:	Prop
DoB:	15.12.76
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	17st 7lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

THE EBBW VALE SQUAD



Kati Tuipulotu.

WILL THOMAS

Position:	No.8
DoB:	12.10.77
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	16st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

KATI TUIPULOTU

Position:	Back Row
DoB:	05.12.67
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	15st 7lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps (5 pts - 1t)

ANDREW WAGSTAFF

Position:	Wing
DoB:	05.12.76
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	16st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

DAVID WEATHERLEY

Position:	Centre
DoB:	09.05.72
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	14st 2lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

PAUL WILLIAMS

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	24.09.78
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	14st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

RHYS WILLIAMS

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	17.05.81
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	16st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app



LLANELLI

The Scarlets are certainly the Cup Kings of Wales, already having won this cup on eleven occasions and being the first club to have played 150 cup-ties, reaching that mark when they defeated Bridgend in the quarter-finals.

They are also in this season's Heineken European Cup semi-finals, though they face the daunting task of beating Leicester in Nottingham to reach that final. Yet, their brilliant performance at Stradey Park in January saw them gain a win by 24-12 over the Tigers.

Llanelli have played in finals at the National Ground, Ashton Gate (Bristol) and Ninian Park (Cardiff), so they are a most experienced squad with prop Martyn Madden, in particular, having lived much of his life within a mile of the Millennium Stadium.

This season's matches have brought wins away to Newbridge and home to Bridgend, while fly half Stephen Jones has notched 276 points for them, made up of 150 in league matches, 105 in the Heineken Cup and 21 in the Principality Cup.

Wing, Wayne Proctor, is still by far and away the only player to have ever scored 100 League tries and also heads the Welsh scorers again this season with seven tries in the league, three in the Heineken Cup and one in the Principality Cup.

Gareth Jenkins has seen all this before, both as a player and as a coach and so has his deputy, Nigel Davies, a prince of cup final centres over the years.

There have been wonderful days in the cup for Llanelli with the wins of 1973-74-75 and 76 having looked as if there never ever would be another winner.

However, this cup serves up shocks and even Llanelli have suffered them. Gareth Jenkins can probably remember the early years when Taffs Well were within five minutes of victory until J.J. Williams scored a try. Carwyn James was the coach in those magical days and the Scarlets picked themselves up and went on to win the Cup.

THE LLANELLI CUP FINAL RECORD

1972	Finalists	Neath	15	LLANELLI	9
1973	Winners	LLANELLI	30	Cardiff	7
1974	Winners	LLANELLI	12	Aberavon	10
1975	Winners	LLANELLI	15	Aberavon	6
1976	Winners	LLANELLI	16	Swansea	4
1985	Winners	LLANELLI	15	Cardiff	14
1988	Winners	LLANELLI	28	Neath	13
1989	Finalists	Neath	14	LLANELLI	13
1991	Winners	LLANELLI	24	Pontypool	9
1992	Winners	LLANELLI	16	Swansea	7
1993	Winners	LLANELLI	21	Neath	18
1994	Finalists	Cardiff	15	LLANELLI	8
1998	Winners	LLANELLI	19	Ebbw Vale	12
1999	Finalist	Swansea	37	LLANELLI	10
2000	Winners	LLANELLI	22	Swansea	12

LLANELLI'S PRINCIPALITY CUP RUN (2001/2002)

Round Seven: 23 February 2002

Newbridge 5 LLANELLI 24

(Tries: G Evans, G Williams, W Proctor; Cons: G Bowen 3;

Pen: G Bowen)

Quarter-final: 30 March 2002

LLANELLI 46 Bridgend 24

(Tries: I Boobyer 2, G Evans, M Jones, G Bowen; Cons: S Jones 3;

Pens: S Jones 5)

PREVIOUS CUP MEETINGS

1975/1976: LLANELLI 10 Ebbw Vale 4 (semi-final)

1979/1980: LLANELLI 15 Ebbw Vale 9

1987/1988: LLANELLI 41 Ebbw Vale 0

1997/1998: LLANELLI 19 Ebbw Vale 12 (final)

1999/2000: LLANELLI 38 Ebbw Vale 26 (semi-final)

LLANELLI'S CUP RECORD

Played 150; Won 131; Lost 19.



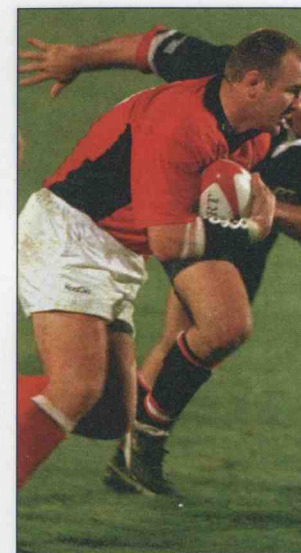
Gareth Bowen.



THE LLANELLI SQUAD

SCOTT QUINNELL (captain)

Position:	No 8
DoB:	20.08.72
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	18st 8lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	0 apps



Scott Quinnell.

NEIL BOOBYER

Position:	Centre
DoB:	11.06.72
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	13st 10lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps

IAN BOOBYER

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	14.07.71
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	15st 8lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app (10 pts - 2t)

PHIL BOOTH

Position:	Prop
DoB:	18.02.76
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	17st 10lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps

GARETH BOWEN

Position:	Outside Half
DoB:	20.06.79
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	12st 0lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps (14 pts - 1t, 3c, 1p)

VERNON COOPER

Position:	Lock
DoB:	12.06.77
Height:	6'6"
Weight:	17st 11lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app

BARRY DAVIES

Position:	Full Back
DoB:	05.03.81
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	12st 0lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app

Leigh Davies.

JOHN DAVIES

Position:	Prop
DoB:	01.02.71
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	17st 12lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps



LEIGH DAVIES

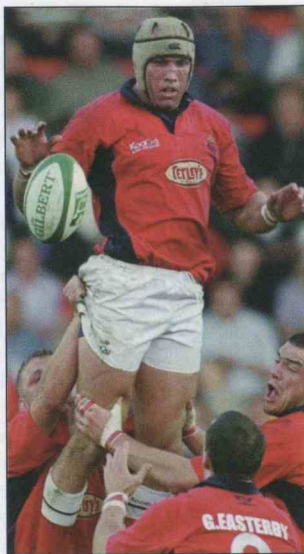
Position:	Centre
DoB:	20.02.76
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	15st 7lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 apps



THE LLANELLI SQUAD

GUY EASTERBY

Position:	Scrum Half
DoB:	21.03.71
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	14st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps



David Hodges.

SIMON EASTERBY

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	27.01.75
Height:	6'3"
Weight:	17st 6lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

GARAN EVANS

Position:	Wing/Full Back
DoB:	16.02.73
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	12st 13lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps (10 pts - 2t)

SALESI FINAU

Position:	Wing
DoB:	05.05.74
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	16st 13lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

LUKE GROSS

Position:	Lock
DoB:	21.11.69
Height:	6'9"
Weight:	18st 12lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

DAVID HODGES

Position:	No 8
DoB:	15.09.68
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	16st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

PHIL JOHN

Position:	Prop
DoB:	25.04.81
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	18st 6lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

DAFYDD JONES

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	24.06.79
Height:	6'3"
Weight:	16st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

MARK JONES

Position:	Wing
DoB:	14.10.79
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	13st 2lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app (5 pts - 1t)

STEPHEN JONES

Position:	Outside Half
DoB:	08.12.77
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	14st 1lb
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app (21 pts - 3c, 5p)

ROBIN McBRYDE

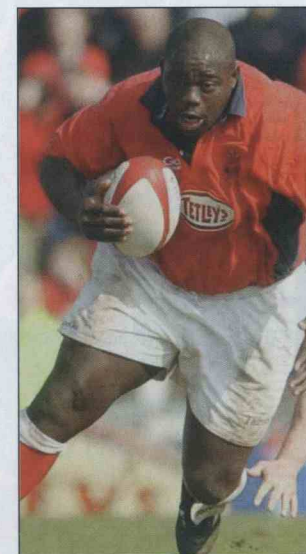
Position:	Hooker
DoB:	03.07.70
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	15st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app



Stephen Jones.

MARTYN MADDEN

Position:	Prop
DoB:	04.12.73
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	18st 5lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps



Martyn Madden.

SCOTT MORGAN

Position:	Lock
DoB:	17.10.78
Height:	6'7"
Weight:	17st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

DWAYNE PEEL

Position:	Scrum Half
DoB:	31.08.81
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	12st 11lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

WAYNE PROCTOR

Position:	Wing
DoB:	12.06.72
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	13st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app (5 pts - 1t)

TAL SELLEY

Position:	Wing/Centre
DoB:	20.04.80
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	14st 3lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

MARCUS THOMAS

Position:	Hooker
DoB:	13.01.74
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	16st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

CHRIS WYATT

Position:	Lock
DoB:	10.06.73
Height:	6'5"
Weight:	17st 7lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

SEMI FINAL 1

KICK OFF 3.00

EBBW VALE

Green/Red/White Jerseys
Crysau Gwyrd/Coch/Gwyn

v LLANELLI

Scarlet Jerseys
Crysau Goch



Gareth Cull	15	Cefnwr Full-Back	15	Garan Evans
Rhys Shorney	14	Asgell dde Right Wing	14	Mark Jones
Martin Ridley	13	Canolwr Right Centre	13	Neil Boobyer
Paul Matthews	12	Canolwr Left Centre	12	Leigh Davies
Andrew Wagstaff	11	Asgell chwith Left Wing	11	Salesi Finau
Matthew James	10	Maswr Stand-Off	10	Stephen Jones (captain)
Llyr Lane	9	Mewnwr Scrum-Half	9	Guy Easterby
Iestyn Thomas	1	Yr rheng flaen Loose-head Prop	1	Martyn Madden
Leyton Phillips (captain)	2	Bachwr Hooker	2	Robin McBryde
Martin Jones	3	Y rheng flaen Tight-head Prop	3	John Davies
Neil Edwards	4	Yr ail reng Lock	4	Vernon Cooper
Ockert Booyse	5	Yr ail reng Lock	5	Chris Wyatt
Kati Tuipulotu	6	Blaenasgell Left Flanker	6	Dafydd Jones
Will Thomas	8	Y rheng ol No. 8	8	David Hodges
Tyrone Morris	7	Blaenasgell Right Flanker	7	Ian Boobyer

REPLACEMENTS EILYDDION

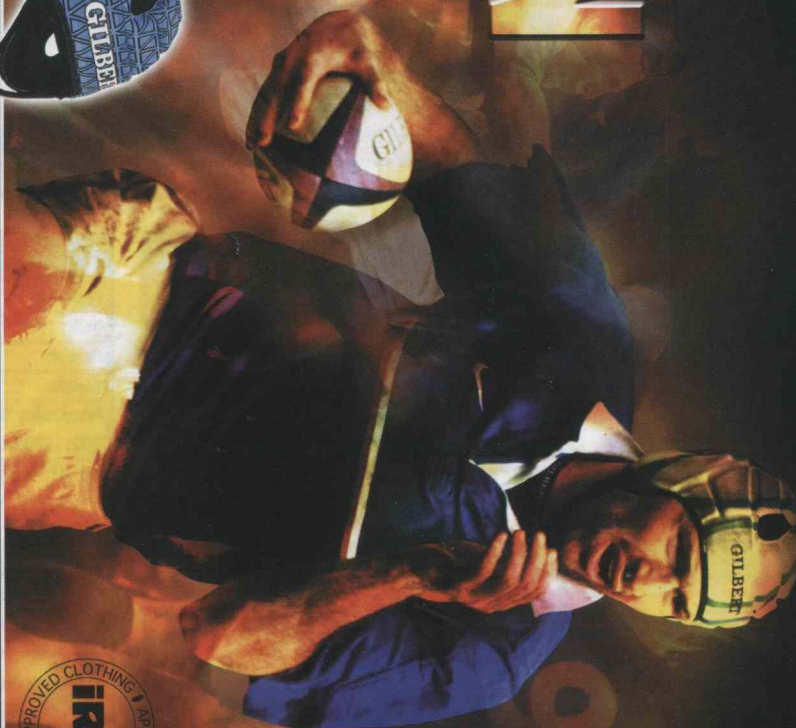
Damien Penisini	16	THE PRINCIPALITY BUILDING SOCIETY	16	Phil Booth
Jonathan Evans	17	THE PRINCIPALITY CLUB	17	Marcus Thomas
Rhys Williams	18		18	Luke Gross
Damien Hudd	19		19	Scott Morgan
Kevin Ellis	20		20	Dwayne Peel
David Weatherley	21		21	Gareth Bowen
Aaron Takarangi	22		22	Tal Selley

Referee:
NIGEL WHITEHOUSE (WRU)

Touch Judges:
HUW F LEWIS (WRU)
MICHAEL COX (WRU)

Teams accurate as at 11.04.02

IMPACT SUDDEEN



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THE BAA-BAAS ARE COMING



THE Barbarians are coming to town - and Adrian Garvey can't wait to run out onto the pitch where he proved a match-winner last year.

Props don't often score the decisive try in a cup final that but is just what the former Springbok prop did for Newport as they won the 2001 Principality Cup final here at the Millennium Stadium with a 13-8 victory over Neath.

That was in black and amber and this time Garvey will be dressed in the distinctive black and white of the Baa-Baas as they take on Wales on 29 May - and he will be in some mighty illustrious company as the invitation club play match two of their tour of England, Wales and Scotland.

With Aussie, Rod McQueen, already installed as coach, aided and abetted by French legend Philippe Sella, for the three matches, the Barbarians promise to provide another feast of free-flowing and entertaining rugby.

Thomas Castaignède, the mercurial French fly half who has been plagued

by injury, fellow No 10 South African Braam van Straaten, Argentine scrum half Agustin Pichot and Garvey are among the early acceptances of those who have already pulled on the famous jersey.

Among the new names to the club are Springboks Thinus Delpont and Rassie Erasmus with Scottish Lion Simon Taylor set to return to the venue of his country's win over Wales last weekend.

And Wales will need no introduction to van Straaten of the Baa-Baa version in particular.

Some 53 weeks ago, in a match in which Wales did not award caps, the Springbok No 10 landed a wide angled conversion to seal a 40-38 victory at the death of a match that Wales thought they had won with a Stephen Jones penalty goal just two minutes earlier.

A crowd of around 40,000 saw Wales score five tries - through Kevin Morgan (2), Neil Jenkins, Shane Williams and Craig Quinnett - and another flood of tries come 29 May would provide another sparkling occasion.

Above:
The Barbarians celebrate victory over Wales last season.




Above:
Adrian Garvey.

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YOUNG SQUAD SET TO SHINE



WALES will field new blood when they head back to the Far East for the latest round of the IRB World Sevens Series next week.

UWIC No 8 Rhys Jones, London Welsh fly-half Dafydd Jones, Dunvant's winger Anthony Rees and Llanelli back row Dan Gravell will make their debuts in the Welsh side in the tournaments in Singapore on April 20/21 and Malaysia on April 27/28.

The Welsh side reached the quarter-finals of the competition in their last outing and coach Colin Hillman is pleased with the advances that have been made in this seasons competition.

He said: "I think we have more than doubled the points tally we managed last year and even though we have had to chop and change the players from tournament to tournament I think there is evidence to suggest that we are becoming more competitive."

"We will be taking another young squad with us to Singapore and Malaysia and I know that all the players will benefit from the experience."

"We are talking to the Welsh team management about possibly securing some of the full Welsh squad to play in the final two rounds in this season's tournament at Twickenham and the Millennium Stadium.

"What we hope to do is use those two competitions to lead into the Commonwealth Games in Manchester for this summer.

"There is no shortage of talent in Wales. The only problem we have is in giving the players the right level of experience to compete against the top sides in the world.

"The Commonwealth Games is going

to be a huge event, possibly a pre-cursor to Sevens rugby moving into the Olympic Games and I would like to be able to pick the best possible Welsh side to play in front of a home crowd at the Millennium Stadium when the final round of the Series takes place on May 31 and June 1.

"It promises to be a fantastic weekend of rugby which fans will enjoy being a part of."

Tickets for the IRB World Sevens Series final round at the Millennium Stadium are available from the WRU ticket hotline 08705 582582.

WALES SEVENS SQUAD

(IRB Sevens Series events in Singapore and Malaysia)

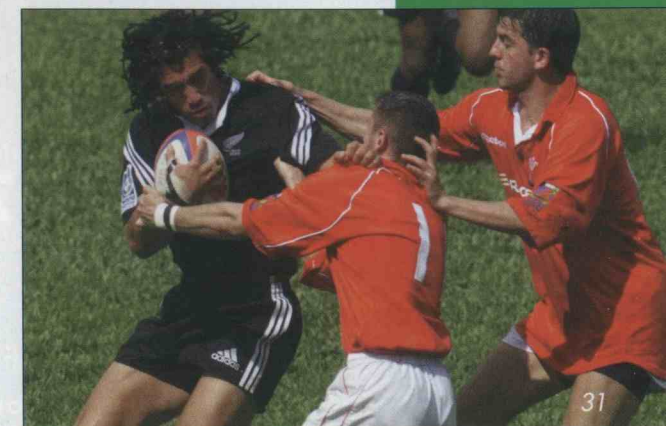
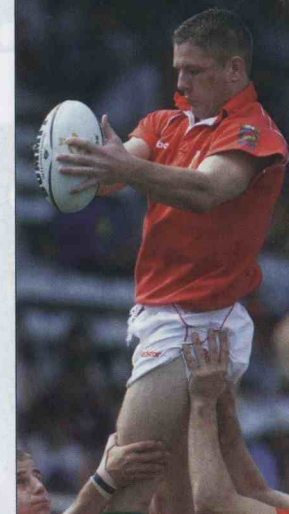
Gareth Gravell (Newport)
 Gareth Williams (Llanelli)
 Rhys Jones (UWIC)
 Jonathan Thomas (Swansea)
 Mike Phillips (Llanelli)
 Gareth Swales (Swansea)
 Dafydd Lewis (London Wasps)
 Liam Roberts (Cardiff)
 Craig Richards (Whitland)
 Anthony Rees (Dunvant)
 Dan Gravell (Llanelli)

Above:
 Gareth Gravell.

"There is no shortage of talent in Wales. The only problem we have is in giving the players the right level of experience to compete against the top sides in the world."

COLIN HILLMAN

Below:
 Action from Wales v New Zealand at last year's Malaysia Sevens.



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The weekend after next the finalists will be decided when Castres Olympique meet Munster in Beziers and then, 24 hours later, reigning champions Leicester Tigers clash with Llanelli in Nottingham in two fascinating semi-finals.

Then on 25 May all roads will lead to Cardiff as the Welsh capital hosts the battle for the coveted trophy so far won by Toulouse, Brive, Bath, Ulster, Northampton Saints and Leicester.

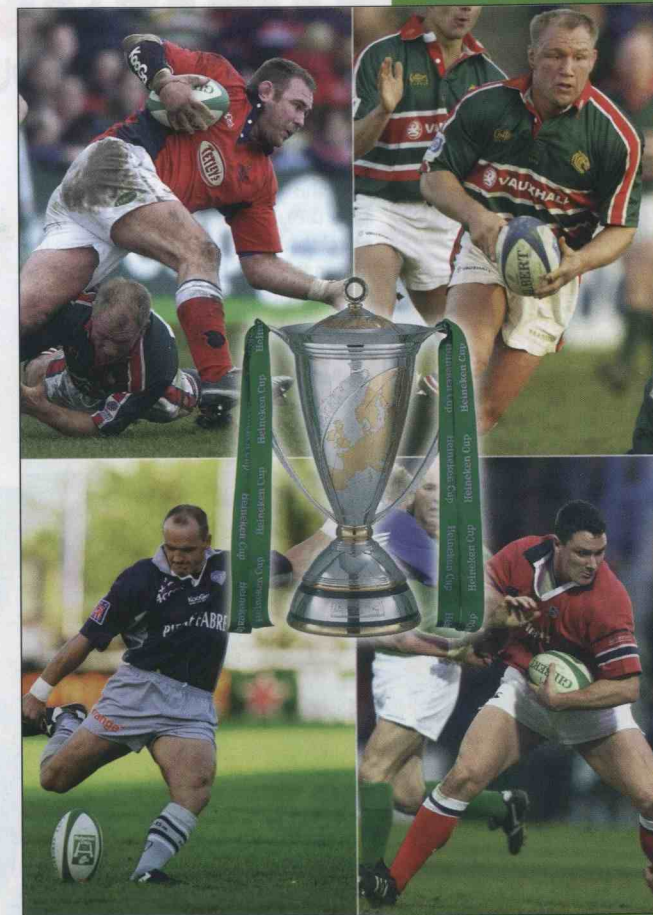
Cardiff – the old Arms Park to be exact – has already had the honour of staging two Heineken Cup finals, when Toulouse needed extra time to beat Cardiff in 1996 and the following season when Brive blitzed Leicester.

Since then the showpiece occasion has gone to Bordeaux, Dublin, Twickenham and Paris – each one a cracker.

And it will be a double dose of "here we go again" when Llanelli go to The City Ground, home of Nottingham Forest, to meet Martin Johnson & Co and Munster fly into Beziers to clash with Castres Olympique at Stade de la Mediterranee.

By a quirk of fate, Llanelli and Leicester have won through from Pool 1, where they each won their home games against each other, while Castres and Munster have both made it through to the last four from Pool 4, with their head-to-head encounters this season also standing at 1-1.

A couple of real deciders if ever there were – with the winners then focusing on that trip to the Millennium Stadium in just seven weeks time.



Tickets for the Heineken Cup final at the Millennium Stadium on 25th May are on sale now. Contact:

Millennium Stadium -
Tel: 08705 582 582

or
E-mail: www.wru.co.uk

Ticketmaster UK -
Tel: 0870 161 1995

Above:

Scott Quinnell of Llanelli, Leicester's Neil Back, Castres' Gregor Townsend and Munster's David Wallace will all be hoping to progress to the final.



STEVE HANSEN

BY SIMON ROBERTS,
Chief Rugby Writer
for Wales on Sunday

AND THE SUMMER TOUR TO SOUTH AFRICA

STEVE HANSEN has been handed the job of taking Wales back to the scene of their biggest Test match humiliations when he takes the national side as full-time coach back to South Africa this summer.

The last time Wales toured South Africa back in 1998 the Springboks rattled up a 96-13 victory over a Welsh side, shorn of most of its senior international players, in Pretoria. It was

an all-time low for Welsh rugby.

Wales have never won a Test match against the Springboks on their home patch, but did record a first historic victory in the first game at the Millennium Stadium in the summer of 1999. It was the highlight for Graham Henry, the former Wales coach, of his reign in charge of the national side.

For Hansen, it will not be a new experience travelling to South Africa.

**"Words are easy,
it is actions that
every player will
be judged on
and that won't
change."**

STEVE HANSEN

As coach of the Super 12 outfit, the Canterbury Crusaders, it was a regular destination every season. The New Zealander won two Super-12 titles with the Crusaders. So, he knows what is required to win out there.

But the straight-talking Kiwi, who was appointed as Wales coach after a stint as caretaker boss, will travel with a new look and inexperienced squad to take on the former World Champions in their own backyard.

Rob Howley, the Wales and Lions superstar, announced his retirement from international rugby at the end of the Six Nations and fellow Lions teammate and Wales skipper, Scott Quinnell, has been given the summer off to give his battered body a rest.

Colin Charvis, the new Wales skipper, looks set to be in charge for the two Test tour in June, and he knows how tough a trip it will be. The Swansea flanker was part of the ill-fated tour in 1998.

But Hansen is not daunted at the prospect of the two-week trip and is determined to use the rest of the season to run the rule over any likely candidates for the tour party.

"As a coach you are always looking for new players to come in," said Hansen.

"But I do feel we have the basic group of people we are going to need.

"I will use the time to have a good look at other players and if they show the desire and the ability they will get a shout.

"At the moment I feel we just have to grow as a group and the key thing is to create the environment for them to be a success.

"We can get stronger and there will be changes and people have to keep working and working harder to stay involved. The challenge for all the guys is keep proving they deserve to be there and for the guys not involved to prove they have to be there.

"Words are easy, it is actions that every player will be judged on and that won't change."

Hansen has not ruled out the possibility of other international players staying at home and missing the tour along with No 8 Quinnell.

He admits he has to start preparing his squad for Wales's tough build up to the 2003 World Cup down in Australia in 18 months.

"Some players will be given the summer off to allow their bodies to heal and recover," admitted Hansen.

"They will stay at home and work hard in the gym to freshen them up for the new season.

"That will mean they will be ready for the next campaign and that is more important than playing two more Test matches that their bodies don't need.

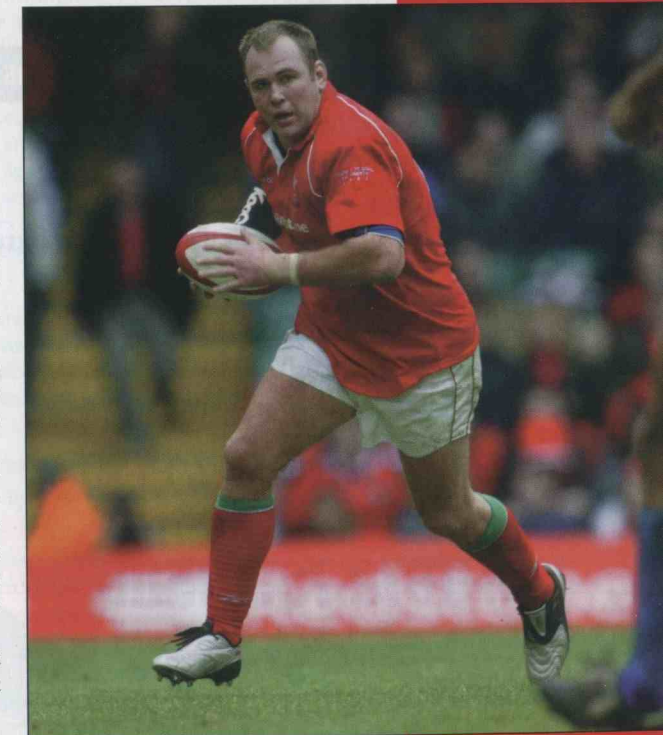
"Some times you have to make sacrifices in the short term to see the benefit in the long term."

Below:

Steve Hansen will be without the services of senior player Scott Quinnell who will be rested this summer.

**"The challenge
for all the guys
is keep
proving they
deserve to be
there and for
the guys not
involved to
prove they
have to be
there."**

STEVE HANSEN





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TODAY'S REFEREES

Ebbw Vale v Llanelli



NIGEL WHITEHOUSE
(Gower)

NIGEL Whitehouse is in hot demand for semi-final duties - he follows up today's appointment at the Millennium Stadium by taking charge of the PARKER PEN SHIELD semi-final between Gloucester and Sale in two weeks time.

The 40-year-old refereed his first Six Nations Championship match when Ireland triumphed 43-22 against Scotland at Lansdowne Road last month and he was also on touch judge duty in three other Championship matches.

A Sergeant in the South Wales Police, based in Bridgend and responsible for road and traffic safety, he started refereeing 13 years ago after a cruciate ligament injury ended his scrum half playing days with South Wales Police, Glamorgan County, Combined Services and the Welsh and British Police teams.

"It happened in the match against Neath at the Gnoll when Jonathan Davies was making his comeback from knee surgery - it turned out his first game back was the last of my career," he said.

He has been on the Welsh panel for the last five years and on the IRB for the past three seasons.

He made his international refereeing debut with the 1999 RWC qualifier between Belgium and Holland in 1998 and then took charge of Ireland's clash with Japan in 2000.

His touch judges today are Huw F Lewis (Pontypridd) and Michael Cox (Abertillery).

Cardiff v Pontypridd



NIGEL H WILLIAMS
(Bryncoch)

NIGEL Williams today takes charge of his first Principality Cup semi-final on his second Millennium Stadium appointment.

The 41-year-old former internet marketing consultant, who has been a full time referee for just over three months, officiated in the World Sevens Series at the Stadium.

"That was great, but doing a cup semi-final at the ground is a massive occasion for me," he said.

Williams played scrum half for the Welsh Schools Under 16 team and captained Wales Under 19 in the first World Sevens tournament. He switched to fly half while playing for his village club Bryncoch and then had a season with Neath "only for Jonathan Davies to arrive on the scene at The Gnoll."

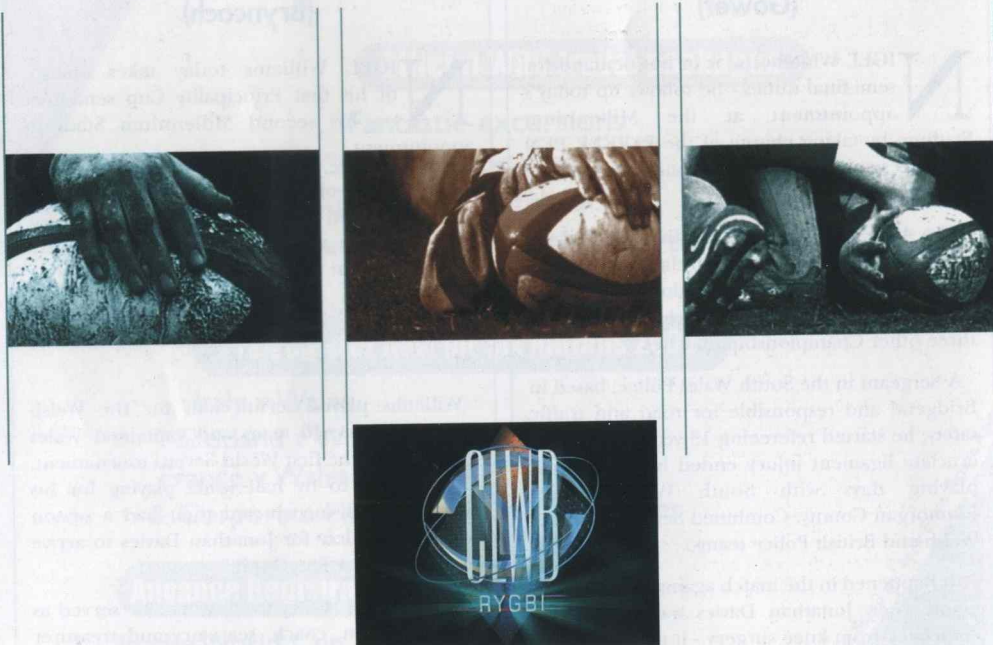
He returned to Bryncoch where he served as player, captain, coach, secretary and treasurer before his uncle Clayton Thomas - who makes it something of a family affair as he is on touch judge duty with his nephew today - persuaded him to take up refereeing.

He has gone to to do official duty in the 1997 World Cup Sevens in Hong Kong and has been in charge of six A internationals, the most recent being France against England last month.

His touch judges today are Clayton Thomas (Neath) and Haydn Davies (Bethesda).



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CARDIFF

For nine seasons it appeared that Cardiff were cursed in Cup rugby. Even with Barry John and Gareth Edwards at half back, they just could not win it.

They did reach the 1973 and 1977 finals, but it was not until 1981 that they gained their first-ever success. That was the breakthrough and they played in six finals in seven seasons, winning five of them.

This current side under Andre Joubert have little knowledge of final play as they have not reached that stage over the last four seasons. Though they play next door, they are new boys to the Millennium Stadium.

It took a bit of Robert Howley magic to defeat holders Newport in the floodlit quarter-final at home to Newport and yet Rob has only scored on two other occasions this season.

Cardiff have certainly got the players for the big occasion in the likes of Pieter Muller, Iestyn Harris and Anthony Sullivan and yet it is Pontypridd who have the lead in cup meetings by two wins to one over them.

Iestyn Harris has been Cardiff's top scorer this season with a total of 152 from 60 in the League, 79 in the Heineken and 13 in the Principality Cup, while not far behind has been the promising Nick Robinson with 134, that contains 108 in the League, 15 in the Heineken and just 11 in the Principality Cup.

Tries have been harder to come by and though Rhys Williams, Anthony Sullivan and Craig Hudson have 23 between them, they have yet to score in the Principality.

Cardiff will be looking to put one over on former coach Lyn Howells and no doubt Martyn Williams and the injured Neil Jenkins will be giving out some tips on how to stop Paul John and company.

Victory this season has come at the Talbot Athletic Ground against battling Aberavon side and then Newport, who had probably started as slight favourites.

THE CARDIFF CUP FINAL RECORD

1973	Finalists	Llanelli	30	CARDIFF	7
1977	Finalists	Newport	16	CARDIFF	15
1981	Winners	CARDIFF	14	Bridgend	6
1982	Winners	CARDIFF	12	Bridgend	12 (on tries)
1984	Winners	CARDIFF	24	Neath	19
1985	Finalists	Llanelli	15	CARDIFF	14
1986	Winners	CARDIFF	28	Newport	21
1987	Winners	CARDIFF	16	Swansea	15 (after extra time)
1994	Winners	CARDIFF	15	Llanelli	8
1997	Winners	CARDIFF	33	Swansea	26

CARDIFF'S PRINCIPALITY CUP RUN (2001/2002)

Round Seven: 23 February 2002.

Aberavon 16 CARDIFF 24

(Tries: R Powell, L Roberts; Con: N Robinson;

Pens: N Robinson 3, I Harris)

Quarter-final: 29 March 2002.

CARDIFF 20 Newport 14

(Tries: J Robinson, R Howley. Con: I Harris 2; Pens: I Harris 2)

PREVIOUS CUP MEETINGS

1978/1979:	Pontypridd	9	CARDIFF	7
1979/1980:	CARDIFF	6	Pontypridd	13
1993/1994:	CARDIFF	8	Pontypridd	6 (semi-final)

CARDIFF'S CUP RECORD

Played 137; Won 114; Lost 23

Rob Howley.



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THE CARDIFF SQUAD

DAVID YOUNG (captain)

Position:	Prop
DoB:	26.07.67
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	18st 6lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app

ROB APPLEYARD

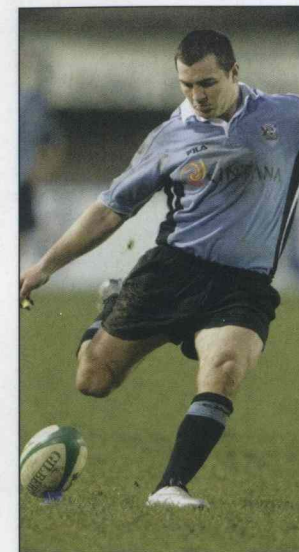
Position:	Flanker
DoB:	09.12.72
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	16st 1lb
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps

ANDY BOOTH

Position:	Scrum Half
DoB:	08.12.67
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	14st 0lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	0 apps

ROB HOWLEY

Position:	Scrum Half
DoB:	13.10.70
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	13st 3lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app (5 pts - 1t)



Iestyn Harris.

KEN FOURIE

Position:	Prop
DoB:	14.02.77
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	18st 8lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps

CRAIG HUDSON

Position:	Centre
DoB:	10.07.78
Height:	6'6"
Weight:	16st 9lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	0 apps

MATT ALLEN

Position:	Centre
DoB:	28.02.74
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	15st 2lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app

DAN BAUGH

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	10.09.74
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	15st 10lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	1 app

IESTYN HARRIS

Position:	Outside Half
DoB:	25.06.76
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	13st 10lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps (13 pts - 2c, 3p)

JONATHAN HUMPHREYS

Position:	Hooker
DoB:	27.02.69
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	16st 8lbs
Principality Cup	
2001/2002 :	2 apps



THE CARDIFF SQUAD

SPENCER JOHN

Position:	Prop
DoB:	19.10.73
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	19st 2lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

ANDREW LEWIS

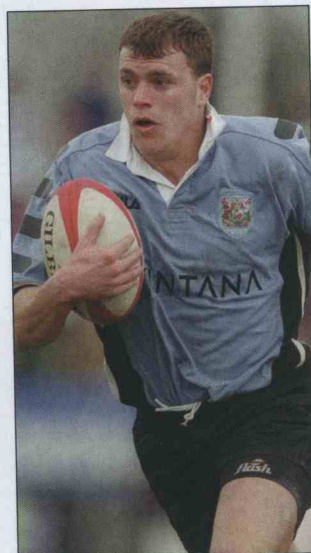
Position:	Prop / Hooker
DoB:	13.06.73
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	16st 7lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

FRANCOIS MOURNIER

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	02.03.78
Height:	6'3"
Weight:	15st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

GARY POWELL

Position:	Prop
DoB:	30.10.79
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	17st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	0 apps



Craig Morgan.

CRAIG MORGAN

Position:	Wing
DoB:	26.09.78
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	14st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

RYAN POWELL

Position:	Scrum Half
DoB:	01.07.80
Height:	5'8"
Weight:	13st 12lb
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app (5 pts - 1t)

ADAM JONES

Position:	Lock
DoB:	12.01.80
Height:	6'7"
Weight:	19st 11lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

EMYR LEWIS

Position:	No 8
DoB:	29.08.68
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	17st 5lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

PIETER MULLER

Position:	Centre
DoB:	05.05.69
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	15st 12lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

CRAIG QUINNELL

Position:	Lock
DoB:	09.07.75
Height:	6'6"
Weight:	20st 7lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	0 apps

JAMIE ROBINSON

Position:	Centre
DoB:	07.04.80
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	14st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app (5 pts - 1t)



Jamie Robinson.

PETER ROGERS

Position:	Prop
DoB:	20.01.69
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	18st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

LUKE TAIT

Position:	Lock
DoB:	26.10.81
Height:	6'7"
Weight:	16st 3lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

MARTYN WILLIAMS

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	01.09.75
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	15st 5lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app



THE CARDIFF SQUAD

NICK ROBINSON

Position:	Outside Half
DoB:	03.01.82
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	14st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app (11 pts - 1c,3p)

ROBIN SOWDEN-TAYLOR

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	09.06.82
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	14st 10lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

ANTHONY SULLIVAN

Position:	Wing
DoB:	23.11.68
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	13st 10lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

JOHN TAIT

Position:	Lock
DoB:	14.08.73
Height:	6'8"
Weight:	17st 4lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

NICK WALNE

Position:	Wing
DoB:	18.09.75
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	15st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	0 apps

RHYS WILLIAMS

Position:	Full Back
DoB:	23.02.70
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	13st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

GREG WOODS

Position:	Hooker
DoB:	17.12.80
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	16st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	0 apps



PONTYPRIDD

A Pontypridd revival under former Cardiff coach Lyn Howells has brought five wins in eight league matches and also see Ponty reach the Parker Pen European Shield, where they are drawn against London Irish.

It has been a backs-to-the-wall performance by the Sardis Road boys and none more so than the 17-15 win at Saracens, which has made anything seem possible.

Paul John began the league programme of September 1990 as Cardiff's scrum half, but had soon returned to form a brilliant Ponty club partnership with his close friend, Neil Jenkins. The 'Ginger Monster' was later to transfer to Cardiff, but not before he served Pontypridd well in cup and league play.

The first cup final for Pontypridd was in 1979, when Bridgend just overcame Tommy David's side but it was 16 years before they had another crack, but were beaten by Swansea.

Richie Collins, the popular former Wales flanker and basketball cap, was a player with both clubs, but he left his coaching role at the club, having seen six defeats in the opening seven matches.

It has been a mixed bag for the club that included the walk-over at Kingsholm, Gloucester when Overmach Parma failed to appear. The Principality Cup began at Blackwood, when the home side fought tenaciously, but just yielded in the final quarter as Brett Davey grabbed 14 points.

It was Davey with five first-half penalties who sent Pontypridd on their way to a quarter-final win over Caerphilly and Sonny Parker scored two of the five tries.

Davey has recovered from injury to have scored 133 points with Ceri Sweeney and Nicky Little also contributing well. The Pontypridd contingent today will also include their popular freelance journalist Phil Caddy, who will be remembering his many years as a schoolteacher just down the road in Grangetown.

THE PONTYPRIDD CUP FINAL RECORD

1979 Finalists	Bridgend	18	PONTYPRIDD	12
1995 Finalists	Swansea	17	PONTYPRIDD	12
1996 Winners	PONTYPRIDD	29	Neath	22

PONTYPRIDD'S PRINCIPALITY CUP RUN (2001/2002)

Round Seven: 23 February 2002

Blackwood 8 PONTYPRIDD 24

(Tries: N Simpson, G Jones; Con: B Davey; Pens: B Davey 4)

Quarter-final: 30 March 2002

PONTYPRIDD 46 Caerphilly 31

(Tries: S Parker 2, G Jones, P John N Simpson;

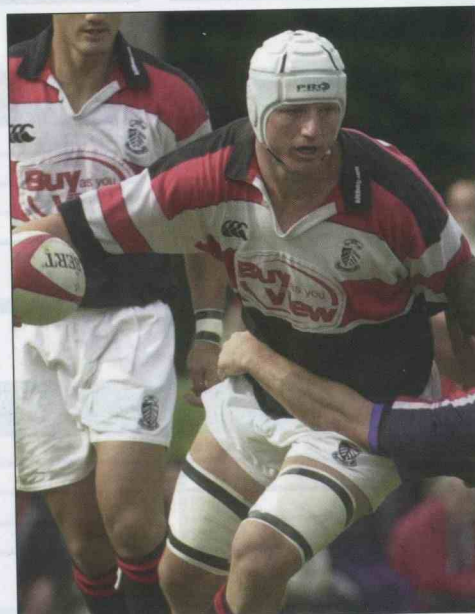
Cons: B Davey 2, C Sweeney; Pens: B Davey 5)

PREVIOUS CUP MEETINGS

1978/1979:	PONTYPRIDD	9	Cardiff	7
1979/1980:	Cardiff	6	PONTYPRIDD	13
1993/1994:	Cardiff	8	PONTYPRIDD	6 (semi-final)

PONTYPRIDD'S CUP RECORD

Played 106; Won 77; Lost 29.



Brent Cockbain.



THE PONTYPRIDD SQUAD

DALE McINTOSH (captain)

Position:	Flanker / No 8
DoB:	23.11.70
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	17st 10lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

DUNCAN BELL

Position:	Prop
DoB:	01.10.74
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	18st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

BRENT COCKBAIN

Position:	Lock
DoB:	15.11.74
Height:	6'8"
Weight:	19st 4lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

MEFIN DAVIES

Position:	Hooker
DoB:	02.09.72
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	15st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

SVEN CRONK

Position:	Prop
DoB:	27.06.69
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	17st 4lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

RICHARD FIELD

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	04.10.76
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	16st 2lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

GARETH BABER

Position:	Scrum Half
DoB:	23.08.72
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	12st 7lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

JONATHAN BRYANT

Position:	Centre
DoB:	14.10.76
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	15st 4lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

BRETT DAVEY

Position:	Full back
DoB:	10.05.72
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	15st 2lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps (33 pts - 3c,9p)

CORY HARRIS

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	03.04.75
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	15st 6lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	0 app



Dale McIntosh.



THE PONTYPRIDD SQUAD

LLOYD HOWELL

Position:	Prop
DoB:	09.07.79
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	17st 10lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	0 apps



Paul John.

SHAUN JAMES

Position:	Centre
DoB:	20.05.80
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	13st 3lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

GETHIN JENKINS

Position:	Prop
DoB:	17.11.80
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	18st 10lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

PAUL JOHN

Position:	Scrum Half
DoB:	25.01.70
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	12st 12lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps (5 pts - 1t)

GARETH JONES

Position:	Centre
DoB:	31.05.75
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	14st 2lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps (10 pts - 2t)

RICHARD JOHNSTON

Position:	Wing
DoB:	26.02.80
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	12st 6lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	0 apps

NICK KELLY

Position:	Lock
DoB:	10.06.77
Height:	6'5"
Weight:	17st 3lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

JASON LEWIS

Position:	Centre
DoB:	04.01.71
Height:	5'8"
Weight:	13st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

NICKY LITTLE

Position:	Outside Half
DoB:	13.09.76
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	15st 0lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

MATTHEW LLOYD

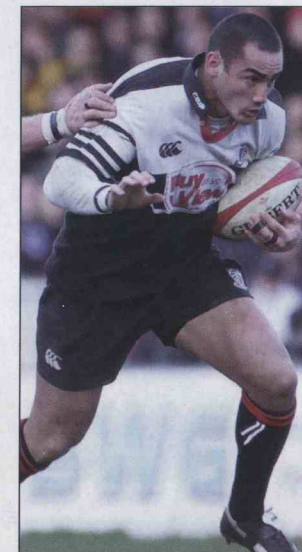
Position:	Flanker
DoB:	14.08.70
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	16st 5lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app



THE PONTYPRIDD SQUAD

MICHAEL OWEN

Position:	No 8
DoB:	07.11.70
Height:	6'5"
Weight:	17st 7lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps



Sonny Parker.

SONNY PARKER

Position:	Centre
DoB:	27.08.77
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	15st 8lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app (10 pts - 2t)

RICHARD PARKS

Position:	Flanker
DoB:	14.08.77
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	16st 4lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

MATTHEW REES

Position:	Hooker
DoB:	09.12.80
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	15st 4lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

GLENN REMNANT

Position:	No 8
DoB:	17.11.72
Height:	6'3"
Weight:	16st 6lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	0 apps

ROBERT SIDOLI

Position:	Lock
DoB:	21.06.79
Height:	6'5"
Weight:	18st 4lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps

NIGEL SIMPSON

Position:	Wing
DoB:	25.04.75
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	15st 2lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps (10 pts - 2t)

Ceri Sweeney.

CERI SWEENEY

Position:	Outside Half
DoB:	21.01.80
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	12st 7lbs
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	2 apps (2 pts - 1c)



GARETH WYATT

Position:	Wing
DoB:	04.03.77
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	12st 6lb
Principality Cup 2001/2002 :	1 app

CHANGED ADDRESS, CHANGED MOBILE, CHANGED UNDERPANTS, CHANGED JOB, CHANGED DOG, CHANGED BITTER, CHANGED BARBERS, CHANGED SITCOM, CHANGED CHANNEL, CHANGED WIFE, CHANGED LANDLORDS, CHANGED FITNESS INSTRUCTOR, CHANGED SHAMPOO, CHANGED YOUR MIND, CHANGED WAIST SIZE, CHANGED DEODORANT, CHANGED CHINESE TAKEAWAY, CHANGED LOO ROLL, CHANGED FROM PRAWN COCKTAIL TO SMOKY BACON, CHANGED FAVOURITE JUMPER, CHANGED SOFA, CHANGED WIFE AGAIN, CHANGED BOOT STUDS, CHANGED PIERCINGS, CHANGED TO A SUPER WOOFER, CHANGED POSTCODE, CHANGED FROM TEA TO COFFEE, CHANGED CAR, CHANGED THE OIL, CHANGED IN-LAWS, CHANGED SUPERMARKET, CHANGED FILM IN CAMERA, CHANGED AFTERSHAVE, CHANGED TO PASTEURISED, CHANGED TO SKIMMED, CHANGED TO SEMI-SKIMMED, CHANGED FLAT TYRE, CHANGED WORK COLLEAGUES, CHANGED POOL CUE, CHANGED DOODLES, CHANGED MULLET, CHANGED BREAKFAST CEREAL, CHANGED FLIGHT OF THE BUMBLEBEE RINGTONE, CHANGED YOUR LOOK ON LIFE, CHANGED FROM EARLIES TO LATES, CHANGED WATER IN GOLDFISH BOWL, CHANGED BUTCHER, CHANGED BUSES AT SWANSEA, CHANGED FROM ELEVENSES TO TWELVESES, CHANGED JEANS, CHANGED DANCE MOVES, CHANGED FLOPPY TO ZIP, CHANGED JOURNEY TO WORK, CHANGED BED SHEETS, CHANGED TV REMOTES, CHANGED SIGNATURE, CHANGED POSITION ON LADDER, CHANGED THE CHANGE IN YOUR POCKET, CHANGED COFFEE MUG, CHANGED FROM THIRD PARTY TO FULLY COMP, CHANGED HOUSE NUMBER, CHANGED THE WAY YOU SLEEP, CHANGED HOOKER, CHANGED 4 ACROSS TO GINGIVITIS, CHANGED TO SINGLE BREASTED, CHANGED THE LOCKS, CHANGED SEATS, CHANGED YOUR VIEW ON HOROSCOPES, CHANGED THE TIME YOU GO TO BED, CHANGED POSTERS ON WALLS, CHANGED SANDWICH FILLING, CHANGED TOOTHBRUSH, CHANGED FAVOURITE JOKE, CHANGED PUB BEFORE THE MATCH, CHANGED FACIAL HAIR, CHANGED TO MARMALADE, CHANGED STADIUM, CHANGED TO THIN SLICED.

CHANGED RUGBY TEAM. NEVER.

Reebok

THE PRINCIPALITY

CYMRDEITHAS ADEILADU • BUILDING SOCIETY

SEMI FINAL 2

KICK OFF 5.30



CARDIFF

Blue/Black Jerseys
Crysau Glas/Du

v

PONTYPRIDD

Black/White/Red Jerseys
Crysau Du/Gwyn/Coch



Rhys Williams	15	<i>Cefnwr Full-Back</i>	15	Brett Davey
Anthony Sullivan	14	<i>Asgell dde Right Wing</i>	14	Gareth Wyatt
Jamie Robinson	13	<i>Canolwr Right Centre</i>	13	Sonny Parker
Pieter Muller	12	<i>Canolwr Left Centre</i>	12	Jonathan Bryant
Craig Morgan	11	<i>Asgell chwith Left Wing</i>	11	Nigel Simpson
Iestyn Harris	10	<i>Masur Stand-Off</i>	10	Ceri Sweeney
Rob Howley	9	<i>Mewwr Scrum-Half</i>	9	Paul John
Spencer John	1	<i>Yr rheng flaen Loose-head Prop</i>	1	Gethin Jenkins
Jonathan Humphreys	2	<i>Bachwr Hooker</i>	2	Mefin Davies
David Young (captain)	3	<i>Y rheng flaen Tight-head Prop</i>	3	Duncan Bell
Adam Jones	4	<i>Yr ail reng Lock</i>	4	Brent Cockbain
Luke Tait	5	<i>Yr ail reng Lock</i>	5	Robert Sidoli
Rob Appleyard	6	<i>Blaenasgell Left Flanker</i>	6	Dale McIntosh (captain)
Emyr Lewis	8	<i>Y rheng ol No. 8</i>	8	Michael Owen
Martyn Williams	7	<i>Blaenasgell Right Flanker</i>	7	Richard Parks

REPLACEMENTS EILYDDION

Ken Fourie	16		16	Matthew Rees
Andrew Lewis	17		17	Sven Cronk
Dan Baugh	18		18	Nick Kelly
Robin Sowden-Taylor	19		19	Cory Harris
Ryan Powell	20		20	Gareth Baber
Nick Robinson	21		21	Nicky Little
Matt Allen	22		22	Jason Lewis

Referee:
NIGEL H WILLIAMS
(WRU)

Touch Judges:
CLAYTON THOMAS (WRU)
HAYDN DAVIES (WRU)

Teams accurate as at 11.04.02

YOUR SAFETY IS OUR CONCERN



The safety and wellbeing of spectators and other visitors is of paramount importance to Millennium Stadium plc.

The expertise and experience of safety stewards, police, doctors, paramedics and members of the St John's Ambulance Service are important ingredients in the safety management plan of the stadium. The successful implementation of this plan however depends to a very large extent on the co-operation of you the spectator and all other stadium users.

Please contact a steward if you have any worries over a matter of safety, any concerns about the behaviour of other spectators or if you need help with ticketing or with finding your way in the stadium. All stewards are trained in our emergency procedures and basic first aid. Stewards in green jackets hold formal qualifications in first aid and life saving and stewards in orange and yellow jackets are supervisors who are in constant contact with the stadium control room.

As Operations & Safety Manager for the Millennium Stadium I should like to draw to your attention a number of key issues in order that you may enjoy your visit in the safest possible way.

FIRST AID

There are 12 first aid posts and one first aid centre at the Millennium Stadium. A first aid post can be found at each corner of the ground on levels 3, 4 and 6. The large first aid centre is on level 1 and caters for major injuries. This facility has a direct access route to the ambulance service.

LOST CHILDREN, LOST PROPERTY AND INFORMATION CENTRE

This centre is located just off the level 3 concourse in the north west corner of the stadium at aisle 335 and is in constant contact with the stadium control room. The centre deals with all types of general enquiries during the event and is also the holding point for lost property. Any lost property that is unclaimed at the end of the event is kept at the stadium and the details entered into a register. If you wish to claim property which you believe to be lost within the confines of the stadium then please call the Millennium Stadium lost property line on 029 20231426 during normal office hours. Please note that this line will not be in operation on the day of an event.

FACILITIES FOR DISABLED SPECTATORS

Wheelchair users and other disabled spectators enter the stadium via the same turnstiles and through the same entrances as all other spectators:

- From the north along the Riverwalk to gate 1
 - From the east across Westgate Plaza to gate 3
 - From the south across Millennium Plaza to gate 6 and 7
- Viewing areas for wheelchair users and dedicated toilet facilities are available throughout the ground on all levels.

Facilities on the upper levels are reached via lifts and a step-free level access.

A number of stewards have voluntarily undertaken specific disability awareness training. These stewards will be pleased to offer assistance to our disabled visitors. This help includes providing a refreshment ordering service for those disabled spectators who request it. Persons who are visually impaired or who have hearing difficulties can also hire personal radio receivers to pick up match commentary. This service is available today from the information centre.

PUBLIC TELEPHONES

There are numerous telephones available for public use located in each corner of the stadium on every level.

PERSISTENT STANDING

Millennium Stadium is an 'all-seater' stadium and standing during matches or other events is not permitted. Spectators should remain seated at all times and not obstruct the view of others during exciting passages of play.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Millennium Stadium plc has a legal obligation to deny entry to the stadium to anyone carrying cans, bottles, glasses or containers of any description. Claxon horns and larger flag sticks are also not permitted. Spectators bringing such items to the ground will be asked to deposit them in a refuse skip provided for the purpose.

PARENTING ROOMS

Designated feeding and nappy changing facilities are located in each corner of the stadium on every level. Their precise locations are well signposted.

PLEASE DO NOT SMOKE

The stadium operates a policy of actively discouraging smoking in any part of the ground. However, if you do wish to smoke we would respectfully ask that you use the concourse rather than smoke in your seat or other areas where your smoking could cause discomfort or annoyance to others.

PICKPOCKETS

It is with regret that we have to inform you that at some previous events pickpockets have been operating amongst spectators, especially those spectators queuing for refreshments or other merchandise. Millennium Stadium in conjunction with South Wales Police will continue to make every effort to detect, apprehend and prosecute those responsible for carrying out these crimes. Millennium Stadium plc would be grateful for your co-operation in this matter and ask that you report any suspicious behaviour to the nearest steward or police officer.

USE OF ESCALATORS

With around 50,000 spectators accommodated above ground level it is simply not possible for everyone to leave the stadium via the four sets of escalators. The escalators are intended primarily for the use of those spectators at levels 5 and 6 who are unable to use the staircases. In order to prevent the build up of potentially dangerous congestion at the end of an event, egress via the escalators is restricted to those spectators departing from level 6. Again, your co-operation in this regard is greatly appreciated.

TOILETS

Toilets are situated on every level of the stadium and can be found by following the concourse signs. There are 82 sets of toilet facilities available for public use; 42 for women and 40 for men.

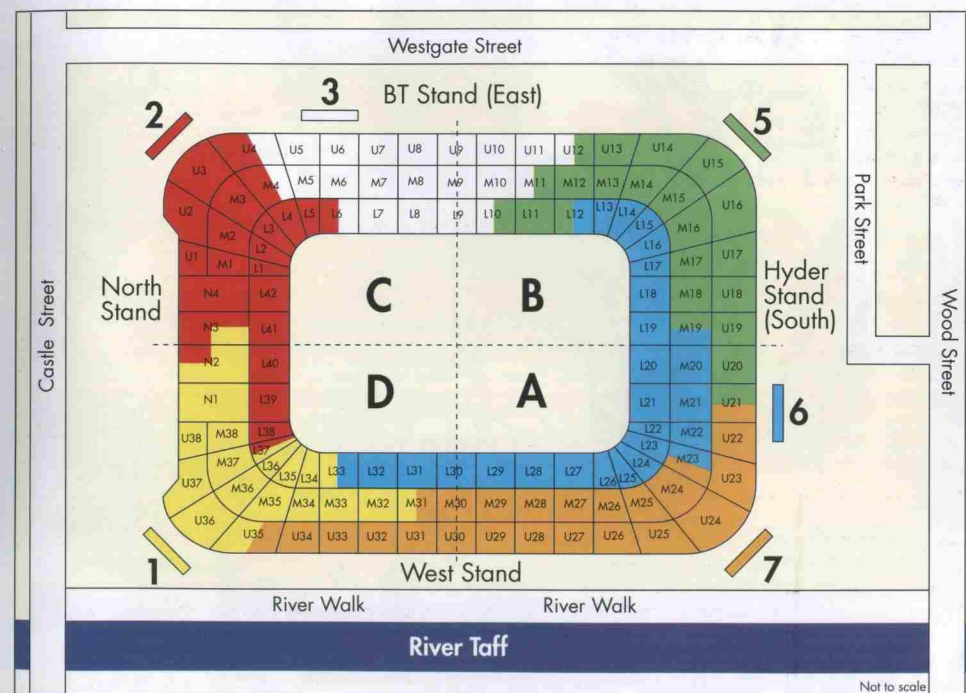
LICENSED BARS/FOOD AND BEVERAGE OUTLETS

There are numerous bars and food and beverage facilities open to the public at the Millennium Stadium for today's event. For these outlets to operate safely and effectively it is critical that all persons making use of them move away from bar and counter areas immediately purchases have been made and not obstruct the access of others. Your help to keep the concourses clear in an attempt to reduce congestion is very much appreciated.

Many thanks for your co-operation. I hope you enjoy your visit to Millennium Stadium.

Geraint H Evans

Operations & Safety Manager



MILLENNIUM STADIUM plc AND THE WELSH RUGBY UNION WISH TO THANK THE VOLUNTEERS OF ST JOHN AMBULANCE WHO ARE PROVIDING FIRST AID AND MEDICAL COVER AT TODAY'S EVENT

With more than 7,500 members, St John Ambulance in Wales is one of the largest volunteer organisations within the Principality, giving more than 200,000 hours of service to the public every year. The organisation provides essential first aid training to more than 40,000 people in Wales each year from all walks of life.

St John Ambulance Headquarters, Priory House, Meridian Court, North Road, Cardiff, CF4 3BL

Tel: 029 2062 7627; Fax: 029 2062 7687



The continuing development of Rugby Union demands substantial support and the WRU sincerely appreciates and gratefully acknowledges its principal sponsors and suppliers whose support ensures that this development will continue.

Today's Match Sponsor:

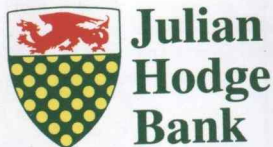
THE PRINCIPALITY

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THE FINAL COUNTDOWN!



THE PRINCIPALITY Sponsors
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THE PRINCIPALITY
CUP



FINAL:

**18TH MAY
3.00 PM**

TICKETS PRICES:

£20, £15, £10, £5

(Child concessions U16's)

**PLAYED AT THE
MILLENNIUM
STADIUM**



**You've got to hurry
to get your ticket!**



**Ticket
Hotline: 08705 582 582**

BUY ONLINE: www.wru.co.uk

The Millennium Stadium Ticket Office, 98 St. Mary Street, Cardiff CF10 1GE Subject to a booking fee

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BUILDING SOCIETY

Sponsors

THE PRINCIPALITY
CUP

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Mortgages are available to persons aged 18 or over, secured on freehold or leasehold properties in Wales and England and are subject to status. Security will be required. All lending will be subject to appraisal of the financial standing of the applicants. The Society operates a complaints procedure, details of which are available from any branch office or from our Chief Office if cause for complaint arises. The Society subscribes to the Council of Mortgage Lenders' Code of Lending Practice, copies of which are available from each of the Society's offices. Written quotations are available on request. Principality Building Society is regulated by the Financial Services Authority. We arrange life assurance, pensions and investments only with the Norwich Union Marketing Group, members of which are regulated by the Financial Services Authority.