



# Cardiff

*rugby club*



at The Cardiff Arms Park this afternoon . . .

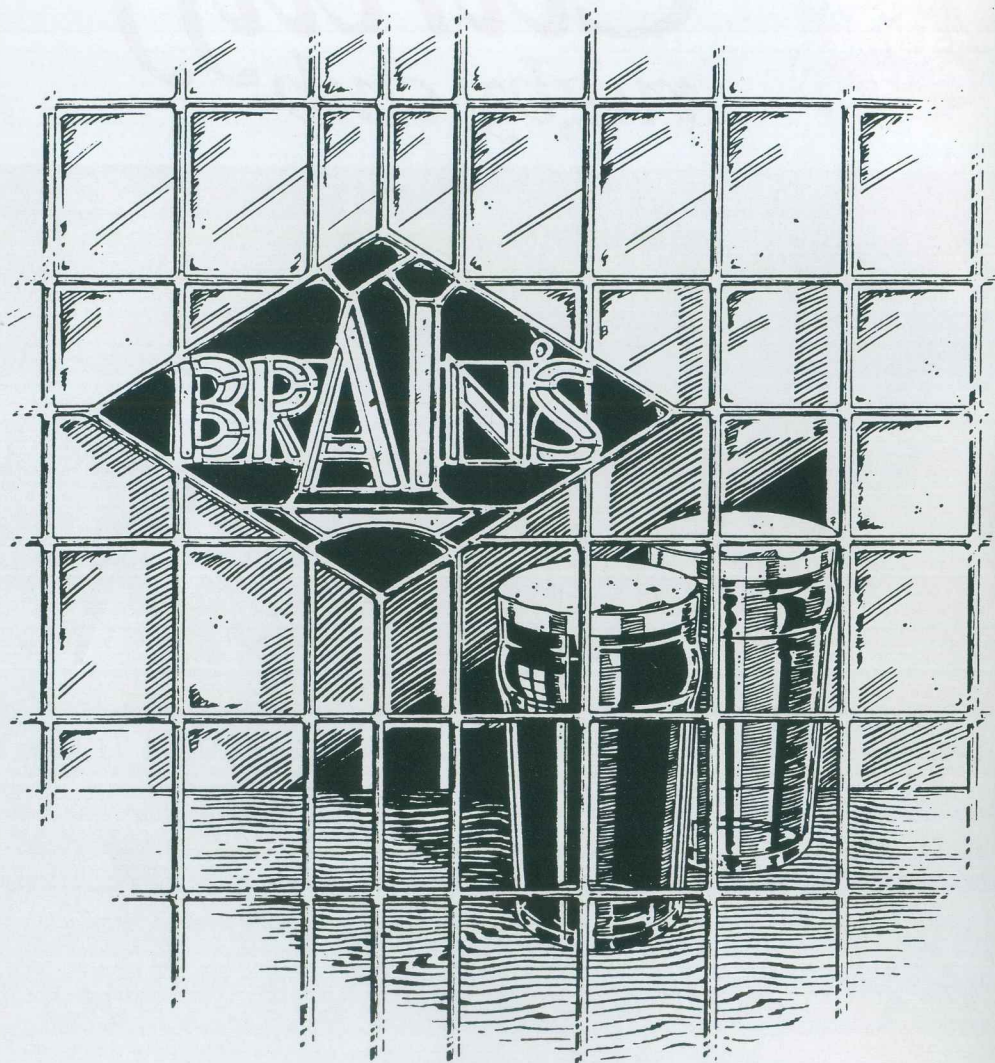
## **EBBW VALE**

Saturday, 11th November, 1989

Kick-Off 3.00 p.m.

OFFICIAL  
PROGRAMME  
40p





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**LOOKING FORWARD FROM A PROUD PAST.**



## **Cardiff v. Ebbw Vale**

**SATURDAY, 11th NOVEMBER, 1989**

**KICK-OFF 3.00p.m.**

It is the height of irony to realise that a hose pipe ban is still in existence after the monsoon like rain we were experiencing when these notes were being put to paper. It's not quite as bad as the weather for the Cambridge match but let's hope it's done its worst by this afternoon and we can enjoy a pleasant game of rugby.

Let's hope also for an abatement in the storm which has surrounded the introduction of a league structure into our game. The vibes coming from both the W.R.U. and the Merit Table clubs seem to suggest we are finally reaching a situation which would be acceptable to all parties. Concessions have appeared to be the order of the day from both sides and thankfully one can go on from here in a sensible and workman-like fashion. It's still going to be a mammoth task to rearrange fixture lists if, as is proposed, the leagues start next year. Who'd be a fixture secretary in such traumatic times? Include me out.

Today then we extend a very cordial welcome to our friends from North Gwent, Ebbw Vale. It is now two years since their last visit to the Arms Park because last season's home fixture fell foul to a rearranged cup game against Llanharan. It's a fact that for one reason or another Cardiff/Ebbw Vale encounters are fraught with hazards such as touring team games, Welsh trials and cup match rearrangements. Even today we will be without the services of some of our Wales B squad players who will be involved in a game with their counterparts in France.

Today sees the 65th game between us since fixtures first began at 1st team level in 1927. Indeed only 3 games were played prior to World War II with the remaining 61 coming on a regular basis since season 1954-55. They played a series of 5 games against Cardiff Reserves of the time from season 1896-97 to 1899-90. In looking at the history book, it shows that our club was in some disgrace in the former of those seasons. In the third of the four games against Newport the referee Mr George Harnett was mobbed by the crowd at the end of the game. As a consequence, the Arms Park was suspended for a period of 5 weeks. There's not much new in rugby is there, even though it is on the unsavoury side.

Of the 64 previous games we have won 37, lost 22 and drawn the remaining 5. Points-wise we have scored 1006 for to 583 against. Of their 22 wins, 6 have been achieved on the Arms Park with the last of those coming in February 1987.

On to the present then and one thing is for sure and that is the fact that Ebbw Vale are having one of their worst runs ever. Last weekend's win against Cheltenham ended a dismal sequence of ten consecutive defeats. Last Wednesday however they went down once again when they were defeated 12-7 at Aberavon. They will certainly want to expunge October 1989 from their memories because all eight games played were lost. Furthermore, completely uncharacteristically, Ebbw had no less than three players sent off the field. To



compound this situation club captain Malcolm Sibthorpe has been banished to the sin bin on three occasions this season. That means a hearing with the W.R.U. Disciplinary Committee.

Uncharacteristic is definitely the word to describe this present predicament because Ebbw's record on this score is one of the best. Both on and off the field they have always enjoyed their rugby, playing in a bold, aggressive but controlled manner. I'm sure the Vale will overcome their present hiccup with the tradition and dignity that they have worked for so diligently over many years.

As is typical of them Ebbw are tackling their poor on field performances in a sensible and forthright manner. In their search for talent they have wisely resurrected their Youth XV and they are always striving to develop local talent. The facilities they have on offer are first class and their aim is to make the club the mecca of rugby in North Gwent. They have also attracted several overseas players to their squad. Indeed the credentials of Barney Schuartz sound most impressive. A junior Springbok at tight head prop he stands at 6'2" and tips the scales at 17 stone. Now that's not a bad acquisition is it?

Their excellent facilities of course have risen like the Phoenix from the ashes of their burnt down grandstand and clubhouse. The dismal sight of those ruins would have been enough for most administrations but certainly not Ebbw. They didn't waste any time in feeling sorry for themselves but got on with the job of rebuilding and in very quick time indeed. We in Cardiff as do all other clubs admire the Vale for the way they overcame such adversity. Hopefully in the not too distant future the performance on the field will match the undaunted and go ahead administration of it.

To Ebbw Vale then we say again you are most welcome and we hope you enjoy your visit.

Earlier on in these notes I mentioned that there is nothing new in the game. Last Wednesday however we suffered a unique experience in the failure of our floodlights. It was due to some technicality of new equipment and hopefully remedial action will obviate any further trouble. The game itself was quite enjoyable considering the cold wind that was blowing. It was nice to get a win under our belts too after 3 successive home defeats. The Oxford lads gave it a go too and having now seen both sides perform so well on Park it augers well for an enjoyable Varsity game next month. It was pleasing to see Damion Griffiths finally take his place too after the 'he will, he won't be' situation which surrounded his debut. We wish him a hearty welcome to the club.

After today we start on our annual run to the Schweppes Cup. The draw saw us lose out on a home tie so next Saturday we are off to Cilfynydd. This will be our second outing against them in the Cup having played them at the Arms Park in the equivalent tie of the 1982-83 competition. On that occasion we won by 66 points to 9 but it's going to be a very different kettle of fish this time when they get us on their own patch.

Still we are looking forward to the visit because there is always a great atmosphere at the smaller clubs when they get a crack at the so called big guns.

With Llanelli away the week after that let's hope we can manage to get our best side on the field once again.

P.N.

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## Rugby Quiz – No. 7

It's all about Ebbw Vale today.

1. What is the name of their ground?
2. Who is their most capped player?
3. Have they ever won the Schweppes Cup?
4. How many times have they won the Welsh Championship table?
5. Have they ever won the Snelling Sevens?



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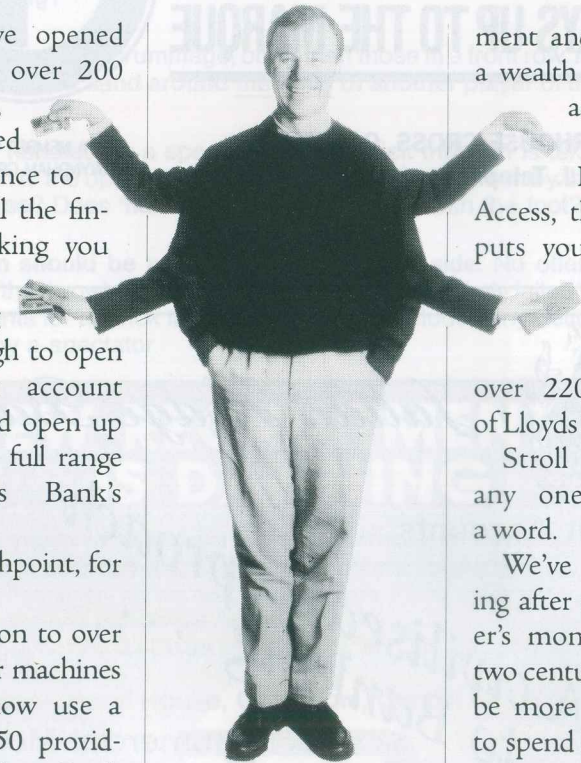
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## KNOW THE LAWS

By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

### QUESTION 1

The ball is put into a scrummage and the side who lose the ball detach their rear 5 players while the ball is in the scrum. Is the scrummage over?

### ANSWER

**NO.** Five players **must remain** in the scrum until it ends. Also the locks must bind on each other – not on the end, but behind each front row.

### QUESTION 2

Can a flanker bind around the backside of a prop-forward, against whom the flanker is pushing?

### ANSWER

**NO.** All players in a scrummage, other than those in a front row, **must bind with at least one arm and hand around the body of another player** of the same team.

### QUESTION 3

If a ball is handled by a spectator and a quick throw in is taken, should an option be given to the opposition, **or** should a line-out be taken by the original side entitled to do so? Does **'handling'** include trapping with the foot?

### ANSWER

**A throw in should be awarded to the original side.** No offence has been committed by the throwing side, the circumstances merely failed to comply with the requirements for a quick throw in. **'Handling'** includes any deliberate contact with the ball by a spectator.

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## QUIDNUNC'S COLUMN

WHETHER or not there comes into force this afternoon what an erudite national Sunday newspaper correspondent calls the immutable law of the 'ex' — whereby a player always scores against his former club, there will be few more travelled players on the park than Ian John Watkins.

Not in terms of club rugby. The ten-times-capped Ian had seven years with Ebbw Vale before coming to Cardiff, scarcely one of the game's peripatetic players. But, in one guise or another, his rugby tours have taken him to New Zealand, Australia, Canada, America, Italy, Spain and so on — all the tourist routes, in fact. And you can add on to that Moscow, where he played earlier in the year with Crawshay's. It proved a memorable visit, even if he has no wish to return. "Both the country and their players opened my eyes," he says. "All the team seem to be men who just failed to make the Olympic team in one sport or another. They'll be formidable when they really take it seriously." 'Desperate Dan', as he was nicknamed by Bobby Norster because of his chin's likeness to the comic character and not, despite what his wife Beverley may claim, because of his consumption of cow pies (he does eat everything else, however), is actually coming down in age.

Always the one to reveal vital exclusive facts about our heroes, Quidnunc can now reveal also that Desperate Dan was born on March 10 1963 — and not 1962 as published regularly in international match programmes. Honestly. It is not a question of trying to hoodwink the great Welsh selectors with a special playing age. Mind you, he did lie about his age once: in order to play for the Ebbw Vale Youth Team he claimed he was rather older than his actual 14 years.

Nor was he always a hooker. In those far-off days when he was simply known as 'Wok' or 'Wokka' — as was his father John who played scrum-half for Ebbw Vale — he too started as a scrum-half when at Pontygarreg Junior School and Glyn Coed Comprehensive. It was only on going to senior school that he moved first to centre and then into the pack at his own insistence. "I did not enjoy playing in the backs," he explains, "I was not fast enough for a flanker and not big enough for a prop. That left my options somewhat limited." At 5ft 10 and 14 stone, he settled for hooking, sat on the bench for Wales Youth, made his senior Vale debut against Cardiff in 1981-82 and went on to 'B' Caps against Italy and France, with his first full cap as a replacement against England in 1988. Disappointed at not yet being a Lion, he went with the Welsh team to Canada during the summer.

Born in Blaina, Ian Watkins is, say his colleagues, a fairly quiet person. He will however quite cheerfully sing 'On the Streets of London' as a special request for Mark Ring. Which reminds me. Quite apart from still owing me a fiver, Ringo scored on Wednesday evening against the young gentlemen of Oxford the best individual try I have never seen. During the first of the black-outs caused by floodlight failure — is that where the expression 'pitch black' comes from? — and while the Oxford out-half was waiting his chance to kick a penalty, Mr Ring crept through the darkness, picked up the ball and ran the length of the field to score. The referee, alas, was not prepared to accept its validity.

I digress. More, instead, about Ian Watkins. There is a smaller version of Desperate Dan, little three-year-old Gareth who is not yet built like a prop either, Ian works for Jeff Squire Sports, enjoys watching Only Fools and Horses or films with Clint Eastwood and Charles Bronson but is hard pushed in front of his wife to admitting a liking for actresses. "Cher," he finally says when pushed. For holidays, he wants to go back to Italy — though this summer his father's caravan at Newquay has been well used. He'll tell you that his father, Bobby Windsor and Alan Phillips have been the biggest influences on his career while Colin Deans is also something of a hero. He's skipped the Barbarians, still has ambitions to become a Lion, enjoys the Disco beat when relaxing.

He also has ambitions to become a golfer. And, with a handicap of something round 56, reckons he can give Timmy Crothers a good game.





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- |                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 15. Alun JENKINS        | Full Back    |
| 14. Damion GRIFFITHS    | Right Wing   |
| 13. Mark RING           | Right Centre |
| 12. Geraint JOHN        | Left Centre  |
| 11. Alan GLASSON        | Left Wing    |
| 10. David EVANS         | Outside Half |
| 9. Andy MOORE           | Inside Half  |
| 1. Greg SWAINE          | Forwards     |
| 2. Ian WATKINS          |              |
| 3. David YOUNG          |              |
| 4. Simon CROTHERS       |              |
| 5. Stuart ROY           |              |
| 6. Tim CROTHERS (Capt.) |              |
| 8. Howard STONE         |              |
| 7. Owen GOLDING         |              |



Replacements

- |                     |
|---------------------|
| 16. Ian GREENSLADE  |
| 17. Matthew DE MAID |
| 18. Glenn STANTON   |

Referee: Mr. John GROVES

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## Ebbw Vale

- |                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Richard BOLADZ           | 15. |
| Ian JEFFREYS             | 14. |
| Adrian GRIFFITHS         | 13. |
| Derek DAVIES             | 12. |
| Chris HILLMAN            | 11. |
| Roddy CRANE              | 10. |
| Alan DAVIES              | 9.  |
| Malcolm SIBTHORP (Capt.) | 1.  |
| Mark ROBERTS             | 2.  |
| Barlie SWART             | 3.  |
| Mike BOYCOTT             | 4.  |
| Mark SPILLER             | 5.  |
| Phil EASLEY              | 6.  |
| Mark THOMAS              | 8.  |
| Jeff LAPHAM              | 7.  |

- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
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## A Look Into The Past .....

These were the teams who took the field on Saturday December 16th 1961. It was the first time that Ebbw Vale won on the Arms Park with a 13 points to 5 victory. They scored 2 converted tries and a drop goal to our 1 converted try.

CARDIFF			EBBW VALE		
1	A. J. PRIDAY	<i>Full Back</i>	T. CARPENTER	1	
2	G. WILLIAMS	<i>Right Wing</i>	K. WESTWOOD	2	
3	M. ROBERTS	<i>Right Centre</i>	R. KNOTT	3	
4	C. WILLIAMS	<i>Left Centre</i>	D. P. EVANS	4	
5	G. T. WELLS	<i>Left Wing</i>	M. WILLIAMS	5	
6	G. DAVIES	<i>Outside Half</i>	W. HUNT	6	
7	L. WILLIAMS (Capt.)	<i>Inside Half</i>	R. EVANS	7	
8	K. D. JONES	<i>Forwards</i>	L. DIMMICK (Capt.)	8	
9	W. J. THOMAS		M. PREECE	9	
10	A. GROVES		C. BUTLER	10	
11	M. GOUGH		D. WILLIAMS	11	
12	K. H. ROWLANDS		W. G. DAVIES	12	
13	E. WILLIAMS		G. JONES	13	
14	J. SELWAY		D. NASH	14	
15	D. J. HAYWARD		F. MATTHEWS	15	



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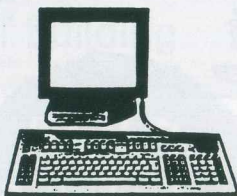
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Feb. 3rd: Ebbw Vale	March 2nd: Maesteg	March 17th: Swansea
	April 21st: Neath	

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Thursday September 28th: Horse Race Night  
Friday October 6th: Inter Club Quiz by Welsh Association at Bridgend RFC  
Wednesday November 1st: New Zealand Supporters' night  
Friday November 24th: South Glam. Youth Brass Band in Concert  
Thursday 8th February: Frank Hennessey  
Friday March 16th: Horse Race Night. Proceeds to the Cardiff Youth RFC  
Friday 27th April: Annual Dinner

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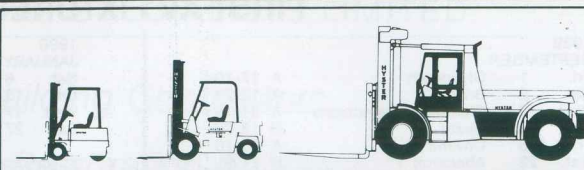
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## Rugby Quiz No. 7 – Answers

1. *Eugene Cross Park.*
2. *Denzil Williams – 36 caps.*
3. *No, they have yet to appear in a final?*
4. *4 times – 1951-52, 1953-54, 1956-57 and 1959-60.*
5. *Yes, once in 1958 when they beat Newport 10-5.*



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# Cardiff Rugby Club 1989-90

## FIRST XV FIXTURES

1989		
SEPTEMBER		
Fri. 1	Glynneath	A 27-10
Sat. 2	Bristol	A 12-23
Wed. 6	Glamorgan Wanderers	A 31-10
Sat. 9	Neath	H 13-36
Fri. 15	Coventry	A 16-10
Sat. 23	Aberavon	H 21-9
Wed. 27	Pontypridd	A 15-27
Sat. 30	Moseley	H 28-3
OCTOBER		
Sat. 7	Newport	A 29-16
Sat. 14	New Zealand	H 15-25
Sat. 21	Wasps	H 22-25
Wed. 25	Pontypool	A 21-13
Sat. 28	Cambridge University	H 17-28
NOVEMBER		
Fri. 3	Leicester	A 15-28
Wed. 8	Oxford University	H 18-3
Sat. 11	Ebbw Vale	H.....
Sat. 18	W.R.U. Cup 3rd Round	.....
Sat. 25	Llanelli	A.....
DECEMBER		
Sat. 2	Swansea	H.....
Sat. 9	London Welsh	H.....
Sat. 16	W.R.U. Cup 4th Round	.....
Sat. 23	Bridgend	A.....
Tue. 26	Pontypridd	H.....
Sat. 30	Harlequins	A.....

1990		
JANUARY		
Sat. 6	Bath	H.....
Sat. 13	Aberavon	A.....
Wed. 17	Bridgend	H.....
Sat. 27	W.R.U. Cup 5th Round	.....
FEBRUARY		
Sat. 3	Ebbw Vale	A.....
Sat. 10	Newport	H.....
Sat. 17	London Welsh	A.....
Sat. 24	W.R.U. Cup 6th Round	.....
MARCH		
Fri. 2	Maesteg	A.....
Wed. 7	Penarth	A.....
Sat. 10	Pontypool	H.....
Sat. 17	Swansea	A.....
Wed. 21	Bristol	H.....
Fri. 23	Bective Rangers	A.....
Sat. 31	Llanelli	H.....
APRIL		
Sat. 7	Nottingham (W.R.U. Cup Semi-Final)	H.....
Sat. 14	Barbarians	H.....
Mon. 16	South Glam. Institute	H.....
Sat. 21	Neath	A.....
Sat. 28	Newbridge	H.....
MAY		
Sat. 5	W.R.U. Cup Final	.....

## ATHLETIC XV FIXTURES

1989		
SEPTEMBER		
Sat. 2	Bristol United	H 20-39
Wed. 6	Glamorgan Wanderers II	H 4-21
Sat. 9	Senghenydd	A 16-19
Sat. 16	Coventry Extras	H 36-24
Wed. 20	Llandaff North	H 39-9
Sat. 23	Canton	A 14-10
Wed. 27	Pontypridd Athletic	H 12-19
Sat. 30	Moseley United	A 10-16
OCTOBER		
Sat. 7	Pontypool Athletic	H 36-12
Wed. 11	Croesyceiliog	A 9-13
Sat. 14	Abercarn	H Post.
Wed. 25	Pontypool Athletic	H 22-11
Sat. 28	Cross Keys United	H 42-12
NOVEMBER		
Wed. 1	Kenfig Hill	A 7-21
Fri. 3	London New Zealand	H 18-6
Sat. 11	Ebbw Vale Athletic	A.....
Sat. 18	St. Peters	A.....
DECEMBER		
Sat. 2	Swansea Athletic	A.....
Sat. 9	Neath Athletic	A.....
Sat. 16	Pontypool United	A.....
Sat. 23	Bridgend Ravens	H.....
Sat. 30	Rumney	A.....

1990		
JANUARY		
Sat. 6	Bath United	A.....
Sat. 13	Neath Athletic	H.....
Wed. 17	Bridgend Ravens	A.....
FEBRUARY		
Sat. 3	Ebbw Vale Athletic	H.....
Sat. 10	Newport United	A.....
Sat. 24	Bedwas	H.....
MARCH		
Fri. 2	Pontypool United	H.....
Sat. 10	Pontypool Athletic	A.....
Wed. 14	Pontypridd Athletic	A.....
Sat. 17	Swansea Athletic	H.....
Sat. 24	Bristol United	A.....
Sat. 31	Mountain Ash	A.....
APRIL		
Sat. 7	Llanharan	A.....
Wed. 18	Old Penarthians	H.....
Sat. 21	Garniffaith	H.....
Sat. 28	Blackwood	H.....
Mon. 30	Llanharan	H.....

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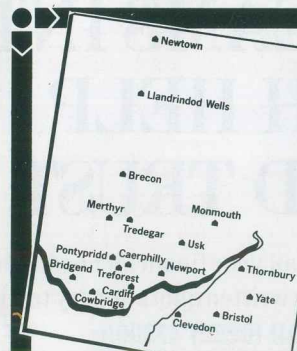
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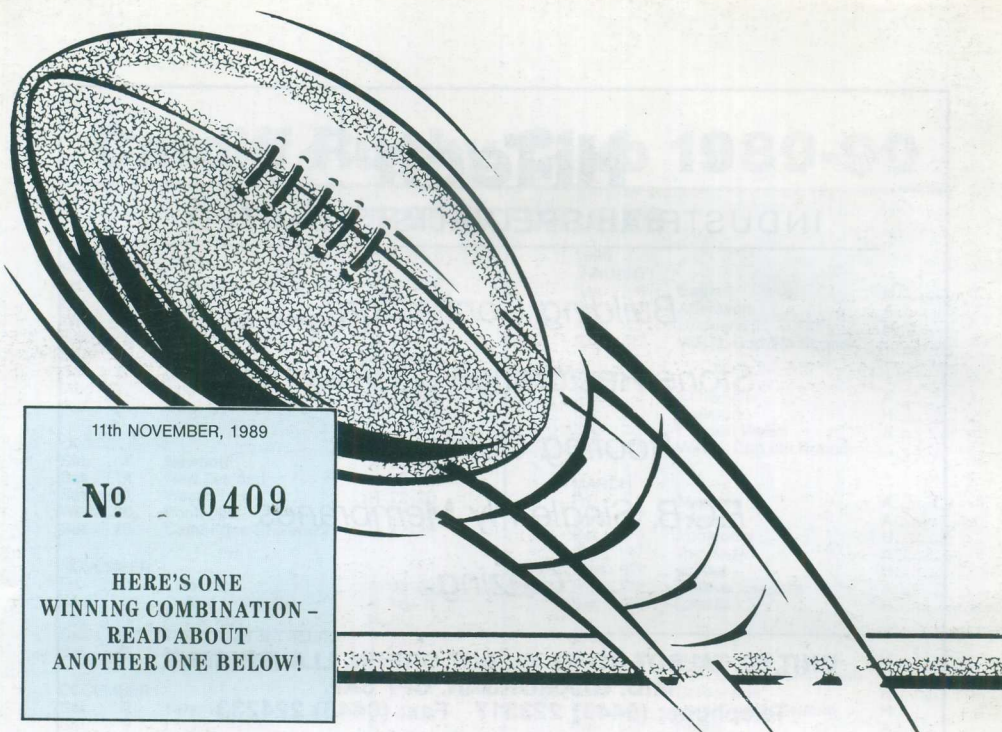
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11th NOVEMBER, 1989

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