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rugby club

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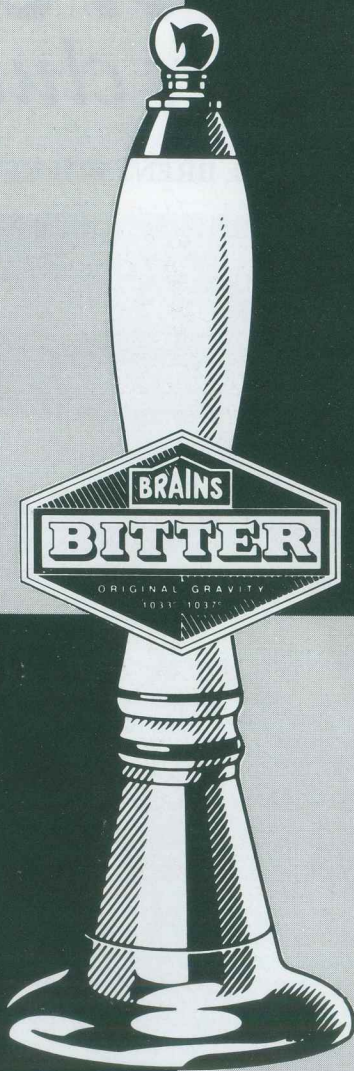
at The Cardiff Arms Park this afternoon

ABERAVON

Saturday, 1st December, 1990

Kick-Off 2.30 p.m.

OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME
50p



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Cardiff v. Aberavon

SATURDAY 1st DECEMBER, 1990

KICK-OFF 2.30p.m.

Harold Wilson's now famous expression that a week in politics can be a long time is absolutely spot on in describing the political saga we have just been subjected to. It has pushed most other aspects of life well into the background.

They won't be there for long however because in the environment that is Welsh rugby there are still some very loud rattlings from several skeletons in the cupboard. Hopefully the No. 10 situation in the Welsh side will see the present incumbent safely holding his place without all the trials and tribulations of the No. 10 political scenario. There will be a lot of controversy about most positions however and its going to take quite a performance to keep the English visitors at bay come January 19th next. Their pack will be well enhanced by the return of Dean Richards whose performance against Bath in last Saturday's cup game was quite awesome. I'm sure England will be cock-a-hoop to have him back on the international scene after missing all last season through injury.

There are several off-the-field activities which could also cause some heartache. None more so than the South Africa saga which has raised its head yet again. Will it be a case of learning from the past and getting on with the future or will there be looking for more blood spilling and recrimination. Time will shortly tell. Perhaps the political goings on of late can show us how to embark on a major (excuse the pun) reunification of our game with all sections of its community pulling together for the general benefit of Welsh rugby.

Enough of the off-the-field activities however, its now down to the nitty gritty of today when it gives us great pleasure to welcome Aberavon to Cardiff Arms Park once again.

At present and regardless of all else The Wizards can enjoy a feeling of quiet satisfaction with the way that their season is unfolding. To date they have won five of the six Division 1 games that they have played. Their wins have come at Tredegar 18-3, home to Maesteg 13-6, at Penarth 25-19, home to Ebbw Vale 26-0, and at Cross Keys 25-19. Their only reverse came at Newport where the Black-and-Ambers triumphed by 39-15. It means that The Wizards have now met all other clubs in their league apart from South Wales Police and are in second place. Newport top their league with 12 points with Aberavon just 2 behind and 2 points ahead of the chasing Maesteg and the Police. Obviously Aberavon will be highly delighted if the structure of the table is the same at the end of the season. This of course would mean promotion to the Premier Division for Newport and The Wizards. Justice would surely be done if that transpires because two such great clubs of Welsh Rugby truly belong in the top bracket of our game. On this score we wish Aberavon the very best of luck.

Although promotion must be uppermost in their minds I'm sure The Wizards would relish another good cup run. They have been great fighters in this competition in the past and they begin their campaign this year at home to RTB Ebbw Vale next Saturday week.

This afternoon's game sees the Cardiff-Aberavon series become 118 games old since the very first one in March 1893. Of the 117 games played we have won 70, lost 41 and drawn 6 with 1597 points for to 1048 against. Of their 41 wins, they haven't fared too badly at all in Cardiff with 13 wins. Their last success on the Arms

Park came in September 1987. They came on that day with a bit of a wing and a prayer side due to injury. They were 12-3 in arrears not long into the game but they hung on grimly and with but minutes to go the score remained the same. Once those few minutes had elapsed, and after some sorcerous tricks from The Wizards, they ran out winners by 15-12. It wasn't the first time they had done such a thing either. Can you remember when they snatched that last minute cup win from under our noses in the 1975/76 competition when they pipped us in injury time by 16-12. Those of us who saw that game were as stunned in defeat as The Wizards were delighted in victory. Such is the stuff that our game is made of.

Outside the league Aberavon have had mixed fortunes. Good wins over Swansea, Abertillery, top English Division side Northampton and Pontypool have been negated by defeats from Pontypridd, Bridgend, Blackheath and Llanelli twice. As we all know in Wales however not much credence is being given to non league games especially those being played in mid week. Maybe the heavy defeat that Aberavon suffered at Newbridge in mid week falls into that category as far as they are concerned. Anyway today we welcome The Wizards to the Arms Park once again. Regardless of the fact that today's game is not of league status, let's hope it lives up to the standard of some great Cardiff-Aberavon games of yore.

On the home front our win at Pontypool keeps us within striking distance of the top. Next week's home game against unbeaten Neath is being eagerly anticipated with our injury and unavailability problems easing off. More of that in next week's programme.

The Rags are still storming on after a rather shaky start to the season. Last Saturday's win over Pontypool's second string 40-0 produced some great tries and very entertaining rugby. With four defeats from the first five games things looked grim but 12 wins on the trot has brought their record up to played 17 won 13 and lost 4 with 440 pts for to 195 against. With such good young players in the side, Cardiff style rugby is assured. You can judge this for yourselves if you come along next Monday night when the Rags take on Glamorgan Wanderers Seconds in a rearranged game.

It was with deep regret that this week we at Cardiff RFC heard of the death of one of our former players, the great Cliff Jones. His skill as player and administrator has been magnificently chronicled during these past few days and how well he deserved it. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

On a happier note today we extend a very cordial welcome back to the scene to our referee Clive Norling. The game has missed you Clive, its great to see you whistling once again.

P.N.

AN APPEAL BY THE SOUTH GLAMORGAN YOUTH BRASS BAND

A massive £52,000 has been raised by the Band in its Christmas appeals over the last 12 years. This has gone to the benefit of disabled and disadvantaged children in our community. This Christmas and during 1991, the Band are undertaking their most ambitious fundraising scheme.

All funds raised will be donated to the desperate plight of the children of Chernobyl. Since that catastrophe in April 1986 when more than a quarter of a million children were instantly infected, many more have fallen victim as a direct result of the disaster. Even new born babies have now been discovered to have radiation related blood disorders.

Because of lack of equipment and expertise they are crying out for aid from the West. The Band has decided to put their efforts behind this more than worthy cause and will be taking a collection during the afternoon. We hope you will give generously.



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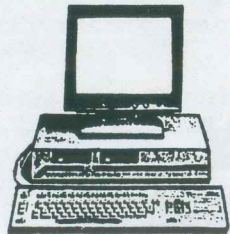


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Rugby Quiz – No. 8

Let's see what you know about Aberavon this week.

1. What is the name of their ground?
2. Who is their most capped player?
3. Who is their record points scorer?
4. What is our Cup record against them?
5. Prior to league rugby did Aberavon ever win the Welsh Club Championship?



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KNOW THE LAWS

By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

OFFSIDE AT A LINEOUT

For players taking part in a lineout (i.e. all forwards participating, both scrum-halves, the player throwing in and his opposite number) – until the ball has touched **either** a player or the ground, the offside line is the line of touch. After that, the offside line runs through the ball itself.

For players not taking part in a lineout (i.e. all remaining players) – the offside line is 10 metres behind the line of touch, or the goal line, whichever is the nearer.

The **lineout starts** when the ball leaves the thrower's hands.

A **lineout ends** when:-

- The ball leaves the lineout, or
- A player carrying the ball leaves the lineout, or
- the ball is thrown beyond the 15 metre line, or
- The ruck or maul formed has moved completely beyond the line of touch.
- The ball becomes unplayable.

Please remember that the **number of players** from either side in the lineout must not exceed the number used by the team throwing in.

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QUIDNUNC'S COLUMN

WEATHER PERMITTING, early birds at the Arms Park today will have the chance – or will have had the chance depending on when you read this – to see the Cardiff Youth team in action against Treherbert. In which case you may well recognise the gentleman on the left. Lest you do not, however, let me introduce you to Mr. James Dennis O'Donnell, a CRFC committee man who rarely sees the first team because he's away on more important errands, with the Youth. More important? Well, there are those who believe the current youth side are the brightest bunch ever to have worn the famous strip. Their playing record before this morning suggests more than mere competence: played 15, won 15 with a points total of 623 against 85. Closer inspection shows that of those 623 points, only five penalties are included. The rest are tries and conversions.

Jim O'Donnell is rightly proud of his boys. As chairman and manager of the side, and with the coaching guidance of Jack Lewis and Gareth Jones, along with the supreme organisation of secretary Evan Thomas, there are five of our lads in the Welsh Youth squad: Paul Oakden, Paul Armstrong, Paul Douglas, the huge prop Martin Madden and Michael "Elvis" Bubbins.

Nor is this all; under Jim's auspices are the Under 17s, Under 16s and Under 15s. And, to show commitment to the future, the Cardiff club sponsors the South Glam Under 17s and gives financial support to Cardiff Schools Under 16s. "Nothing gives me greater pleasure," says Jim frankly ("with the possible exception of a pint of Brains," says Quidnunc equally frankly), "than to see one of my boys make the grade in the first-class game."

Of all those who have passed through his hands, the most remembered is Terry Holmes. "I first knew him as captain of St. David's Under 11s when he also played on Sundays for St. Francis Under 11s. He then progressed through the schools and youth." There's a pause: "He was such a weedy guy with big hands and feet."

Nevertheless Terry went on to get his Welsh cap. And Jim recalls with particular affection also the Lakin brothers – Bobby, Steve and Chris – who were all captains of Cardiff Youth.

Jim himself was never a top-flight player. Indeed, he is one of a very small number of the club's committee men over the years who have never played for the Cardiff team. He did however play in the blood and thunder of district rugby with Canton for 18 years and was a member of the Mallett Cup winning side several times.

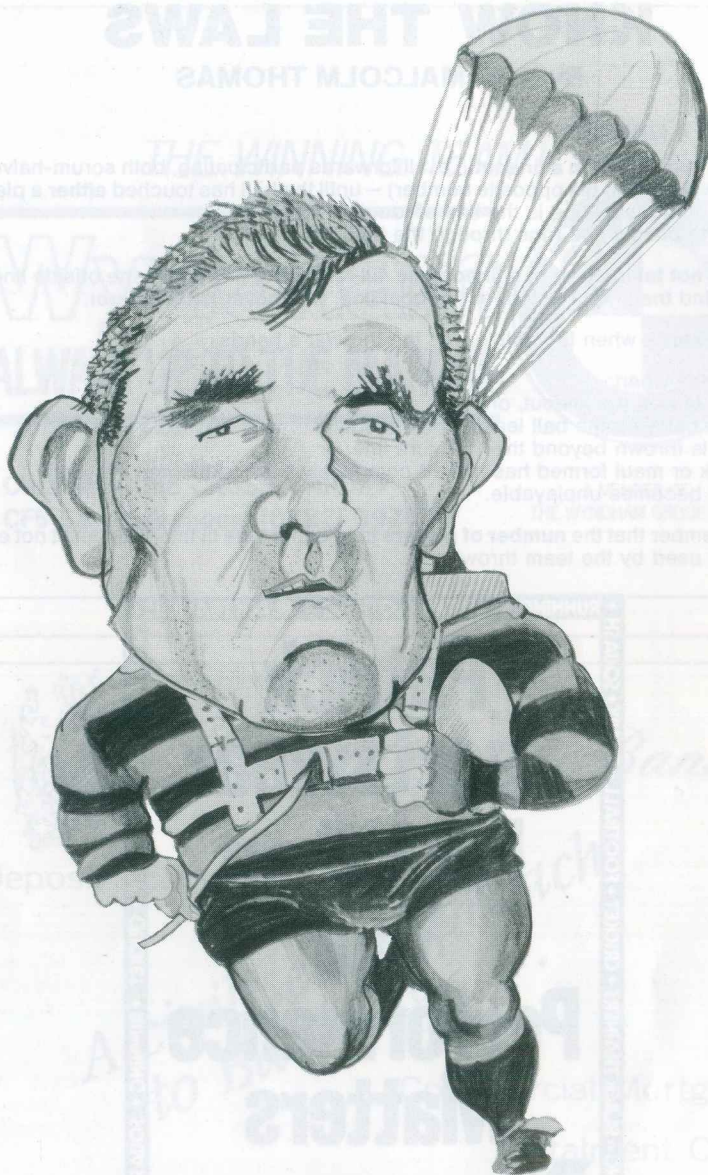
Away from the field, Jim has had a varied life. Born and bred in Cardiff, he was educated at Wyndham College (known to others as St. Mary's in Wyndham Crescent) and had 17 years firing on the footplate for BR and ten years on the docks. Somewhere along the line, he saw active service with the paras in Suez and Cyprus, but he glosses over these episodes, wishing only to talk rugby again. He also found time to marry the long-suffering and very rugby-wise Victoria; they have three sons in Neil, who captained Cardiff Youth, and won a Welsh youth cap and is on the youth committee, Mike, and Tim who is still playing for Canton.

I say "long-suffering". Victoria sees more of Jim at work – he is a partner with Colin Davies and Ray Vaughan in Peelers, a firm that supplies ready-to-use vegetables to caterers – than she does at home; what with training sessions, youth and main committee and match days, Mr. O'Donnell spends some 20-24 hours a week on rugby.

He is also President of the Cardiff Mets American football team but it's young rugby that really fires him. And, hopefully, we'll all have the chance on Easter Monday to see exactly how the season has gone. All being well, there will be that day at the Arms Park a rugbyfest with matches for the Under 15s, Under 16s and the Youth team.

Jim's first appearance as committee man in charge of the firsts was somewhat bizarre. We were due to play at Bristol but the team coach failed to turn up. At a late stage, and fortuitously before the supporters' club outing had departed, officials Ken Jones and Brian Bennett were able to oust some 40 followers from their bus to accommodate the team.

What Quidnunc has not totally unearthed, though, is exactly what Jim and Gary Davies, our erstwhile chairman, told a certain fish and chip shop proprietor who refused to serve members of the youth team when they were returning from a tour of West Wales. (Very disciplined these boys are, too: on match days they have to shed their earrings and wear white shirts, blazers and flannels with club ties provided by the supporters club). And what did that same pair do with the bag money? Do certain items of disappearing gear still appear annually on Albert Francis's stock list? But that's another story...



DEREK STEVENS

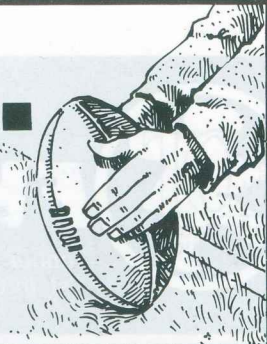


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- 9. Matthew De MAID
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- 2. Jonathan HUMPHREYS
- 3. Steve BLACKMORE
- 4. Mark EDWARDS
- 5. Stuart ROY
- 6. Richard COLLINS
- 8. Howard STONE
- 7. Robert LAKIN
- 16. Huw HARRIES
- 17. Ian GREENSLADE
- 18. Colin LANGLEY

- Full Back
- Right Wing
- Right Centre
- Left Centre
- Left Wing
- Outside Half
- Inside Half
- Forwards



Replacements

Referee: Mr. Clive Norling

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Aberavon

- Lyndon LEWIS 15.
 - Matthew McCARTHY 14.
 - John JARDINE 13.
 - Anthony DRAGONE/ Kevin GEORGE 12.
 - Andrew GRAHAM 11.
 - Neil FORRESTER 10.
 - Brendon ROACH 9.
 - Paul CURTIS 1.
 - Anthony JONES 2.
 - Anthony WOODWARD (Capt.) 3.
 - A. N. OTHER 4.
 - Ian SPENDER 5.
 - Brian SHENTON 6.
 - Phil MIDDLETON 8.
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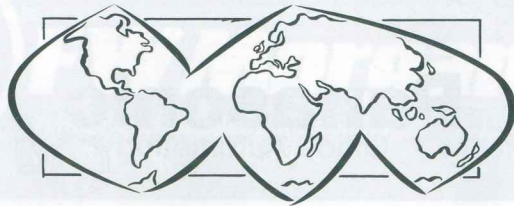
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Neath	8	8	0	0	22	16
Llanelli	8	5	1	2	21	11
Bridgend ..	8	5	1	2	13	11
Cardiff	8	5	0	3	25	10
Pontypool ..	8	4	0	4	20	8
Swansea ..	8	4	0	4	15	8
Pontypridd ..	8	2	1	5	20	5
Newbridge ..	8	2	0	6	22	4
G. Wands. ..	8	2	0	6	8	4
Abertillery ..	8	1	1	6	5	3

First Division

	P	W	D	L	T	Pt
Newport	6	6	0	0	32	12
Aberavon	6	5	0	1	18	10
Maesteg	6	4	0	2	18	8
S.W. Police ...	6	4	0	2	12	8
Ebbw Vale	5	2	0	3	10	4
Cross Keys ...	6	1	0	5	8	2
Tredegar	5	1	0	4	5	2
Penarth	6	0	0	6	5	0

Second Division

	P	W	D	L	T	Pt
Dunvant ...	6	6	0	0	12	12
Mount. Ash ..	7	5	1	1	17	11
Llanharan ..	7	5	0	2	18	10
Blaina	7	3	1	3	15	7
Treorchy ..	6	3	1	2	14	7
Bonymaen ..	7	3	0	4	9	6
Narberth ...	7	2	1	4	13	5
Rumney ...	7	1	2	4	12	4
Wrexham ...	7	2	0	5	7	4
Aber'von Q ..	7	1	0	6	11	2

Third Division

	P	W	D	L	T	Pt
Llandovery ..	7	6	0	1	18	12
Tenby Utd. ..	7	6	0	1	18	12
Cilfynydd ...	7	6	0	1	12	12
Tumble	7	4	0	3	15	8
St. Peter's ..	7	3	1	3	17	7
Blackwood ..	7	3	0	4	11	6
Kenfig Hill ..	7	2	1	4	15	5
P'pool U. ...	7	2	0	5	13	4
Kidwelly ...	7	2	0	5	8	4
Ruthin	7	0	0	7	1	0

	ABERTILLERY	BRIDGEND	CARDIFF	GLAM WANDS.	LLANELLI	NEATH	NEWBRIDGE	PONTYPOOL	PONTYPRIDD	SWANSEA
ABERTILLERY	H A	9-9	12-55	10-16	12-7	9-16	6-55	3-30		9-23
BRIDGEND	H A	9-9	10-9	12-10	16-22	18-12		14-9	16-14	21-22
CARDIFF	H A	55-12	9-10	27-13	16-22	0-11	22-12	21-20		28-13
GLAM WANDS.	H A	16-10	10-12	13-27	9-55	9-26		10-33	9-17	6-3
LLANELLI	H A	7-12		22-16	55-9	12-21	19-11	19-10	10-10	16-12
NEATH	H A	16-9	22-16		26-9	21-12	19-7	24-13	28-27	23-14
NEWBRIDGE	H A	55-6	12-18	11-0		11-19	7-19	14-17	10-23	3-22
PONTYPOOL	H A			12-22	10-19	13-24	17-14			
PONTYPRIDD	H A			20-21	17-9		23-10		11-19	18-21
SWANSEA	H A				12-16	14-23	22-3		21-18	

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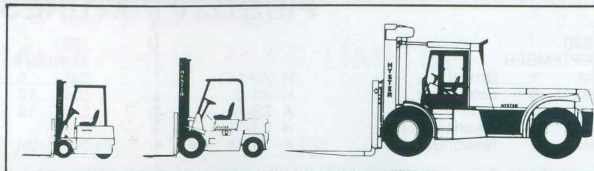


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Rugby Quiz No. 8 – Answers

1. *The Talbot Athletic Ground.*
2. *Alan Martin, 34 caps.*
3. *Mike Lewis, 306 season 1982/83.*
4. *Played 3. Semi final 1973/74 at Bridgend, lost 9-4; 3rd round home 1975/76 lost 16-12, and semi final 1976/77 at Swansea won 15-6.*
5. *Yes, once in season 1960/61.*



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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1990			1991		
SEPTEMBER			JANUARY		
Sat. 1	Bristol	H 28-15	Sat. 5	Ebbw Vale	A.....
Sat. 8	Leicester	H 35-9	Sat. 12	Bridgend (L)	A.....
Sat. 15	Bath	A 23-45	Sat. 19	London Welsh (a.m.) (at Sophia Gardens)	H.....
Sat. 22	Swansea (L)	H 28-13	Sat. 26	W.R.U. Cup 5th Round	
Sat. 29	Newbridge (L)	A 0-11			
OCTOBER			FEBRUARY		
Tue. 2	Penarth	H 48-21	Fri. 1	Ayr	A.....
Fri. 5	Newport	A 9-34	Sat. 9	Pontypridd (L)	H.....
Sat. 13	Bridgend (L)	H 9-10	Fri. 15	Bective Rangers	H.....
Sat. 20	Pontypridd (L)	A 21-20	Sat. 23	W.R.U. Cup 6th Round	
Sat. 27	Abertillery (L)	H 55-12			
NOVEMBER			MARCH		
Sat. 3	Llanelli (L)	A 16-22	Sat. 9	Abertillery (L)	A.....
Wed. 7	Oxford University	H 16-11	Sat. 16	W.R.U. Cup Quarter Final	
Sat. 10	Glam. Wanderers (L)	H 27-13	Sat. 23	Llanelli (L)	H.....
Fri. 16	Newport	H 17-3	Sat. 30	Barbarians	H.....
Sat. 24	Pontypool (L)	A 22-12			
DECEMBER			APRIL		
Sat. 1	Aberavon	H.....	Sat. 6	W.R.U. Cup Semi-Final	
Sat. 8	Neath (L)	H.....	Sat. 13	Glam. Wanderers (L)	A.....
Sat. 15	Swansea (L)	A.....	Sat. 20	Pontypool (L)	H.....
Sat. 22	Newbridge (L)	H.....	Sat. 27	Neath (L)	A.....
Wed. 26	Pontypridd	H.....			
Sat. 29	Harlequins	H.....	MAY		
			Sat. 4	W.R.U. Cup Final	

(L) denotes League game

ATHLETIC XV FIXTURES

1990			1991		
SEPTEMBER			JANUARY		
Sat. 1	Bristol United	A 13-18	Sat. 5	Ebbw Vale Athletic	H.....
Wed. 5	Aberaman	A 13-19	Sat. 12	Bridgend Ravens	H.....
Sat. 8	Leicester Extras	A 21-28	Sat. 26	Pontypool United	H.....
Wed. 12	Cwmwrch	A 65-0			
Sat. 15	Bath United	H 12-24	FEBRUARY		
Wed. 19	Gardiffaith	A 18-13	Sat. 9	Pontypridd Athletic	A.....
Sat. 22	Loughborough	H 18-15	Wed. 20	Mountain Ash	H.....
Sat. 29	Moseley United	H 23-19	Sat. 23	Bedwas	A.....
OCTOBER			Tue. 26	Pontypool United	A.....
Wed. 3	Glam. Wanderers II	H Post.			
Fri. 5	Newport United	H 40-4	MARCH		
Sat. 13	Bridgend Ravens	A 20-13	Sat. 2	Rumney	H.....
Wed. 17	Cardiff Medicals	H 24-3	Sat. 9	Neath Athletic	H.....
Sat. 20	Pontypridd Athletic	H 44-7	Sat. 16	Blackwood	A.....
Sat. 27	Wasps Vandals	A Canc.	Fri. 29	Bridgend Sports	A.....
NOVEMBER			APRIL		
Sat. 3	Senghenydd	H 32-4	Sat. 6	Croesyceiliog	H.....
Wed. 7	Barry Plastics	A 18-12	Sat. 13	Llanharan	H.....
Sat. 10	Glam. Wanderers II	A 26-4	Wed. 17	Llandaff North	A.....
Fri. 16	Newport United	A 14-13	Sat. 20	Pontypool Athletic	A.....
Sat. 24	Pontypool Athletic	H 40-0	Sat. 27	Blackwood	H.....
DECEMBER					
Sat. 8	Gloucester United	A.....			
Sat. 15	Abercarn	H.....			
Sat. 22	Neath Athletic	A.....			
Sat. 29	Cardiff H.S.O.B.	A.....			

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