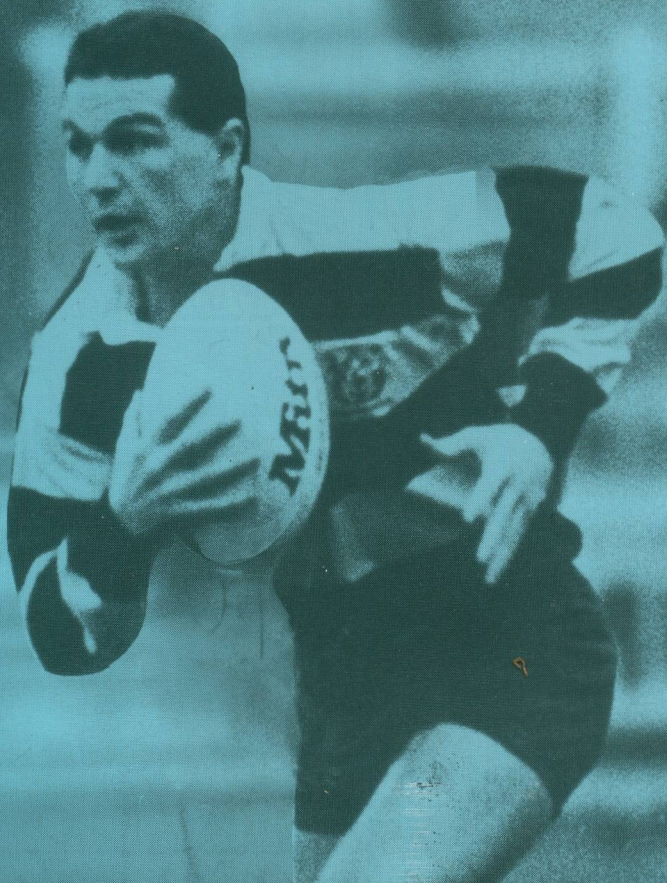




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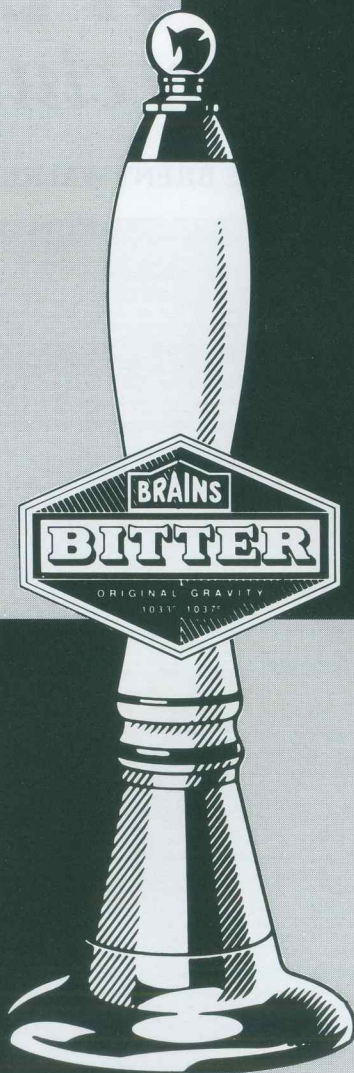
NEATH

Saturday, 8th December, 1990

Kick-Off 2.30 p.m.

OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME 50p





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Heineken National League Premier Division

Cardiff v. Neath

SATURDAY 8th DECEMBER, 1990

KICK-OFF 2.30 p.m.

As on the political front there appears to be an easing of the tension and chaos that has abounded in both our worlds during the past few weeks. Discussion and counter discussion will soon be in full flow however when the Welsh squad for the forthcoming game against the old enemy, England, is announced.

Already some of the gifted seers of the game in Wales are talking of several very controversial selections indeed which will no doubt live the place up again. In speaking of selection its congratulations to Andrew Booth and Andy Moore who have been picked to confront each other at scrum half in next week's Varsity Match at Twickenham. We wish both of them the best of luck.

On the home front we as a club have been dealt a really hefty blow in the matter of tickets for home international games. The WRU Ticket Sub-Committee in its wisdom has decided to overhaul the allocation of tickets to clubs. To cut a long story short, it all boils down to the fact that over the next few seasons our present stand quantity will be reduced by the best part of 50%. We have already had our quota cut for the forthcoming England game which means great disappointment for members who thought they would be included in the quota for that game. We hope to meet the WRU on the matter to discuss our special status situation, but to be honest things aren't looking too good at all.

Some more bad news is the fact that as from today the cost of a seat in the stand is to go up by £1 to £5. This has been done to help defray the ever escalating cost of running the game. It has also been noted that most other clubs in the Premier Division already charge £5 for a seat in their stands.

Enough of the off-the-field activities so lets get down to this afternoon's business. And what business it promises to be with the visit of the all conquering All Blacks — Neath. Regardless of all other matters, things will go on hold for a couple of hours at the Arms Park in the league match of the day when we expect a full house.

Neath's position at the top of the Premier Division table with maximum points from their eight games and five points clear of a chasing pack is quite an achievement. It is true testimony of the way that they have shrugged off the crippling loss by defection to the northern code and other sources of several key players.

There appears to be a little light at the end of the tunnel for some of us lesser mortals however, because although Neath have not lost their winning habit their victories are not by the huge margins of the last couple of seasons. Indeed in their very last league match at The Gnoll saw a very valiant Pontypridd side come within a whisker of leaving Neath territory with a win. That hasn't happened since Pontypool won several years ago. Moreover the Neath supporters were magnanimous enough to agree that Pontypridd would consider themselves a trifle unlucky not to have taken the spoils home.

Comparison of their present record to that of the corresponding period of last season shows quite a drop too. Regardless of this situation however Neath still haven't lost that habit of winning and captain Kevin Phillips is determined to carry on in the same mode. To this end he has great assistance in the shape of Paul Thorburn whose kicking and general form are an inspiration to all his colleagues. This and the young talent as the likes of centre Scott Gibbs mean that Neath are going to be hard to topple still. They have no doubt taken full recognisance of that Pontypridd game and are leaving no stone unturned in their efforts to become the first winner of the Heineken Premier Division. Team Manager John Williams says he is 100% sure that

the talent is still there at The Gnock and one day some club will feel the backlash.

Well one thing is certain and that is the fact that David Evans and his merry men will be every bit as determined to stop Neath in their tracks. If someone doesn't do it soon Neath will be more or less home and dry in the Premier Division race. Neath come this afternoon with just about the best team that they can muster. This means that our players will have to be spot on regarding discipline because the Thorburn boot will surely punish any discretions. We have a wealth of experience in our side however and its welcome to Cardiff to Paul Edwards who will be playing his first league game.

In all we have played Neath on 189 occasions. Of these we have won 111 to Neath's 61 with the remaining 17 drawn. We have scored 2052 points to 1437 against. The first game that ever took place was in January 1879 and of the 61 Neath wins, 14 of them have come on the Arms Park. In our 111 year association Neath's best winning sequence came between December 1962 and January 1965 when they won seven games on the trot. Of late, however, they have had a bit of an Indian sign on us because of the last seven games only one victory has resulted. Ironically enough that win was at home the week after they had knocked us out of the cup in the semi final at St. Helens.

Although some epic games have come in the series I have no doubt that this afternoon's inaugural Heineken League match is going to produce a special kind of atmosphere. With a full house, hopefully and hospitality boxes crammed, let's hope we are graced with some good rugby weather. The prospects of seeing two sides who are prepared to give the ball a bit of air is quite mouth watering. Let's hope the game lives up to expectancy.

To Neath then we say again welcome to Cardiff Arms Park.

The Rags are still ploughing on in tip top form and their latest wins over Hirwaun and Glamorgan Wanderers II brought their unbeaten sequence up to 14 games. The latter of those games was a rearrangement played on the Park last Monday night. Although several first team players turned out it was the Rags squad players who shone on the night. It was a cracking game in which some superb tries were scored. Those who turned up to watch with very little prior publicity were certainly rewarded for their attendance with a first class display of rugby. The Rags are at Gloucester today playing that club's second team so they will be well put to the test. International Mike Griffiths will have a further opportunity to prime his match fitness and Simon Hill will be all out to perform well against strong opposition to keep his name well up on the selectors list. Stuart Nunnerley will also have his first game since his illness and he as well will be keen to get straight back into first team contention.

The Youth Team are still plundering all before them and their latest massive win over Treherbert brought their record to played 16, won 16, with 693 points for to only 85 against. They have scored 137 tries and remarkably their massive total for includes just 4 penalty goals — some record indeed. They have 4 players in the Welsh Youth trial today — Paul Armstrong, Martin Madden, Michael Bubbins and Paul Douglas — so we wish them well. The rest of the squad have a day off today and they will be here watching the game.

On a sad note it was with deep sorrow that we heard of the death of Wyndham Lewis, President of Cardiff Athletic Club. Wyndham was a great man indeed and his always happy presence will be very sadly missed. From everyone concerned in Cardiff RFC we extend our condolences to his wife and family.

Now have you got all your goodies for Christmas? If not don't forget the Club Shop where many splendid presents can be purchased.

Finally today it only remains to thank our game sponsor **WILLCOCK CONSTRUCTION** for their generous donation. We hope they and their guests enjoy the occasion.

P.N.

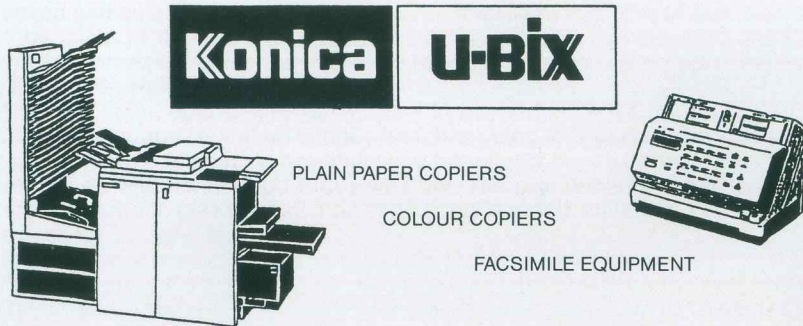


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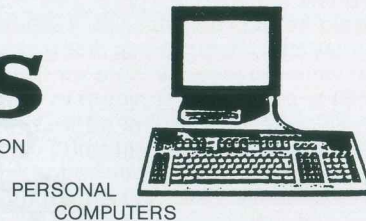
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Rugby Quiz – No. 9

How much do you know about Neath? Let's see.

1. Who is their most capped player?
2. Who is their record points scorer for one season?
3. How many times have we played each other in the cup?
4. Alan Edmunds was the top Welsh try scorer last season. How many times did he touch down?
5. Why was the game scheduled for 2nd February 1901 cancelled? (The date will give historians a clue)



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KNOW THE LAWS

By J. E. MALCOLM THOMAS

THE PILE UP

One aspect of the game that really concerns us as WRU Referee Advisers is how referees react to the pile up. There is inconsistency in this area and we have observed that referees are waiting longer and longer for the ball to emerge and often penalising a team after a long delay.

What **directions or advice** do we give referees?

1. Arrive quickly at the breakdown and **if the ball is not being played out** blow your whistle immediately for a scrumage **or** a penalty. It is so important for a referee to be fit, fast, mobile and alert.
2. If the ball **is** being played out wait a few seconds **only** and again blow your whistle for a scrumage **or** a penalty if it has not emerged.
3. The referee should not wait in the hope of it emerging.
4. The referee should not penalise players belatedly for offside as this is an **open play** situation. It is neither a ruck nor a maul.
5. Penalties should be given **immediately** if players on the ground hold on to the ball **or** prevent opponents feeding it back **or** if players were offside at the original ruck **or** maul.
6. Players should also be penalised **immediately** for "going over the top" or "killing the ball".

If all referees applied these guidelines strictly and consistently then we would go a long way to remove this untidy feature from our game.

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QUIDNUNC'S COLUMN

I QUOTE: "In Christian countries the superstition (that 13 is deemed unlucky) was confirmed by the Last Supper... but the superstition itself is much anterior to Christianity. The Italians never use the number in their lotteries; and in Paris no house bears it, and persons, called *Quartorziemes*, are available to make a fourteenth at dinner parties. Sailors strongly object to leaving port on the 13th of the month and they always start on their thirteenth voyage with apprehension."

This week's text and information from the Department of Totally Unnecessary Information is taken out of an old edition Quidnunc happens to have in front of him of the fascinating Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable and its relevance to this afternoon's proceedings can, all being well, be seen on the back of the shirt being worn by Mr. Michael Robert Hall. It is just as well for Mike Hall that he does not play for Bath for that club, as you may know, includes no No. 13. The centres are Nos. 12 and 14. Not for Jeremy Guscott the No. 13 jersey; nor for Simon Halliday. Nor even the rhythmically-named Adedayo Adebayo, known as Yo-yo to his friends.

But Mike Hall revels in the 13 jersey. Positively demands it when possible. "I was born on the 13th (of October, 1965) and the number always seems to crop up in a good context," says the 6ft 1in, 14-stone, Bridgend-born centre. "In my 13th game wearing a Welsh shirt, including tour matches, I scored a try against England." He currently has 12 full caps: what will happen on his 13th?

I am assuming that Mr. Hall, he with a degree in Economics at Cardiff University and Land Economy from Cambridge (I remember asking Andrew Booth what Land Economy was: "it's what rugby players read at Cambridge," he replied), will find his way this afternoon to the Arms Park. The journey from Pontcanna to Westgate Street should not be too taxing though friends will tell you that his journey planning is somewhat erratic — even if it usually turns out to be to his benefit.

After playing in an international at Murrayfield, for example, he arrived on Sunday evening to catch the shuttle to London only to discover that he had mistaken the arrival time at Heathrow for departure time. He finally left Scotland on Tuesday. On another occasion, he left a Sevens tournament in Sydney to join the Barbarians in Hong Kong and arrived two days early. Not content with that, went for a stroll in that teeming metropolis, became lost, and summoned a cab to take him back to his hotel. The taxi driver gaped at him in astonishment: the hotel was all of 80 yards away.

Now then, let us have a brief look at the life and times of Mike Hall. He went to Brynteg Comprehensive before the two universities. He isn't married though the relationship with Rachael is of a sufficiently stable and ongoing nature for him to think that marriage might be on the cards one of these summers when he can't find a suitable tour to get him out of the country.

He played for Wales Under 20s, Students and Universities and was, in 1986, the captain of the first-ever Wales Under 21 side. He has played for Maesteg and Bridgend and Steve Ford calls him Robbo, after England soccer skipper Brian Robson because he also has suffered many injuries.

And talking of soccer, Mike was at one time a free-scoring centre-forward and had country trials as a 16-year-old. Now he prefers golf as relaxation, striving both to reduce his handicap from 18 and to find a club which will either have him or does not have a membership waiting list of two years (depending on which story you believe).

He laughs at Ben Elton and Jasper Carrott and laughs with Alan Phillips. On the big screen he enjoys Harrison Ford for his acting and Kim Basinger (but not for her acting). He eats Mexican food whenever he can at the Peppermill Diner near his home, drinks Murphy's Stout, plays a mean game of pool, and admires Finlay Calder, David Campese, Ian Botham and Lester Piggott. On the latter subject, if the cheerful, likeable Mike has a real vice, it is gambling. He is, indeed, the only man Quidnunc has ever met who wishes he had listened to Mark Ring's tips. As it is, his track record with the horses is highly suspect.

He watches Cheers and Twin Peaks, has been known under persuasion to sing a song called Candle Blowing in the Wind (no, neither Mike nor Quidnunc had heard of it, either, before the Lions thrust a songsheet into his hand), and adores Green Island on Queensland's Great Barrier Reef.

Finally, when not being injured or recovering from injury he works for Cooke and Arkwright on the office agency development side and hopes in due course to become a chartered surveyor.



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Right Centre
Left Centre
Left Wing
Outside Half
Inside Half
Forwards



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Neath

- Paul THORBURN 15.
- Alan EDMUNDS 14.
- Colin LAITY 13.
- Scott GIBB 12.
- Jason BALL 11.
- Jeff BIRD 10.
- Chris BRIDGES 9.
- Brian WILLIAMS 1.
- Kevin PHILLIPS (Capt.) 2.
- John DAVIES 3.
- Glyn LLEWELLYN 4.
- Andrew KEMBURY 5.
- Martyn MORRIS 6.
- Gareth LLEWELLYN 8.
- Adrian VARNEY 7.

- Gary WILLIAMS 16.
- Jonathan GRIFFITHS 17.
- A. N. OTHER 18.
- Jeremy PUGH 19.
- Andrew THOMAS 20.
- Paul JACKSON 21.

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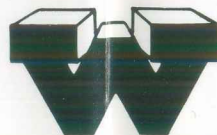
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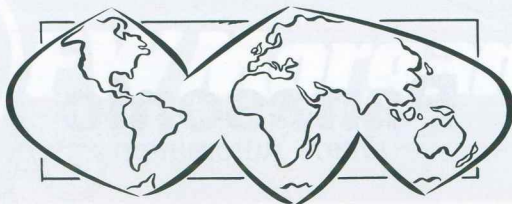
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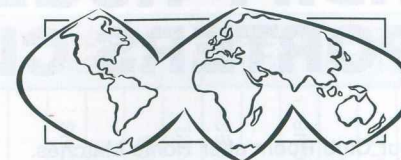
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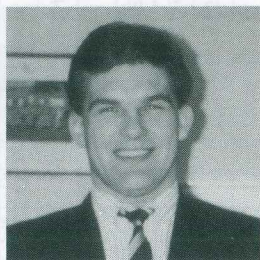


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David EVANS	7	—	9	11	—	51	11	—	13	18	—	80	93½	22	103	69	5	516
Mike RAYER	8	5	—	1	—	21	14	9	5	4	—	58	178½	42	113	96	2	688
Mark BENNETT	6	—	—	—	—	—	10	1	—	—	—	4	12	1	—	—	—	4
Steve BLACKMORE	5	—	—	—	—	—	10	2	—	—	—	8	162½	11	—	—	—	44
Richie COLLINS	8	1	—	—	—	4	13	1	—	—	—	4	58½	8	—	—	—	32
Matthew De MAID	—	—	—	—	—	—	3½	—	—	—	—	—	13½	3	—	—	—	12
Mark EDWARDS	8	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	96½	19	—	—	—	76
Paul EDWARDS	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Steve FORD	6	2	—	—	—	8	9	4	—	—	—	16	66	43	—	—	—	172
Ian GREENSLADE	4½	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	72	12	—	—	—	48
Mike GRIFFITHS	3	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	—
Mike HALL	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	11	5	—	—	—	20
Simon HILL	3½	2	—	—	—	8	7½	5	—	—	—	—	9	6	—	—	—	24
Jonathan HUMPHREYS	1	—	—	—	—	—	4½	—	—	—	—	—	9½	3	—	—	—	12
Geraint JOHN	7	—	3	3	—	15	12	—	5	3	1	22	133	23	120	79	11	602
Paul JOHN	8	5	—	—	—	20	13	6	—	—	—	24	37	8	8	—	—	48
Robert LAKIN	5	1	—	—	—	4	8	1	—	—	—	4	302	64	—	—	—	256
Kevin MORGAN	½	—	—	—	—	—	3½	1	—	—	—	4	19½	4	—	—	—	16
Stuart NUNNERLEY	3	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	32	4	—	—	—	16
Tony ORRELL	2½	—	—	—	—	—	3½	—	—	—	—	—	24½	—	—	—	—	—
Mark RING	7	2	—	—	—	8	10	2	—	—	—	8	203	81	64	45	9	614
Stuart ROY	7	1	—	—	—	4	14	2	—	—	—	8	49½	3	—	—	—	12
Howard STONE	3½	—	—	—	—	—	6½	—	—	—	—	—	180	29	—	—	—	116
Greg SWAIN	5	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—
Ceri THOMAS	6	2	—	—	—	8	11½	7	—	—	—	28	47½	18	—	1	—	75
Ian WATKINS	3	1	—	—	—	4	6	3	—	—	—	12	32	12	—	—	—	48
Anthony DONOVAN	2	4	—	—	—	12	4	6	—	—	—	24	27	18	—	—	—	72

*Includes the tour to America and pre-season tournament in Holland, matches which for the possible purposes of qualification for a Cap, are counted in Season 1990-91.

†Cardiff rules state that a player joining a match from the replacements bench before half-time is deemed to have made a full appearance. Entry after half-time warrants a half-appearance.

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STATISTICS FROM **Baytrack** for **VOLVO**
PREMIER DIVISION RESULTS

Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	T	Pt
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
Llandoverly ..	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

Statistics from Baytrack Ltd.

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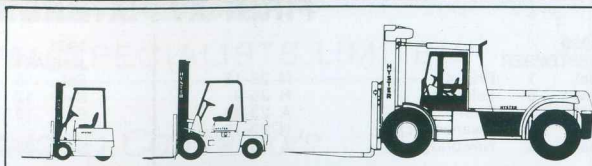
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Rugby Quiz No. 9 – Answers

1. Dai Morris, 34 caps.
2. Paul Thorburn, 438, season 1984/85.
3. 6 times. Semi final at Bridgend 1971/72 lost 16-9, Final 1983/84 won 24-19, 4th round home 1984/85 won 21-12, Semi final at Swansea 1986/87 won 16-6, Semi final at Swansea 1988/89 lost 19-12 and 6th round away 1989/90 lost 22-6.
4. 45 times.
5. Because Queen Victoria died.



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FIRST XV FIXTURES

1990 SEPTEMBER			1991 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 30-12	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 SEPTEMBER			1991 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	Cwmtwrch	A 65-0			
Sat. 15	Bath United	H 12-24	FEBRUARY		
Wed. 19	Garniffaith	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					
Sat. 3	Senghenydd	H 32-4	APRIL		
Wed. 7	Barry Plastics	A 18-12	Sat. 6	Croesyceiliog	H.....
Sat. 10	Glam. Wanderers II	A 26-4	Sat. 13	Llanharan	H.....
Fri. 16	Newport United	A 14-13	Wed. 17	Llandaff North	A.....
Sat. 24	Pontypool Athletic	H 40-0	Sat. 20	Pontypool Athletic	A.....
DECEMBER			Sat. 27	Blackwood	H.....
Sat. 1	Hirwaun	A 36-7			
Mon. 3	Glam. Wanderers II	H 59-6			
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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