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REPROGRAPHICS

Heineken League Division 1

SWANSEA v CARDIFF

Saturday 1st May, 1993 • St. Helen's, Swansea. K.O. 2.30pm

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Viewpoint

Today we welcome the Cardiff Club to St. Helen's for the last game of the season. A few weeks ago this game was being billed as the championship decider. Unfortunately, as we all know, we are "only" playing for second and third places, such are the standards required of the Cardiff and Swansea Clubs. However, I'm sure it will be no less of a contest.

The 1992/93 season must be regarded as one of the most successful enjoyed by our club, finishing second or third in the Heineken League Championship, reaching the semi-final of the cup, winning all three games on the highly successful pre-season tour of Canada and achieving that memorable victory over Australia which they admitted as being their biggest hammering for some years. On top of all this, the club has received its highest level of representation in the Lions party which is departing shortly for New Zealand. We wish Robert Jones, Scott Gibbs, Tony Clement and Richard Webster every success, and they know that they enjoy our total support. Additionally, four players – Ian Buckett, Rob McBride, Paul Arnold and Stuart Davies – will be going on the Welsh tour of South Africa. The club owes Mike Ruddock, his supporting staff, our club captain and all the players a tremendous debt of thanks for their efforts in what has been a very long and demanding season.

This season, we have seen the development of under 21 and under 19 rugby in the club under the management of Geoff Wheel. Also, Mike Ruddock has spent a considerable amount of time visiting junior schools in the Swansea area to establish links between the schools and the club. We are delighted to see this represented through the mascot who leads the team out today and every Saturday.

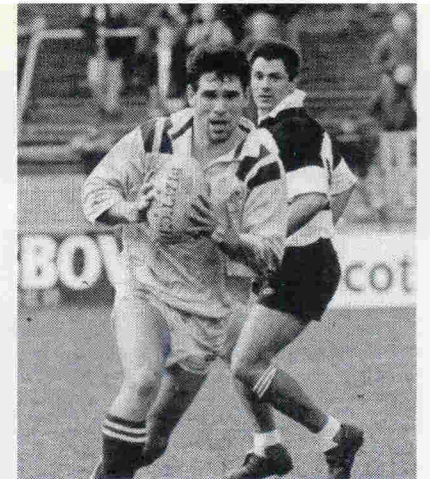
I feel a comment on the recent Welsh Rugby Union debacle has to be made. We at Swansea think that the conduct of all parties, without exception, has brought discredit to our national game. There has to be a new constitution, but I very much doubt that the present structure will allow this. It has to be up to clubs like Swansea and Cardiff to lead rugby football in Wales out of this shambles.

I would like to thank all sections of the club for the tremendous support they have given to the board of management during the year, but most of all I thank the supporters. In my 26 years with the club, I have never known a season when they have been more vociferous, both at home and away, than all the clubs we have played. In particular, against Australia the "Wall of Sound", to use Phil Bennett's words, helped to spur on the players to that momentous victory.

What of the future? The leagues have been an undoubted success but we in Wales must question whether or not the present system is right for us. I believe that for clubs such as Swansea, an Anglo-Welsh league is essential. We need it more than the English if we are to avoid the perpetuation of what has become an unbalanced and incestuous competition, and I am sure that we shall certainly see this within the next few years.

I believe that we at Swansea are well equipped to take full advantage of the opportunities that will arise through the changing face of rugby football over the next few years.

Front Cover Photograph: Expect the unexpected! Mark Tittley on the move.
Photographs John Harris



Lafonde admires Jason Ball's running skills
(Swansea v Baabaas, Easter 93)

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Season 1950/51

If you're ever thinking of arranging a Rugby Quiz, here's a killer question: "Which Swansea player captained England against Wales at St. Helen's?"

I feel guilty about this particular season, because, from Swansea's standpoint, I remember so little that was good about it. Guilty, for, in fact, it was successful.

Yet the two matches

I really recall brought bad results. The previous season, at the Athletic Ground, we had conducted a tour de force against the (then) best London

side; so all the great critics agreed. But now, at St. Helen's, Richmond thrashed us, 19-0, a big score for those days. The "catalyst" was B.M. Grey, a wing of surpassing skill and speed; built, moreover, on the lines of Richard Webster.

Then, on Boxing Day, U.A.U. beat us 11-6. I'd been following the Whites for twenty years, in which time none of our three Christmas matches had been lost. A thought might be spared for our selectors. With three games on consecutive days, their resources, at some stage, had to be diluted. Granted that the Students had not, previously, caused us great trouble, the main dilution was pronounced; "U.A.U." But the latter were not now callow pre War youths; they were men hardened in jungle, desert, and convoy. And they had a centre of transcendent brilliance; P.C. Delight by name, and a delight he was, proceeding to emphasise this the following year as well.

How was it that England could ignore Delight, who never had so much as a Trial, and Grey? My theory has always been that England were bound to predominate eventually, and that only bad choice delayed this for so long. Look at the way Mark Keyworth and Tony Swift were treated. In recent years, of course, their selection has improved considerably. There were signs this season, though, that the process had slipped into reverse. Long may this pleasant backward trend continue.

As I say, we had a successful season; better, indeed, than for several years thereafter. It must have been due to the pack; though there was the emergent wing, Horace Phillips; Len Davies, in his last season, steadiness itself in midfield; and, in the New Year, torn from Scarlet predators, the prodigious young Terry Davies. But our forwards contained the prop T.J. Griffiths, as chock full of Welsh Trials as he was bereft of Caps; Billy Williams good enough for Wales in this, his first season; and the back row of W.D. Johnson, Len

Blyth and Clem Thomas; though here, in this back row, lay the possible seeds of embarrassment.

For, in the last of our Christmas matches, against London Welsh (who met heavy defeat) there was an intriguing newcomer. V.G. (Vic) Roberts, a flanker, was already an experienced English International. He was a

Cornishman (his previous career had been with Penryn), and a Customs Officer. To my vague romantic mind, the association of Cornwall and

THE EXCISEMAN

Revenue conjures up visions; of whispers on dark remote beaches: ("Careful wi' that keg o' brandy, Jem; 'tis a golden guinea for we, once 'tis safe wi' Squire Trelawny!"). And of the flash of cutlasses in the moonlight. No doubt Vic's experiences were much more mundane; but he'd been transferred, in his work, to Swansea.

Stocky, not very tall, he was; dark curly hair. Your shortish flanker, to make his way, has to be quick about the field, a hard tackler; both of which Vic Roberts was. Twice only he played for us; that game at St. Helen's, and at Cardiff (where we lost). But in that short period, he had one more appearance at our Ground.

"The de'ils' awa' wi' th' Exciseman!" sang Robbie Burns; but whether it was "the De'il" or not, whisked awa' Vic was, to London, and the Harquins. He was durable, for his seventeen caps extended over a period of ten years.

Oh, yes, the quiz question: well, I do hear that the Supporters Club are thinking of giving a prize for the nearest correct answer.

BILL GREEN



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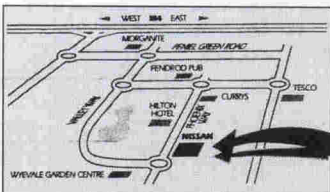
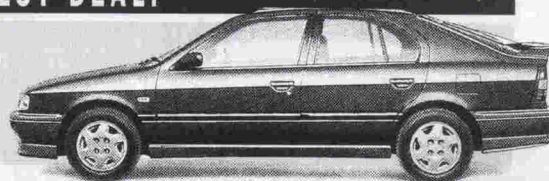
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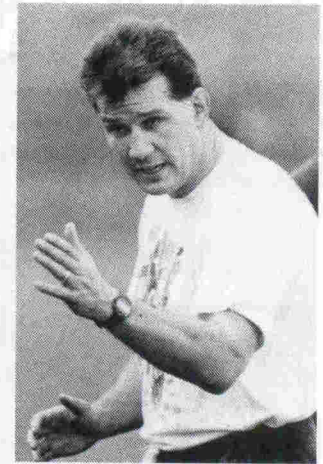
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View from the bench



Last Sunday I attended a course run by the National Coaching Foundation held at the Welsh Institute of Sport, Cardiff. The course was entitled "Motivating Your Athlete(s)".

I dealt with issues such as using a positive style of coaching, the use of performance goals and effective communication skills. Nothing new to the coaching staff here at St. Helen's but one thing that did arise which caught my eye, was the research showing that the most successful teams always enjoyed group cohesion. Last season we all shared the same goal – to put all our effort into the rejuvenation of Swansea Rugby Club. Nothing else mattered other than forcing Swansea back to the forefront of Welsh rugby. This season again we shared the mutual goal of defeating Australia before our group cohesion was disrupted somewhat by things like East v West, Llanzarote, 5 Nations matches, Welsh 7's and British Lions selections. To the credit of all our players we were still looking good with just a few weeks to go. Win 4 more games and we would again be League Champions. Then came the Flu!

Fitness levels dropped by 20% with no time to catch up.

Llanelli prepared well and were in superb form in the semi-final. To our credit we came back and scored two smashing tries in the second half. At 14-6 to Llanelli the game could have gone either way. We missed our chances – they took theirs. No complaints as they were the better side on the day.

We have come a long way over the last 18 months. We have to put our obvious disappointment in perspective. There is enormous pressure within sport to win.

However there can only really be one winner, and at this time I have to stress the intangible rewards of sport such as fun, personal improvement and effort. As far as effort is concerned I cannot have asked for any more from my squad starting last August during our highly successful tour of Canada.

The highlight of our season has to be our famous victory over Australia who will forget our superb performance that day. On a personal note I will never forget the incredible support we received that day. Long may it continue!

Other highlights have been our victory over Llanelli at Stradey and our excellent representation at National level especially having four players selected for this summer's British Lions tour to New Zealand.

The U19 and U21 sides have performed extremely well and are sure to provide "new blood" over the next few years.

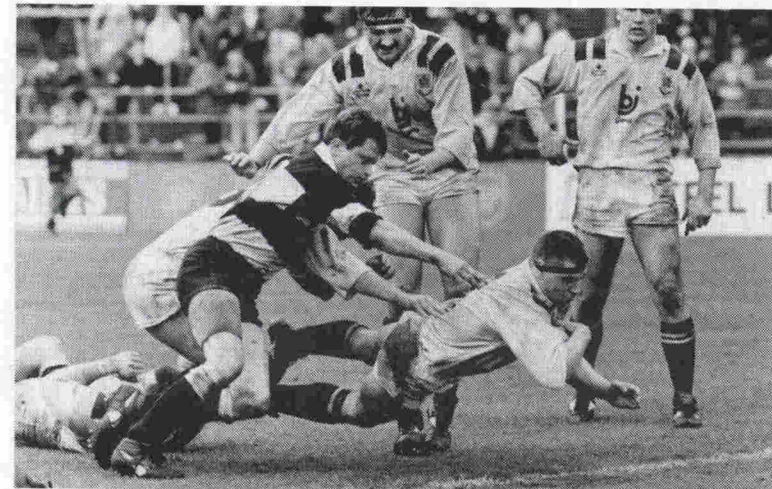
Off the field many ex-Whites players have been "recruited" to assist with specialist individual coaching at U19, U21 and senior level next season. They will also produce written evaluations of player performance, and assist with their coaching. Our "Vision for The Future" Schools Development Scheme will also continue next season. We now have a structure that should enable us to continue to achieve elite levels of player performance and team development.

Today we entertain Cardiff in another big game for both sides. Stuart Davies and his team will be keen to avenge the defeat suffered at Cardiff earlier this season.

Whatever the outcome today we can all be proud of the effort displayed by the boys over the last 9 months.

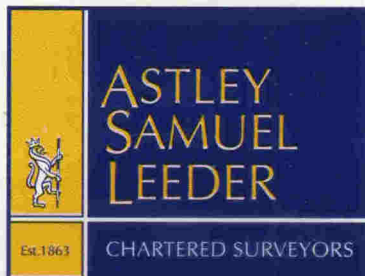
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MIKE RUDDOCK



Ian Watkins in dramatic scoring action. He faces his old club at St. Helen's today.

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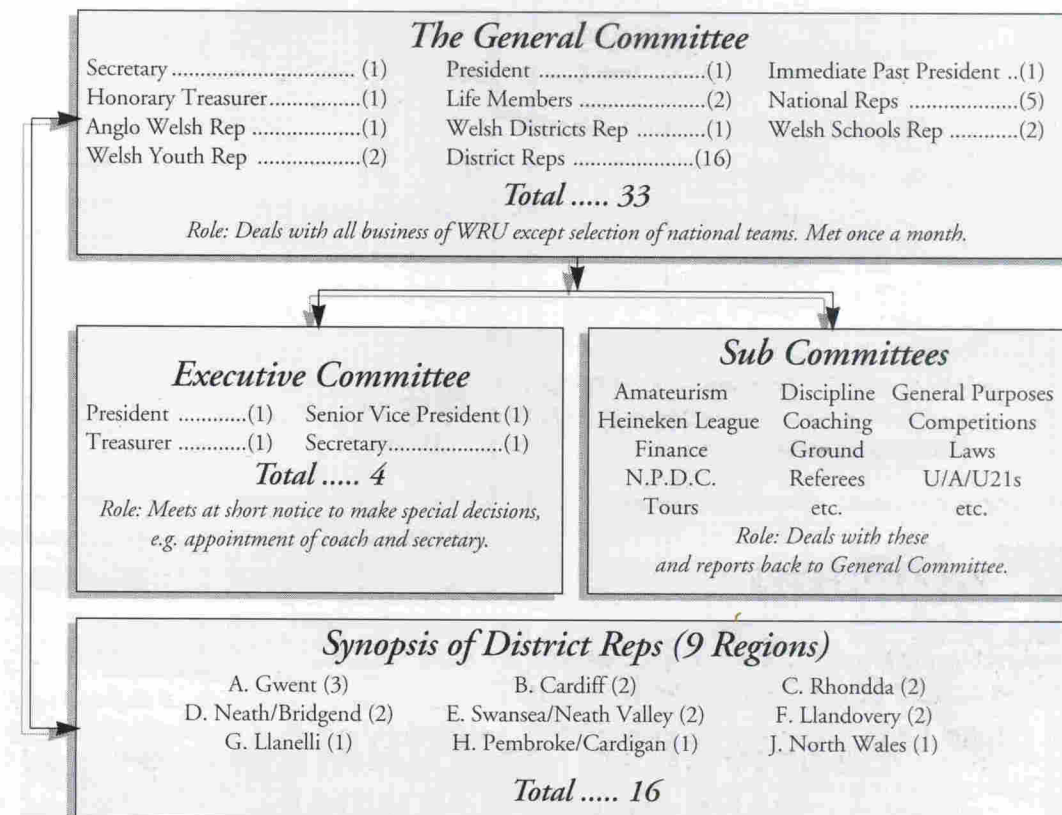
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WRU – The Need For Change?

Considerable criticism has been unleashed over the WRU's administrative structure, and of individuals within that structure during season 1992/93. It all ended with the sacking of the Union's general committee, leaving its affairs temporarily conducted by a few. A chaotic state of affairs to say the least. Critics believe that the present system did not help, being outdated and requiring reform and/or change. What is the composition of the present regime, the roles of committees within, and the possible weaknesses of such regime? You may draw your own conclusions.

THE PRESENT STRUCTURE (Composed of 3 committees)...



POSSIBLE WEAKNESSES OF THE STRUCTURE

1. The General Committee seems to be unwieldy and cumbersome. It obviously needs to be streamlined – possibly with implementation of a board of directors. The affairs of the union have changed dramatically e.g. Revenue in 1989 was £3m, 1993 £11m.
2. The system makes it difficult for the professionals to govern effectively. It is an 'open sesame' for conflict.
4. There is a tendency for non rugby men to be involved with key rugby issues and act as the games spokesman to the nation – media etc.
5. District representatives although many are excellent rugby men at heart may well have their own regions as first priority.
6. Do the schools, districts, youth and Anglo Welsh representatives need to sit permanently on the General Committee?
7. Automatic life membership after 25 years – do we need to look at this?
8. Who serve on the key sub committees? These are extremely important facets of the game. It is crucial the right people are involved within them, to make sound decisions, especially to the satisfaction of the clubs.



Dick Moriarty enjoying an Indian Summer this season.

KEN PUGH

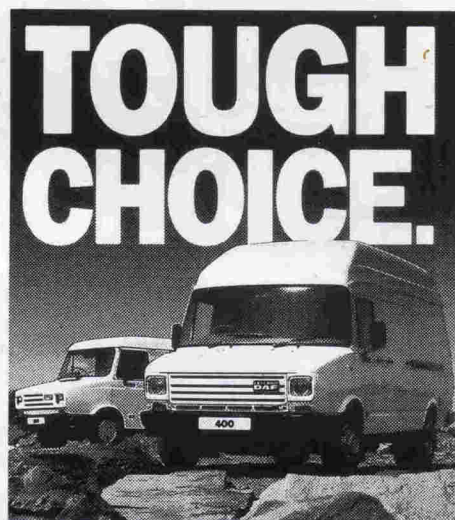
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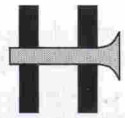


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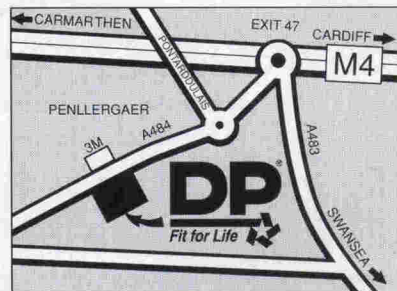


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All Whites Player Profile

David Weatherley



Age:	20
Height & Weight:	5ft 9" 12st 8lb.
First Started Rugby:	Penclawdd RFC
Club History:	Penclawdd, Dunvant, Waunarlwydd, Swansea.
Representative Honours:	Welsh Youth v Italy, France, Japan & England.
Countries Visited Playing Rugby:	Italy, America, Canada & Ireland.
Favourite Player:	David Campese.
Most Respected Opponent:	Robert Howley.
Personal Objectives:	Regular 1st team rugby with Swansea. Welsh U21 Cap.
Your occupation:	Student.
Favourite Actor/Actress:	Gregor Fisher (alias Rab-C-Nesbitt).
Favourite Film:	Grease.

Favourite Music:	REM, Dire Straits.
Favourite Food:	Mam's cooking!
Favourite Author:	Stephen King.
Most Disliked Actor/Actress:	Peter Falk (alias Columbo).
Most Disliked Film/Video:	Sound of Music.
Most Disliked Music:	Classical.
Most Disliked Food:	Pickled gherkins.
Hobbies:	I enjoy most sports: Golf, Surfing, Squash & Tennis in particular.

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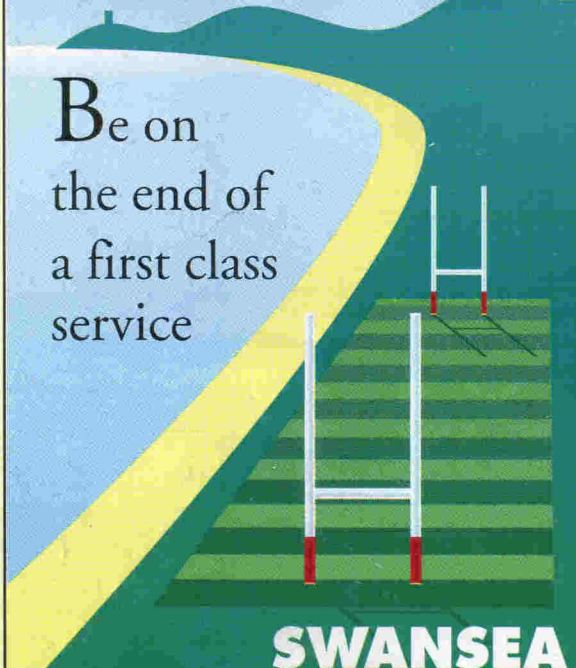
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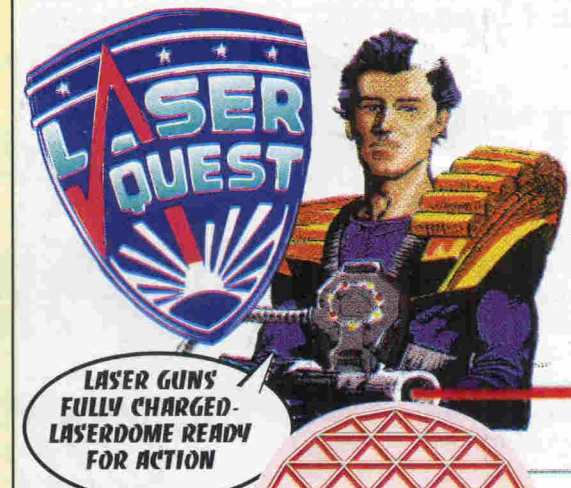
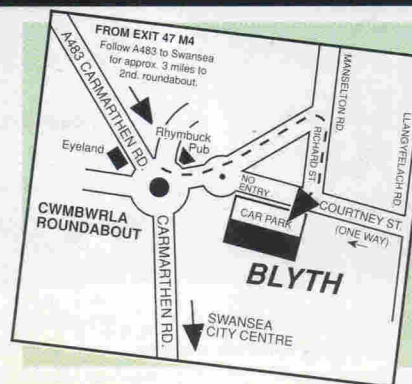
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This time last year all those connected with the famous Cardiff RFC were breathing a collective sigh of relief that there was to be no relegation from the first division of the Heineken League, because their team finished the season only one position off the bottom place occupied by Maesteg and would have gone down. It would have been unthinkable that one of the great clubs of British and World rugby would have been consigned to the Second Division, and all genuine supporters of rugby in Wales will be pleased that this was not to be the case.

To the great credit of those in charge at the Arms Park immediate steps were taken to make sure that such a possibility would not arise this season and their new coach Alec Evans, ably assisted by Terry Holmes, one of the most respected names in Welsh rugby, has succeeded in turning the team into one that has consistently played rugby of a very high standard in the current season, playing leapfrog with Llanelli and Swansea at the top of the First Division. Losing at home to Llanelli was a blow (as was the defeat of the Whites by the same team at St. Helen's) which probably brought to a halt the hopes of the club of winning the title.

Earlier in the season it appeared that today's game would decide the championship, but recent defeats of the Whites by Pontypridd and Aberavon have virtually handed the title to Llanelli and by the time these notes are being read it may be that today's teams are playing for second place. Even if this is so it will not detract from the attraction of a meeting between two of the great clubs in Welsh rugby. How could a game between Swansea and Cardiff be anything other than a very special occasion even if no title is at stake. The records show that, since the clubs first met in December 1876, Cardiff have won 137 of the 265 matches played with 29 drawn. The Whites had the opportunity to win their 100th game in the series at the Arms Park last December but were beaten by a try in injury time by Steve Ford. This was a game that many Whites supporters felt should have been won by our team but is rugby not a game of "What might have been" and "If only" being two phrases most heard in the bar after any game.

As a supporter of the Whites the writer has often pondered on the difference in the attitude of fans of the rugby teams of Wales's two biggest cities towards each

The tale of two Cities

other, compared to supporters of the cities' two soccer clubs, when there are always clashes between fans at Ninian Park or the Vetch Field. When the Whites played at the Arms Park last December the atmosphere in the ground was superb, with appreciation shown for the skills of both sides and respectful silence whilst kicks at goal were being taken. Long may this continue, as it is obviously based on respect for the histories of both clubs, and our welcome today to the players, officials and

supporters of the Cardiff club could not be warmer and more sincere. Best wishes to all.

TIM KILEY



Rob Appleyard, one of the under 21 squad who have successfully made the transition to the first team (v BaaBaas, Easter '93)

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Supporters' Club Notes

Before, during and after today's game forms will be available in the Club Shop enabling supporters to select their choice of best forward and best back in Wales this season. The competition is organised by the Association of Welsh Rugby Supporters' Clubs and the winners will be announced at the Association's Annual Dinner in June.

Recently our own Supporters' Club made a presentation of a caricature to Mr. David Price S.C.F.C. President drawn by loyal supporter Mr. Jack Rees in recognition of David's long service to the club as Hon. Secretary.

Supporters are again reminded of the Social Evening that the Supporters' Club has organised to be held on the evening of Tuesday, May 11th, 1993. At this function we will be entertained by the Speakeasy band and comedian Colin Price. A buffet will be served at the inclusive cost of £7.50. Tickets are available from Peter Ridgewell on Swansea 203611.

We offer our congratulations to Robyn McBryde, Ian Buckett, Paul Arnold and Stuart Davies on their selection for the Wales tour of Zimbabwe and Namibia. We have already congratulated our three players who were originally chosen to tour New Zealand this summer and we are now delighted that Robert Jones has been selected to replace the injured Garry Armstrong and feel sure that he will now become the number one choice in his position. His selection of course brings our representation in the Lions' party to four. I wonder if supporters can remember which Welsh club, if any, has had a higher representation?

It was interesting to note that the mascot who led the Whites team out against the Barbarians was Christopher Thomas. Christopher is the grandson of Graham



Graham Jones with his grandson Christopher.

Jones the long serving doorman at the players' entrance in the grandstand. The occasion continued a long running family association which goes back to the beginning of the century since Graham's father occupied the same position as he for many years before him.

Finally at the end of a long and tiring season may I extend my thanks to the many guest writers who have contributed to our programme during the season. They have all given their services free of charge and without their contributions the compilation of this programme would be impossible. Thanks too to Margaret Pughe for the excellent fashion in which she has arranged transport to all our away fixtures this season.

GLYN ELLIS

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Statistics for the Season 1992/93

Excluding today's result against Cardiff

ALL MATCHES										'ALL' SCORERS				
Pts for										Pts against				
P	W	D	L	T	C	D	P	Total	T	C	D	P	Total	
L	21	17	-	4	65	33	7	42	538	32	18	3	35	310
C	5	4	-	1	22	12	-	7	155	4	1	1	7	46
O	8	4	2	2	25	10	2	7	172	26	12	-	7	175
	34	25	2	7	112	55	9	56	865	62	31	4	49	531

OTHER MATCHES										'OTHER' SCORERS							
Pts For Against For										Against							
P8	W4	D2	L2	T	C	D	P	Total	T	C	D	P	Total				
21	6	2	1	1	2	21	-	-	-	2	6	Simon Davies	1	-	-	-	5
25	17	3	2	-	2	25	3	1	-	-	17	David Weatherley	3	-	-	-	15
32	6	6	1	-	-	32	-	-	-	2	6	Stephan Jones	3	6	-	2	33
3	79	-	-	-	1	3	13	7	-	-	79	Scott Gibbs	1	-	-	-	5
8	8	1	-	-	1	8	1	-	-	1	8	Ian Watkins	2	-	-	-	10
18	18	2	1	1	1	18	2	1	-	2	18	Aled Williams	-	3	1	5	24
39	5	7	2	-	-	39	1	-	-	-	5	Gavin Jenkins	1	-	-	-	5
26	36	4	3	-	-	26	6	3	-	-	36	Ian Davies	2	-	-	-	10
172	175	25	10	2	7	172	26	12	-	7	175	Mike Morgan	4	-	-	-	20

CUP MATCHES										'CUP' SCORERS							
Pts For Against For										Against							
P4	W4	D0	L1	T	C	D	P	Pts	T	C	D	P	Pts				
75	0	12	6	-	1	75	-	-	-	-	0	Simon Davies	4	-	-	-	20
22	6	4	1	-	22	-	-	-	1	1	6	David Weatherley	1	-	-	-	5
27	11	3	3	-	2	27	-	1	-	2	11	Anthony Clement	1	-	-	-	5
13	0	1	1	-	2	13	-	-	-	-	0	Stephan Jones	-	1	-	-	2
18	29	2	1	-	2	18	3	1	-	4	29	Aled Williams	-	5	-	6	28
155	46	22	12	-	7	155	4	1	1	7	46	Richard Webster	2	-	-	-	10

LEAGUE MATCHES										'LEAGUE' SCORERS				
Points For										Points Against				
P21	W17	D-	L4	T	C	D	P	Total	T	C	D	P	Total	
65	33	7	42	538	32	18	3	35	310	Simon Davies	10	-	-	50
										Bleddyn Taylor	1	-	-	5
										Robert Jones	5	2	-	35
										David Weatherley	2	-	-	10
										Anthony Clement	4	-	-	20
										Stephan Jones	-	4	-	11
										Scott Gibbs	3	-	-	15
										Kevin Hopkins	2	-	-	10

LEAGUE MATCHES										'LEAGUE' SCORERS				
Points For										Points Against				
P21	W17	D-	L4	T	C	D	P	Total	T	C	D	P	Total	
65	33	7	42	538	32	18	3	35	310	Simon Davies	10	-	-	50
										Bleddyn Taylor	1	-	-	5
										Robert Jones	5	2	-	35
										David Weatherley	2	-	-	10
										Anthony Clement	4	-	-	20
										Stephan Jones	-	4	-	11
										Scott Gibbs	3	-	-	15
										Kevin Hopkins	2	-	-	10

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P21	W17	D-	L4	T	C	D	P	Total	T	C	D	P	Total	
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										Kevin Hopkins	2	-	-	10

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Points For										Points Against				
P21	W17	D-	L4	T	C	D	P	Total	T	C	D	P	Total	
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										Bleddyn Taylor	1	-	-	5
										Robert Jones	5	2	-	35
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										Anthony Clement	4	-	-	20
										Stephan Jones	-	4	-	11
										Scott Gibbs	3	-	-	15
										Kevin Hopkins	2	-	-	10



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Thanks

Dawn would like to take the opportunity to pass on her personal thanks along with those of Club Management to all Sponsors. Their loyal support of the All Whites and the Club has been much valued and it is hoped that the relationships built will continue to grow. Also sincere thanks to you, the supporters whose continued loyalty is very much appreciated.

Disco

If you fancy ending the season with a bang, come along to the St. Helen's Lounge this evening and join the players function. Entrance is only £2.00 and Lyn Bateman, a great hypnotist will entertain. The evening will then be rounded off with a disco.

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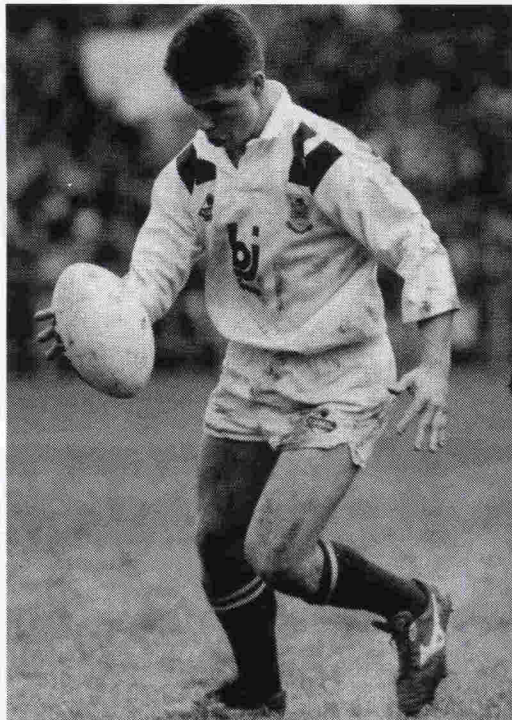
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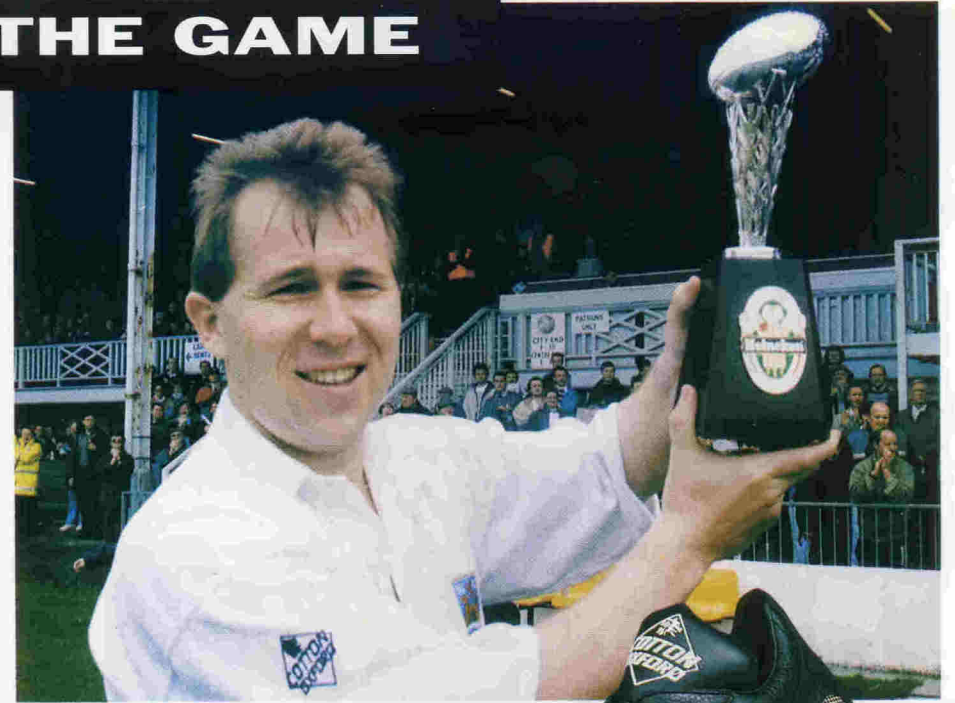
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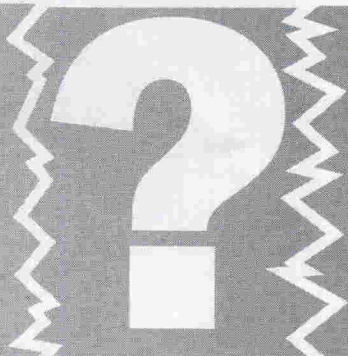
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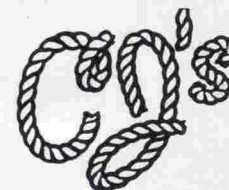


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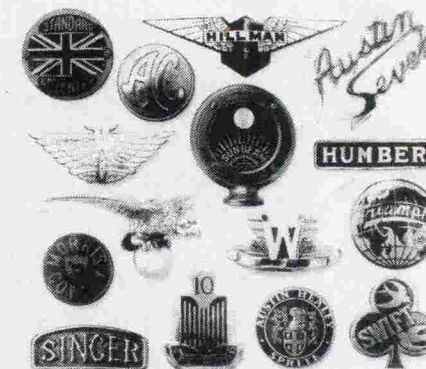
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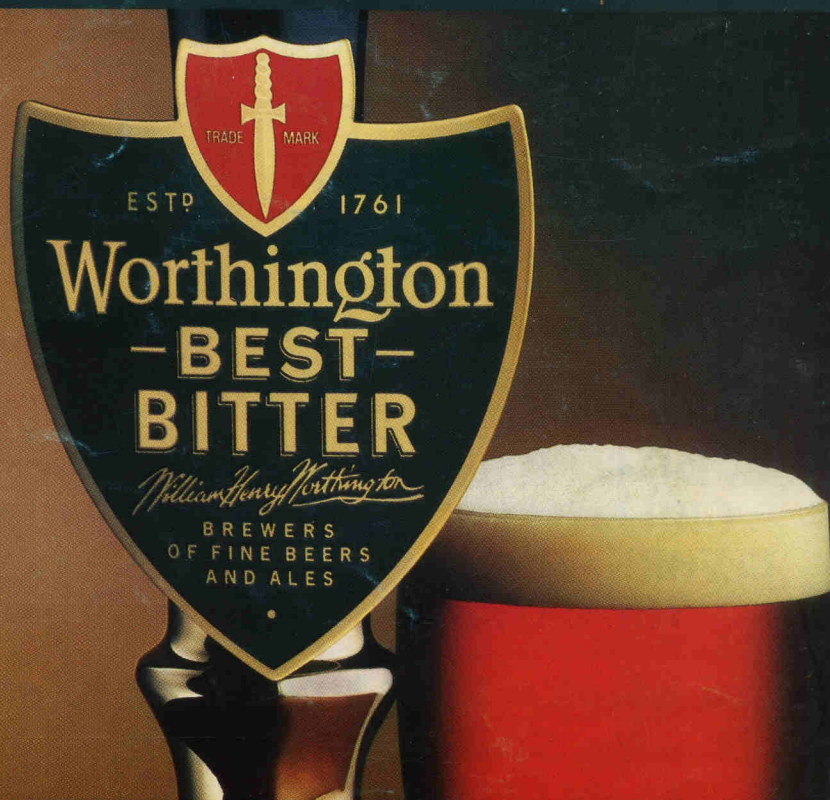
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