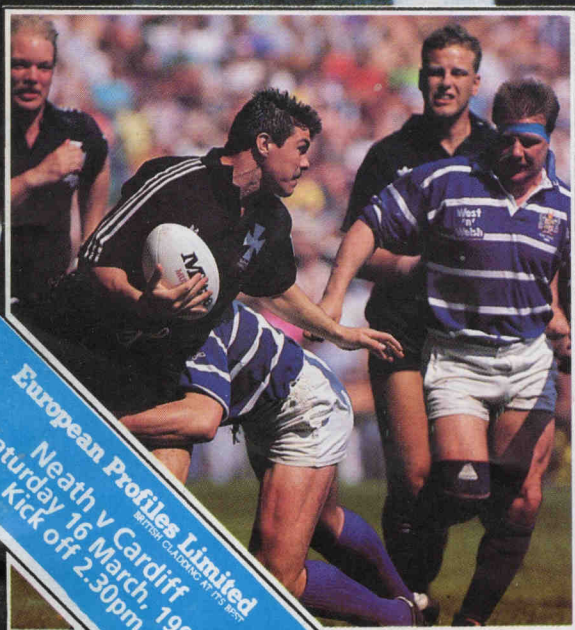


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## Our Visitors



**Welcome Cardiff  
Croeso Caerdydd**



*Schweppes  
Cup*

By Berwyn Davies



Today's W.R.U. Schweppes Quarter Final Game pairs Neath and Cardiff for the third successive year. On the 8th of April, 1989 Neath defeated Cardiff by nineteen points to twelve in the semi-final at Swansea thus avenging a semi-final defeat at the same ground by Cardiff in 1987. On the 24th of February, 1990 the sides met in the sixth round at the Gnoll and Neath defeated Cardiff by twenty two points to six. Ever since the 1984 Final there seems to be a magnet which draws the two clubs together and this will be the seventh Cup-Tie played between the two Clubs. Cardiff have not produced in the League the consistent

form which they hoped for, and no doubt, see the Cup as a means of salvaging something from which will be for them a disappointing first League Season. Cardiff's last Cup-Final appearance was in 1986 when they defeated Swansea by sixteen points to fifteen. Cardiff have also been involved in the only final which has produced a draw. Cardiff and Bridgend drawing twelve points each in the 1982 final with Cardiff retaining the Cup by virtue of scoring the only try of the game.

Our visitors are captained this year by the Welsh International David Evans

continued overleaf



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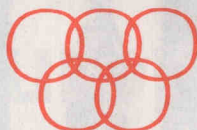
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## Our Visitors (Cont)



and in a talented three-quarter line he is joined by fellow Welsh Internationals Mike Hall, Mark Ring and Steve Ford. The latter tuned up for today's game with a hat-trick of tries in last Saturday's league game at



Abertillery. At scrum-half is ex-Neath favourite Andrew Booth who played for Cambridge in this year's Varsity Match. Today's game will throw-up a number of interesting confrontations. Full-back Mike Rayer has been in outstanding form recently both as an attacking full-back and as a consistent goal kicker. Paul Thorburn has been in

outstanding form for Neath throughout the season scoring his seventh league try for the season in last Saturday's victory over Glamorgan Wanderers. Provided he has recovered from injury. Scott Gibbs will be in opposition to his Welsh partner Mark Ring. The battle between Andrew Booth and Chris Bridges at scrum-half will see former colleagues in opposition. Brian Thomas has always held the belief that it is forwards that win games and up front there is likely to be a titanic struggle between the front rows, and Welsh Squad members Gareth Llewellyn and Stuart Roy will battle for Supremacy in the middle of the lineout.

continued overleaf



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## **Our Visitors (Cont)**

It is interesting to note that of the 1984 Cup Final sides only Brian Williams and Bob Lakin remain as members of their Club's Squads and both are likely to be in action today.

Kevin Phillips and his side will face another stern test and know that they will have to be at their best if they are to progress to their third successive semi-final.

Today will also be an opportunity for players of both sides to press for a place in the Welsh Squad to tour Australia. We extend a warm welcome to the Cardiff Players, Committee and Supporters. If previous Cup clashes between the sides are anything to go by today's game will prove to be another excellent advert for Cup Rugby.





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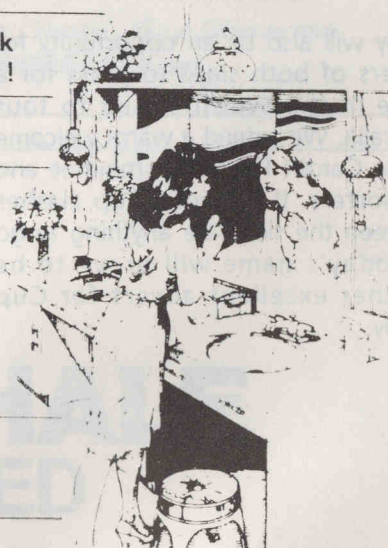
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Jason Ball was in top form against Glamorgan Wanderers playing with skill, vision and purpose.  
Photographs by  
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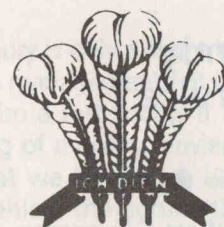


Happiness is a cigar called...



## Club Scene

### Rod Rees Reports



There is the promise of an enjoyable occasion at the Gnoll next Friday night when the Wales under 19 team meet the touring Japanese under 19s in an International which kicks off at 7 o'clock.

This is the first team that Wales will have played at this age group on a Welsh Ground which is yet another first, therefore for Neath. In view of the fact that there has been much criticism of our senior international side this season, not all of it justified, this presents a good opportunity to take a look into the future in the hope of finding some comfort.

One of the interesting aspects of this Under 19 side is that it bring together the best of Youth and Secondary Schools players and it will be particularly interesting to see the balance the selectors put together. The Wales under 19s are managed by former international panel referee Winston Jones who is no stranger to the Gnoll. Let us turn up in droves to encourage these youngsters who represent rugby's future in Wales.

Back in the dressing room I am assured there is no cause for concern at Scott Gibb's absence from today's team. There is every likelihood that he will be

Continued overleaf



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## Club Scene (Cont)

available for next Saturday's important, indeed vital visit, to the Brewery Field, Bridgend. If Neath come away with a win from that encounter then it is difficult to see how we can fail to become the first Heineken League Champions.

Scott's injury is only a slight back strain and team management felt it was wise to give him a rest today. It is perhaps something of a luxury, envied by other clubs, that we have such a wealth of talent behind the scrum these days that we can take this kind of step in a player's interests.

season. It has come through the test with flying colours, the quarter final stage of the Schweppes Cup today and top of the Premier Division. This has been achieved against a



Glyn Llewellyn is back today after taking a rest last week due to the groin injury he has been suffering. His impact and effectiveness at the front of the line has been one of the features of Neath's forward play over recent months and we look forward to a good performance from him today.

background of injury problems, suspensions and international calls.

It was also encouraging to see Andrew Kembury's return to form in last Saturday's, match against the Wanderers. Andrew has been rather plagued with injury throughout his Neath career. Hopefully, his run of bad luck is over and he will now be able to realise the potential that brought him to the Gnoll straight from Youth Rugby.

Now we are into the final lap of the race for honours and success and for about the first time in the current campaign with virtually a full squad in training from which to select a side. Our coaches are too battle experienced to start any form of celebrating but the quiet confidence is nothing short of impressive.

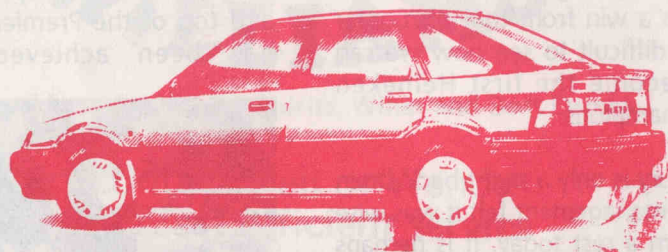
Neath's policy over recent seasons has been well and truly put to the test this

That we are in the position we are is down to the players and the coaches. There are those of us who like to think that our support match after match is a contributing factor. That may well be right because encouragement from the sidelines gives every man with the talent to wear the Black jersey quite a lift. Long may the support continue.





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## Wales v Japan under 19

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**International Match**  
Under 19



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## Today's Referee

Robert Yeman

This is by no means Mr. Yeman's first visit to the Gnoll, because he officiated in our Heineken League Match against New-bridge last October. That was a match won by Neath by 21 pts to seven.

Aged thirty five, Robert Yeman began his career in 1974 in the Aberavon and District League and was appointed to the Welsh Rugby Union list in 1979. He has been a first class referee since 1983 and was promoted to the Premier Grade four years ago.

Since his appointment to the top grade Mr. Yeman has taken charge of matches at 'B', Youth and Schools International levels. He has also taken charge of Tourist matches, notably New Zealand and Australia.

Last year Robert Yeman spent three weeks in the U.S.A. refereeing the Eastern Rugby Union Championships.



In November Mr. Yeman travelled to La Rochelle where he was the man in charge of the France 'A' game against New Zealand.

## Re-Arranged Fixture

Easter Saturday  
Saturday 31 March, 1991

**Abertillery v Neath**  
Heineken League Premier Division

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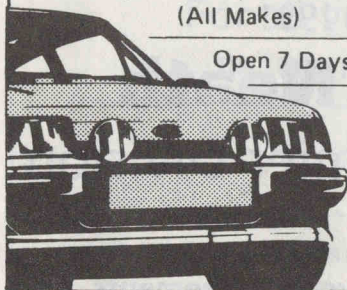
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14 Graham Davies *	Right Wing (Asgell dde)	14 Steve Ford +
13 Jason Ball	Right Centre (Canolwr)	13 Mark Ring +
12 Colin Laity *	Left Centre (Canolwr)	12 Mike Hall +
11 Alan Edmunds +	Left Wing (Asgell chwith)	11 Alan Donovan
10 Jeff Bird	Stand Off (Maswr)	10 David Evans + (Capt)
9 Chris Bridges +	Scrum Half (Mewnwr)	9 Andrew Booth
1 Brian Williams +	Loose Head Prop (Y eheng flaen)	1 Mike Griffiths +
2 Kevin Phillips + (Capt)	Hooker (Bachwr)	2 Ian Greenslade
3 John Davies +	Tight Head Prop (Y rheng flaen)	3 Paul Edwards
4 Glyn Llewellyn +	Lock (Yr ail reng)	4 Simon Crothers
5 Mike Whitson	Lock (Yr ail reng)	5 Mark Edwards
6 Martyn Morris +	Left Flanker (Blaenasgell)	6 Robert Lakin *
8 Gareth Llewellyn +	No. 8 (Y rheng ol)	8 Ian Hembrow
7 Adrian Varney	Right Flanker (Blaenasgell)	7 Mark Bennett

### Replacements

A Thomas \*, K Matthews,  
A Kembury \*, P Jackson,  
J Griffiths, R Jones

### Referee

Mr Robert Yeman (Taibach)

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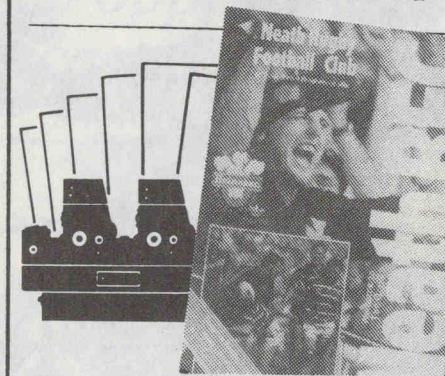
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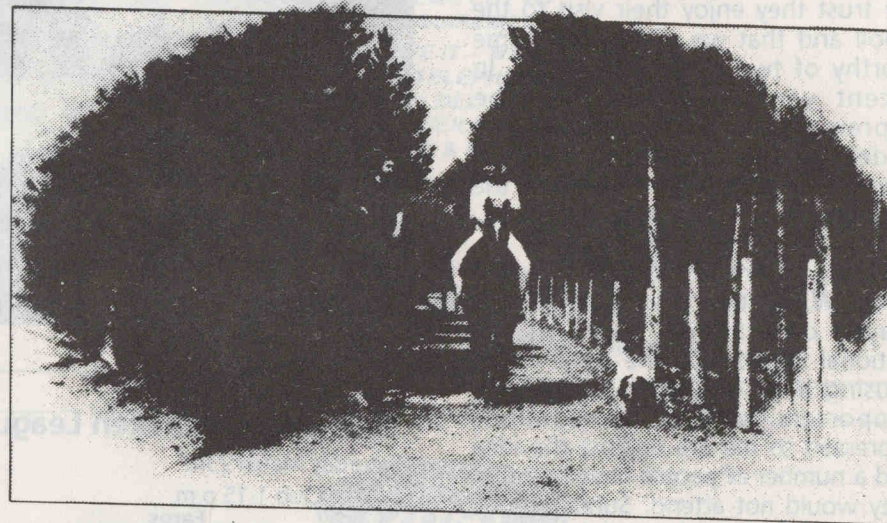
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In for a try goes Adrian Varney.

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# Supporters Club News

by Alwyn Williams

Welcome to all supporters of Cardiff, we trust they enjoy their visit to the Gnoll and that we all enjoy a game worthy of two such great clubs. In recent years we have held the supremacy but let us not underestimate Cardiff who have an enviable Cup record - remember the semi-final in Swansea a few years ago.

Speaking of semi finals, the suggestion by the W.R.U. that this years semis are played on a Sunday, both at the National Stadium on the same day is causing a lot of comment amongst supporters. Most of the opinions expressed to me are against the idea and a number of people have said that they would not attend. Sunday rugby is not popular in Wales and the W.R.U. must have their heads in the sand if they are not aware of this. I'm glad to see that the top clubs have had a meeting with the establishment to thrash out the whole business.

Once again the Association of Welsh Rugby Supporters Clubs are organising a ballot to choose the Best Forward and Best Back in Welsh Rugby. The Association are sponsored by Mowlem who will be providing Silver Salvers for presentation to the two who top the ballot. Ballot papers are at present being prepared and should be available within the next couple of weeks. Further details will be given when the ballot papers are to hand.



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Saturday March 30th

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### Supporters Club Membership cards must be produced to obtain travel discount

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## On The Social Front

by Ron Jenkins

We are fortunate in getting a home draw for the Cup Quarter-Final and so we welcome Cardiff supporters to the Clubhouse before and after the match. This being Cardiff's first visit to the Gnoll this season, I must assure them that the new downstairs Lounge was not decorated to make them feel at home, but simply because someone liked blue!

Many people watching today's match would also have liked to see the "Grand Slam" International on TV. We hope to video that match and show it in the main bar after our game.

Yet another game which I would have liked to see today is the Cup Final at the Arms Park between Neath College and Glantaf College. Neath had hoped to meet Llandovery College, who always seem to have eluded them but Glantaf, from North of Cardiff, having beaten Llandovery last week, Neath have two chances to beat our great eastern rivals today.

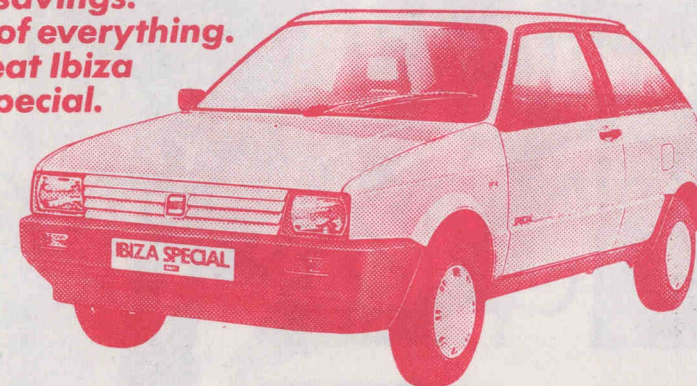
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## Points of Law

**David Herbert**  
WRU Referee



**Answers  
your Questions**

### Question

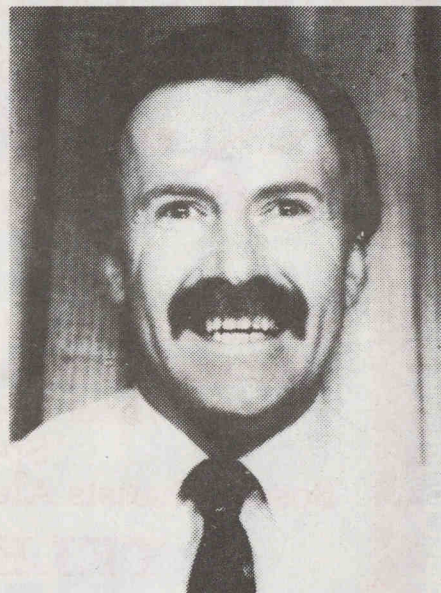
The referee awards a penalty to team "A", but then notices that playing time has run out should he allow the kick to be taken or should he blow for the end of the game?

### Answer.

He must allow the penalty to be taken and then blow for full time at the next stoppage, providing that he doesn't award another penalty or free kick.

### Question

A player attempts an interception with one hand outstretched, but manages only to knock the ball forward. His momentum however allows him to catch the ball before it touches the ground. Should the



referee allow play to continue?

### Answer.

No! the player should be penalised for the original offence, which was an intentional knock-on.

### Question

An unsuccessful penalty kick at goal is knocked on by a defending team player standing in goal. A member of his own team who is in front of him falls on the ball just before an attacking team player dives on it. Should the referee award a scrum five to the attacking team or a drop out 22m?

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## Points of Law (Cont)

Answer.

If the ball is minored by the defender and he doesn't prevent an attacking player from scoring, an attacking scrum five should be awarded. If however, a try would probably have been scored, a penalty try should be awarded.

### Question

The ball is channelled to the No. 8's feet in a scrum his own wing forward who is packing down in front of him breaks from the scrum and immediately retires behind the No.8's feet. Should he be penalised for breaking from an off-side position?

Answer.

No! last season he would have been penalised, but this law was changed this season allowing him to break from the scrum providing he retires immediately behind the rearmost feet of the scrum.

Week in, week out, people question me with regards to laws concerning the in-goal area. The favourite questions are :-

1. Is it possible to be off-side in goal?

2. Is there such a thing as a knock-on in goal?

3. Is there such a thing as a forward pass in goal?

The answer to all three questions is an emphatic Yes!



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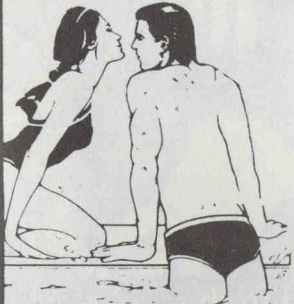


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Graham Davies goes over for another try to add to the Wanderers woes.



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# Patrons' Association

## Presentation Evening

Arrangements are proceeding for this to take place at Neath RFC Social Club on Thursday 25 th April 1991. Players who have for the first time represented Wales at either full International or "B" level in 1990/91 will receive awards to recognise their achievements. Those concerned will be :-

### Full Caps

Adrian Davies  
Chris Bridges  
Glyn Llewellyn  
Scott Gibbs  
John Davies

### B Caps

John Davies  
Andrew Thomas

We have always believed it is essential to look after our players and these awards are to demonstrate to the players directly that they are appreciated.

As usual we hope to have a well known personality to join us for the evening. More details in due course.

## End of Term Draw

Raffle tickets are available for a draw which will take place on the 25th April. Prizes include a pair of tickets for the Cup Final and a Neath RFC Stand season ticket for 1991/92 (or cash equivalent)

Anyone interested in finding out more about the Association or the above should contact:

### Chairman:

Robert M.E. Thomas  
12 Cimla Road, Neath

### Treasurer:

J. Denis Williams  
35 Derwen Road  
Ty'r Allt, Alltwn, Pontardawe

### Secretary:

Robert E. Jones  
78 Bryncatwg, Cadoxton, Neath



Best wishes to Neath RFC for the coming season

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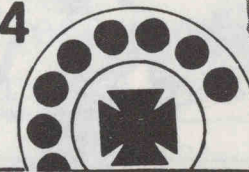
## RUGBY CALL

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## Fixtures and Results

### September

	F	A
1—Mosley . . . . .	A	W 34—30
4—Bryncethin (Centenary)	A	W 65—10
8—Gloucester . . . . .	H	W 17—10
15—Nottingham . . . . .	H	W 25—14
18—Ystradgynlais (Centenary)	A	W 46— 0
22—Aberlillery (L) . . . . .	H	W 16— 9
29—Swansea (L) . . . . .	A	W 23—14

### October

6—Bath . . . . .	A	L 27—13
13—Llanelli (L) . . . . .	A	W 21—12
20—Newbridge (L) . . . . .	H	W 21— 7
23—Tredegar . . . . .	H	W 43— 7
27—Glamorgan Wand. (L) . . . . .	A	W 26— 9

### November

3—Bridgend (L) . . . . .	H	W 22—16
10—Pontypool (L) . . . . .	A	W 24—13
13—Penarth . . . . .	H	W 30— 9
20—Ebbw Vale . . . . .	H	W 22—17
24—Pontypridd (L) . . . . .	H	W 28—27
27—Aberaman (Centenary)	A	W 21—15

### December

1—Maesteg . . . . .	H	
8—Cardiff (L) . . . . .	A	W 24— 3
15—Abertillery (L) . . . . .	A	Postponed
22—Swansea (L) . . . . .	H	W 12— 0
26—Aberavon . . . . .	A	W 26—22
29—Newport . . . . .	A	L 7—19
31—Maesteg . . . . .	H	W 16— 6

### January

	F	A
5—Richmond . . . . .	A	Postponed
12—Llanelli (L) . . . . .	H	L 12—13
18—Wasps . . . . .	H	L 4—18
19—Wales v England		
26—WRU Cup		
29—Maesteg . . . . .	A	W 21— 7

### February

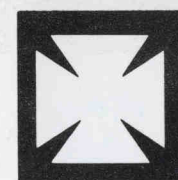
1—London Scottish . . . . .	L	0—42
2—Scotland v Wales		
9—Newbridge (L) . . . . .	A	Postponed
16—Wales v Ireland		
23—WRU Cup Felinfoel	W	48— 7
26—South Wales Police . . . . .	A	L 0—15

### March

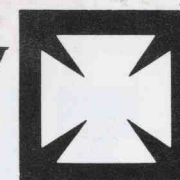
2—France v Wales		
9—Glamorgan Wand (L) . . . . .	H	W 32— 0
16—WRU Cup Cardiff	H	
23—Bridgend (L) . . . . .	A	
30—Coventry . . . . .	A	

### April

1—Aberavon . . . . .	H	
6—WRU Cup . . . . .		
13—Pontypool (L) . . . . .	H	
20—Pontypridd (L) . . . . .	A	
27—Cardiff (L) . . . . .	H	



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Details in Social Scene and on the Club Notice

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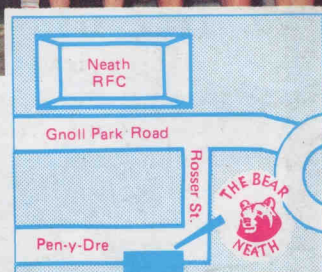


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