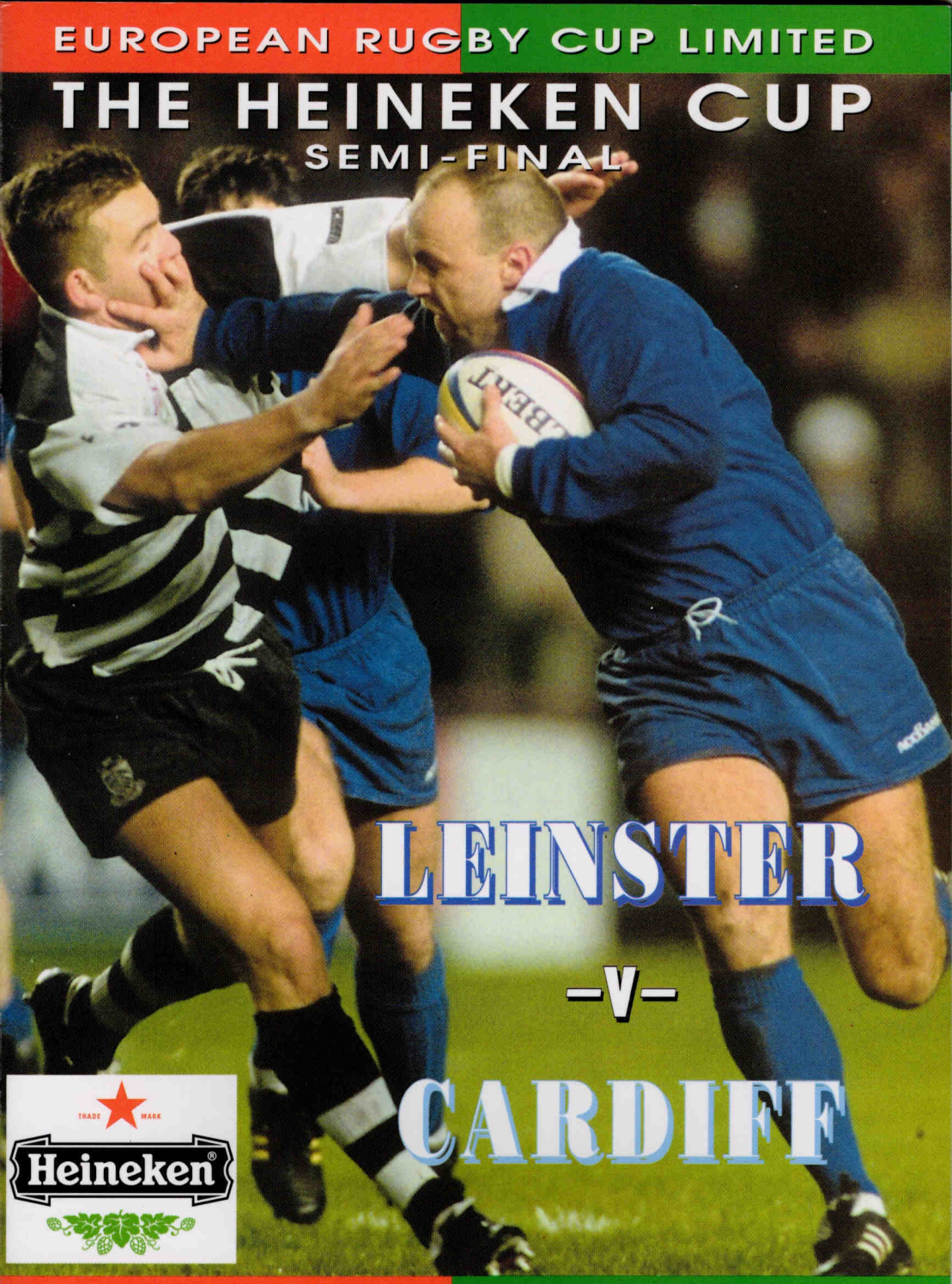
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SEMI-FINAL



LEINSTER

-V-

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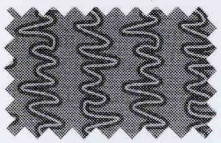
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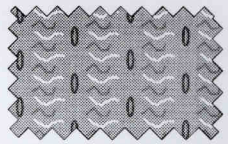
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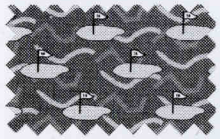
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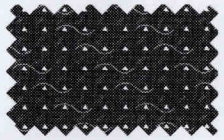
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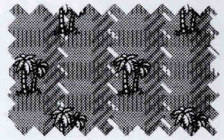

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Frozen Wave


Mellow Yellow


Golfing Green

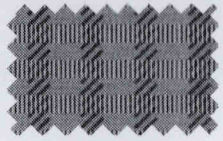

Dried Parsley

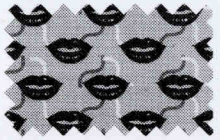

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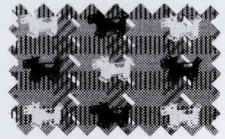

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Farmed Salmon Pink


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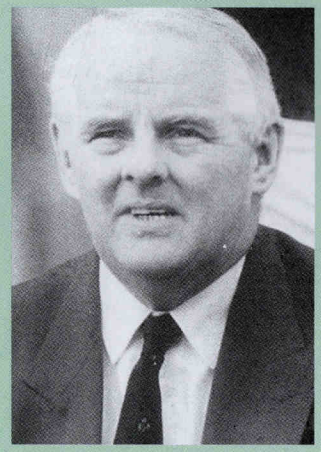
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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



On behalf of my fellow Directors I am delighted to welcome everyone to the semi-final of the first European Rugby Cup which has been sponsored by Heineken Ltd., and I.T.V. In thanking these sponsors for their support in this new club tournament I realise that in September both companies showed great faith in this new concept for Northern Hemisphere rugby.

My thanks too go to those Unions who were able to nominate clubs to take part, clubs from Romania, Italy, France, Wales and Ireland.

I believe that this inaugural tournament has been a success to date and has caught the imagination of the players and the public alike. There have been good attendances at the pool matches, some excellent contests, and plenty of commitment displayed.

The twelve clubs all deserve praise for their cooperation, understanding and enthusiasm. They have ensured the future of the competition.

Congratulations to Toulouse, Swansea, Cardiff and Leinster on reaching this semi-final stage. I know that both matches today will produce exciting rugby.

The final of this year's cup will take place in the National Stadium, Cardiff in a week's time. It is fitting that this historic venue should host the first final, as it will the final of the World Cup in 1999.

Finally, I want to thank all those who have contributed to the success of the competition, whether you are player, official, administrator or spectator.

Thomas Kiernan, Chairman,
European Rugby Cup Limited

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LEINSTER
LIKE A CLUB SIDE IN DISGUISE



● *Kurt McQuilkin tries to break through the Pontypridd defence at Lansdowne Road.*

By Gerry Thornley

The forwards rumble and the records tumble; and Leinster's extraordinary season just gets better and better. It's one of sport's truisms that losing becomes a habit, and so too does winning. Right now Leinster have that winning habit.

Nothing breeds success like success and the innate confidence that comes with winning has surely helped Leinster through the odd crises.

True, the province rewrote a few points scoring records in their nine wins out of nine which precluded last week's interpro showdown with Ulster; setting their highest ever total in the interprovincial championship in their six try 42-26 win over the Exiles, and a week later equalling the old landmark in the 41-9 win over Connacht. But, more importantly, Leinster managed to survive three key games by winning margins of less than a try, digging themselves out of tight holes against Milan, Pontypridd and Munster.

Leinster have been threatening to do this for years on end, but the winning habit alone doesn't explain the turnaround. Pinpointing the reasons are a mite more difficult and clearly can be traced to the training ground where the mixture of Ciaran Callan and Jim Glennon's organisational skills along with the type of player power the latter encouraged in his stint as coach two seasons ago, has brought about a well prepared and focussed side. In short, Leinster know what they are about.

Perceptions of them as a free-running, prolific side doesn't convey the full picture. True, Leinster have garnished those nine wins with a liberal sprinkling of tries, 24 in all, and it is a testimony to their running skills that all but two of them were scored by the backs. Yet, as in any dominant side, the pack have laid the foundations, ensuring enough territorial supremacy for Alan McGowan (and against Griqualand Barry Murphy) to land 32 penalties in nine games.

Leinster have pretty much monopolised their own throw-ins and had the better of the line-outs save for the exception of two games, albeit ominously in view of today's opposition, they were also against Welsh opposition, Swansea and Pontypridd

Although he missed three of Leinster's wins this season against Natal's Development XV, Griqualand West and Milan, Neil Francis has been a huge figure in ever sense. While his second-row partners have alternated between the bullworks Brian Rigney and Steve Jameson or the similarly endowed 21-year-old Malcolm O'Kelly, Francis has also augmented his peerless line-out work by frequently directing the oft-used maul when Leinster's pack start rumbling.

Ditto the new captain, Chris Pim, a pillar of physical strength in a beefed up Leinster pack. It is also surely significant that Leinster's improvements have co-incided with the coming on board of the ex-Munster man Paul Wallace and the ex-Connacht man Victor Costello.

As one of ten men to have played in seven of Leinster's first nine games (only McGowan played in more) Wallace has arguably been Leinster's most consistent performer this season, never dipping below the high standards he has set himself.

Costello has added another running dimension to Leinster's game from the base of the scrum. Always an exceptional talent, as Connacht long since discovered the more you get the ball into Victor's hand the better he plays. Indeed, he had a far better campaign than most people give him credit for last season and his form has continued its upward curve this season.

His defensive work has also improved markedly, and with Pim and the equally big-hitting Stephen Rooney alongside Costello not much gets through Leinster around the fringes. The suspicion remains that Leinster might not be very well equipped were the opposition to begin recycling the ball regularly and spinning it wide — as happened for a spell against Pontypridd. But the problem for the opposition is winning enough ball in the first place.

There has also been a solidity and stableness to the Leinster back-line as well. At 29, Alain Rolland has possibly enjoyed his best season. A naturally exuberant character, he has even curtailed some of those Roller tap penalties that have driven Rock people to drink. Consistent, reliable, unflashy, sane, Alain Rolland? Strange.

Alan McGowan's boot has dug Leinster out of more than one hole. After an almost unerring start to the season with both club and province, McGowan's place-kicking radar went briefly askew against Pontypridd and the Exiles before rescuing Leinster in the former game and steering them to victory over Munster. In eight games he has kicked 117 points to augment his try against Pontypridd.

Another highly significant capture for the province has been the self-confident Kiwi (is there a self-doubting one?) Kurt McQuilkin. McQuilkin has been the midfield rock, his astute footballing brain and innate support play invariably taking him to the point of action at important moments; such as when availing of Niall Woods' brilliant running to pop up on his shoulder for three tries against the Exiles.

Though Jim Glennon has rightly made much of Leinster's squad system — 35 players have been used this season and all but one were rotated in the first four games of the campaign — the nucleus of the side has been selected en bloc. Indeed, no other Irish provincial side has looked more settled, and a dozen of the team has been ever-present in the wins over Natal, Milan, Pontypridd, the Exiles and Munster.

All this explains the essence of any good provincial side, for to all intents and purposes Leinster are like a club side in disguise.

COMPLETE GUIDE TO SENIOR RUGBY



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THE STAR

RESULTS

HEINEKEN EUROPEAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

POOL A

	P	W	D	L	Tries	For	Agst	Pts
TOULOUSE	2	2	0	0	8	72	19	4
BENETTON TREVISO	2	1	0	1	12	95	26	2
FARUL CONSTANTA	2	0	0	2	2	18	140	0

RESULTS:	Farul Constanta	10	Toulouse	54
	Benetton Treviso	86	Farul Constanta	8
	Toulouse	18	Benetton Treviso	9

POOL B

	P	W	D	L	Tries	For	Agst	Pts
CARDIFF	2	1	1	0	7	60	20	3
BEGLES-BORDEAUX	2	1	1	0	6	43	30	3
ULSTER	2	0	0	2	2	22	75	0

RESULTS:	Begles-Bordeaux	14	Cardiff	14
	Cardiff	46	Ulster	6
	Ulster	16	Begles-Bordeaux	29

POOL C

	P	W	D	L	Tries	For	Agst	Pts
LEINSTER	2	2	0	0	4	47	43	4
PONTYPRIDD	2	1	0	1	2	53	35	2
MILAN	2	0	0	2	2	33	55	0

RESULTS:	Milan	21	Leinster	24
	Pontypridd	31	Milan	12
	Leinster	23	Pontypridd	22

POOL D

	P	W	D	L	Tries	For	Agst	Pts
SWANSEA	2	1	0	1	3	35	27	2
MUNSTER	2	1	0	1	2	29	32	2
CASTRES	2	1	0	1	2	29	34	2

RESULTS:	Munster	17	Swansea	13
	Castres	19	Munster	12
	Swansea	22	Castres	10

SEMI-FINALS:

TOULOUSE v SWANSEA
LEINSTER v CARDIFF

FINAL:

SUNDAY JANUARY 7TH

LEADING SCORERS TO DATE

35 — Michael Lynagh (Benetton Treviso);
32 — Alan McGowan (Leinster), Christophe Deylaud (Toulouse);
30 — Adrian Davies (Cardiff);
26 — Neil Jenkins (Pontypridd);
21 — Digeo Dominguez (Milan);
20 — Aled Williams (Swansea);
19 — Ken Smith (Munster);
14 — Lee Jarvis (Pontypridd).

TRIES

2 — Emile N'Tamack, Daniel Berty (Toulouse); Leandro Manteri, Leandro Perziano, Massimiliano Perziano, Piero Dotto (Benetton Treviso); Andy Moore (Cardiff); Alan Harris (Swansea); Conor O'Shea (Leinster); Philipe Bernat Salles, Sebastien Loubsens (Begles-Bordeaux).

TEAM TRIES

12 — Benetton Treviso; **8** — Toulouse; **7** — Cardiff; **6** — Begles-Bordeaux; **4** — Leinster; **3** — Swansea; **2** — Munster, Milan, Farul Constanta, Castres, Pontypridd, Ulster.



● *MICHAEL LYNAGH ... Leading scorer in the Heineken European Club Championship with 35 points.*

CARDIFF
ROLL OF WELSH HONOUR

While the likelihood is that the game of rugby was introduced to Wales in the 1860s by schoolboys and university students returning to their colleges in England, it has now been widely established that the game was flourishing within the country and particularly so in South Wales when the famous Cardiff R.F.C. came into existence in 1876.

By David Guiney

This was four years before the Welsh Rugby Union was formed, and five years before Wales's first international game.

Cardiff grew out of the amalgamation of the Glamorgan, Tredegarville and the Wanderers clubs and its headquarters, now legendary of course, became Cardiff Arms Park.

From its early days but even more so with the coming of Francis Escott Handcock who was to captain both the club and his country, Cardiff began to emerge as a major power in Welsh rugby in the 1880s and significantly, in Wales's first international game against England at Blackheath in 1881, there were three Cardiff men — Barry Edward Girling, B.B. Mann and William David Phillips — in the side that lost heavily.

Since then Cardiff has given a remarkable succession of great players to the Welsh international side and the list reads like a roll of Welsh honour ... from Francis Handcock, Gwyn Nicholls and Rhys Gabe, through to Wilfred Wooler, Cliff Jones ... Haydn Tanner, Jack Matthews, Bleddyn Williams ... Cliff Morgan ... and down to Barry John and Gareth Edwards.

There have been so many more ... and, indeed one of Cardiff's proudest boasts is that in 1948 there were 10 Cardiff players on the Welsh side that beat Scotland at the Arms Park — and the captain, of course, was Haydn Tanner. During that season eleven Cardiff men played for Wales — an astonishing achievement for a club side.



● *Jonathan Humphreys ... another in a long line of Cardiff players to captain Wales.*

Since then Cardiff has given a remarkable succession of great players to the Welsh international side and the list reads like a roll of Welsh honour ... from Francis Handcock, Gwyn Nicholls and Rhys Gabe, through to Wilfred Wooler, Cliff Jones ... Haydn Tanner, Jack Matthews, Bleddyn Williams ... Cliff Morgan ... and down to Barry John and Gareth Edwards.

The club has had many, many famous victories in its history ... and among them must be the very special ones of wins over South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

On New Year's Day, 1906 the South African tourists came to Cardiff Arms Park with all the confidence in the world that they would end their tour of Britain and Ireland on a winning note.

Already on the tour, they had beaten Wales, Newport, Glamorganshire, Monmouthshire and just three days before they faced Cardiff they had beaten Llanelli by 16-3.

But against Cardiff, the Springboks were to endure a salutary defeat. For the first time on their tour they failed to score against a club or county side and they were roundly trounced by 17-0.

In the 1947/'48 season, Australia, captained by Bob McLean and then by Trevor Allen after McLean had broken his leg, had the satisfaction of beating Scotland, Ireland and England and, in all, went through their tour with 29 victories in their 35 games.

But like the South Africans before them, the Australians came up against Cardiff at the Arms Park and went down to their worst defeat of the tour by 3-11.

And then it was the turn of the All-Blacks. In the 1953/'54 season Bob Stuart led New Zealand on their tour of Britain, Ireland and France during which the All-Blacks won 25 of their 31 games and drew two.

But after an unbeaten romp through their first six games, they arrived at the Arms Park on November 21st, 1953 — and went down to their first defeat.

Before a crowd of 56,000 people, Cardiff won by 8-3 to bring up their treble of victories over the great powers of South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

Perhaps more than anything else those victories emphasise the enduring and very proud tradition of the Cardiff Rugby Club.



Mr. BIG

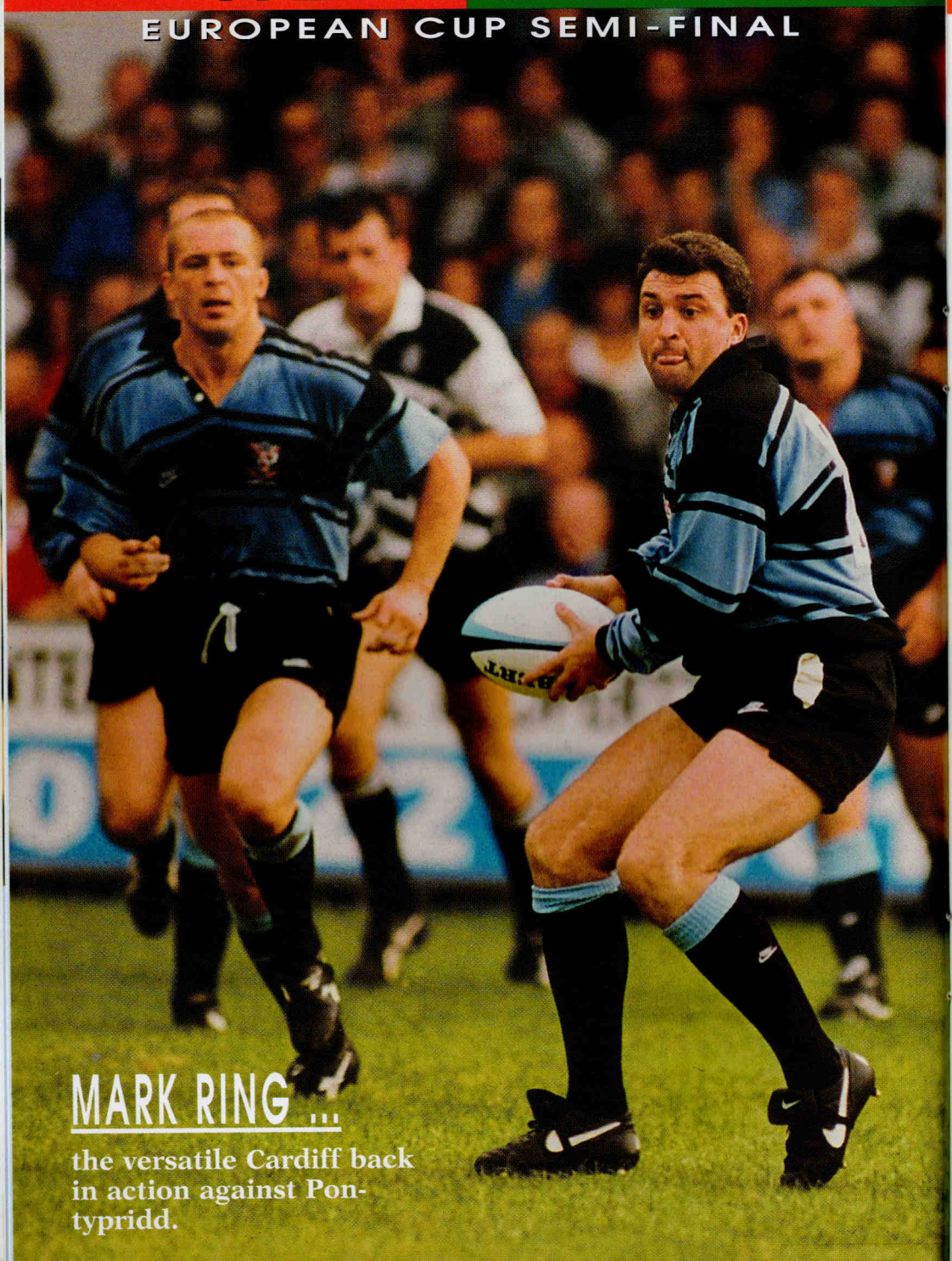
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MARK RING ...
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HEINEKEN
EUROPEAN CLUB CUP

HERE TO STAY!

By John Kennedy

The Heineken Cup has taken European club rugby by storm — and next year it is set to reach even more parts to confirm its standing as a genuine 'Cocks of the North' tournament. More of that later.

But as fledgling competitions go, year one of the European Rugby Cup Ltd's bold venture has already been a resounding success, capturing and firing the imaginations of players, coaches and spectators alike.

Even before the whistle had been blown on the opening match in the Black Sea resort of Constanta back on October 31st, Swansea coach Mike Ruddock was declaring "this is our No.1 priority for the season, we have won both the Welsh League and Cup but this is a new challenge, a chance to test ourselves outside our own backyard".

The All-Whites have already gained high marks in taking that test, earning the right to meet Toulouse in today's other semi-final.

And, if most of the Pool matches were anything to go by, it is going to be more edge of the seat stuff today, between Leinster and Cardiff here at Lansdowne Road and across the Channel at Les Sept-Deniers.

Romanian champions Farul Constanta found it tough going, both Toulouse and Benetton Treviso romping to big victories, but elsewhere there have been some real cliffhangers.

The tightest finish of all was at the Andre-Moga ground where Cardiff picked up a priceless away point in a 14-14 draw against Begles-Bordeaux that ultimately won the Welsh club a last four place.

And there was only one point in it when Leinster clinched their semi-final place with a last gasp 23-22 home win over Pontypridd while four of the other group ties ended with just single-figure margins of victory.

All in all, there were 13 or less points between the sides in eight of the 12 matches, Castres denying Munster a point with a winner a good six minutes into injury time.

Gripping stuff.

But it has not only been about close scorelines, there has also been plenty of exhilerating and open rugby of the highest quality produced with all the participating clubs declaring they have profited from coming up against unfamiliar styles opponents and styles. It has been a case of out with the insular and familiar and in with the unknown ... a marvellous learning process.

One of the main complaints of the leading teams had been the absence of meaningful competition to prepare their players for the challenges outside their domestic dogfights, of being made aware through first hand experience of what was going on elsewhere.

The Heineken Cup has provided the platform for gaining that experience, the some £20m of sponsorship pumped in by ITV and the Whitbread Beer Company for at least the first three years saw the crucial pieces of the European jigsaw coming together.

And come together it certainly has, with top teams from England and Scotland set to join in the Euro party next season to reach those additional parts mentioned earlier.

But in the immediate future the curtain will come down on year one with the inaugural final being staged at the National Ground, Cardiff Arms Park, a week tomorrow to confirm that European club rugby not only has well and truly arrived, but is here to stay.

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LEINSTER



CONOR M.P. O'SHEA
(LONDON IRISH)

FULL-BACK. Born 21/10/70 in Limerick. 188cm (6' 2") — 95kgs (15st). 13 caps.
Conor Michael Patrick O'Shea was educated at Terenure College and University College Dublin and is a Student. He made his Irish debut at Under-21 level, when playing against the Netherlands in Leiden on September 21, 1990. In all he won four caps at that level — against England at Moseley the following month, against Wales at Newport in October 1991 and against England at Donnybrook also in October 1991. After playing in the Students World Cup in 1992 he made his Senior debut for Leinster during the 1992/'93 season and quickly became a regular for them. He was then selected as a replacement for the Final Trial and came on to the 'Whites' side after 22 minutes, and 11 minutes later he scored a try. However he sustained a cracked left ankle the following week that ruled him out of consideration for a spot in the international side that played Scotland and out of rugby for a number of weeks. However he returned for the Irish Development squad's summer tour of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa and his performances there and for Leinster saw him win his first Senior international cap against Romania in November '93. He quickly established himself as a regular in the side playing in ten consecutive internationals before losing out to Jim Staples for game against France last March. However he did play for the Combined Provinces against Northern Transvaal that month and also played for Ireland 'A' against Wales 'A' a fortnight later — scoring three penalty goals in the latter game. A member of the World Cup squad he returned to the Irish side following an injury to Staples for the games against Japan, Wales and France.
International Record: 1993 —R. 1994 — F, W, E, S, A(1,2), US. 1995 — E, S. World Cup: J, W, F. 14 points — three penalty goals, one drop goal, one conversion.



VINCENT J.G. CUNNINGHAM
(ST. MARY'S COLLEGE)

CENTRE. Born 14/3/67 in Dublin. 180cm (5' 11") — 88kgs (13st 12lbs). 16 caps.
Vincent John Gerald Cunningham was educated at St. Mary's College, Dublin and is a Bank Official with **Allied Irish**. A schoolboy international at both rugby and cricket, he won his first Leinster cap in 1987 and he made his full international debut in the centre in the Millennium match against England in 1988. That summer he toured France with Ireland — playing in all four games — and won his second cap against Italy in December of that year — scoring a conversion — in addition to an Under-25 cap against the US Eagles. In October 1990 he returned to the Irish international side after an absence of almost two years when he came on as a replacement against Argentina, and won a further Under-25 cap against Spain and a first 'B' cap against Scotland 'B'. During the summer of '91 he toured Namibia and played in both Tests at out-half and scored a try in the second. He reverted back to the centre for the first World Cup game against Zimbabwe, but then lost his place to Brendan Mullin although he did come on for Keith Crossan on the wing against Japan. He was then out of favour until the retirement of Mullin and returned to the Irish squad as a replacement for the Five-Nations international against France in 1992. On the summer tour to New Zealand he played in both tests and scored two tries in the first match. Returned to that country as a replacement for the British Lions during their 1993 tour. Played against Romania and France during the 1993/'94 season but he then suffered a serious knee injury which forced him out of competitive rugby for the best part of 18 months. However he has returned this season and has again become a regular for Leinster.
International Record: 1988 — E(2), It. 1990 — Arg(r). 1991 — Nai(1,2). World Cup: Z, J(r). 1992 — NZ(1,2), A. 1993 — S, F, W, E, R. 1994 — F. 14 points — three tries, one conversion.



NIALL K.P.J. WOODS
(BLACKROCK COLLEGE)

WING. Born 21/6/71 in Dublin. 180cm (5' 11") — 78kgs (12st 4lbs). Four caps.
Niall Kevin Patrick John Woods was educated at Blackrock College and is a Trainee Chartered Accountant with **John Woods, Chartered Accountants**. He was a reserve on the Blackrock side that won the Leinster Schools Cup in 1989 and the following season he won a McCorry Cup medal with the Blackrock club. In 1990/'91 he played four times for Leinster Under-20's and made his Irish Under-21 debut against Wales Under-21's at Newport in October 1991. The following week he played on the Under-21 side that beat England Under-21's at Donnybrook and in those two games he contributed 15 points. In December '92 he made his Irish 'A' debut against Scotland 'A' and after playing for the 'Blues' in the Final Trial he won further caps at 'A' level that season against Wales 'A' and England 'A'. During the summer he toured with the Ireland Development Squad to Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa and in the 1993/'94 season he won three more 'A' caps against Scotland, Wales and England 'A'. Niall was then brought into the Senior squad for the summer tour to Australia and won his first cap when playing in the opening test and retained his place for the second test. Last season injury ruled him out of contention for a place in the international against the United States but fit again he was restored to the squad and was selected to sit on the replacement bench against England last January. However when Jonathan Bell cried off injured he was called in to win his third cap. With Bell returning he sat on the replacement bench against Scotland last February but with Bell again injured he came in to win his fourth cap against France last March. However after that he was again dropped and did not make the World Cup squad during the summer.
International Record: 1994 — A(1,2). 1995 — E, F.



PATRICK J. GAVIN
(OLD BELVEDERE)

WING. Born 14/10/64 in Dublin. 188cm (6' 2") — 85kgs (13st 7lbs).
Patrick Joseph Gavin was educated at St. Michael's College and the Royal College of Surgeons and is a Doctor at **Crumlin Childrens Hospital.** He first represented his province at Under-19 and Under-20 level before playing for Ireland at Under-21 grade. He again represented Leinster at Under-23 grade but had to wait until October 1993 to make his Senior debut. That came when he played against the 'Exiles' at Sunbury and he played his part in a 13-8 victory. His performances for them against the United States and the 'Exiles' added to his play with his club Old Belvedere saw him play for the Combined Provinces side against South Africa at Ravenhill last November. This season he has been a regular on the Leinster side scoring tries in the interprovincial series against the 'Exiles' and Connacht.



ALAN N. McGOWAN
(BLACKROCK COLLEGE)

OUT-HALF. Born 2/1/72 in Dublin. 178cm (5' 10") — 78kgs (12st 3lbs). One cap.
Alan Noel McGowan was educated at Blackrock College and is a Trainee Accountant with **Craig Gardner & Co**. While at Blackrock College he won a Junior Cup medal in 1987 and a Senior Cup medal in 1990. He made his debut for Leinster Schools in 1989/'90, and the following season he won a McCorry Cup medal with Blackrock. A regular on the Leinster Under-20 side in 1991, he played for the Senior side against Australia and Connacht in 1992. He made his Irish Under-21 debut in the 1992/'93 season, and sat on the replacement bench for the first time for the Irish 'A' team against Wales 'A' in March '93 and filled a similar role a fortnight later against England 'A' at Donnybrook. In November '93 he was brought into the Irish Senior squad and sat on the bench for the international against Romania and the following month he won his first 'A' cap against Scotland 'A'. Was on the bench for the duration of the Five-Nations Championship and played three games on the summer tour of Australia. Last season he was again picked as a replacement for the international against the United States but with Eric Elwood forced to withdraw due to injury, Alan was brought in to win his first cap. He scored 13 points — an Irish record for a player on his international debut. He also played for the Combined Provinces against South Africa at Ravenhill in November '94 scoring nine points and scored a total of 16 points in two appearances for Ireland 'A' against England 'A' and Scotland 'A' earlier this year. In addition he also played for the Combined Provinces against Northern Transvaal last March.
International Record: 1994 — US. 13 points — three penalty goals, two conversions.



ALAIN C. ROLLAND
(BLACKROCK COLLEGE)

SCRUM-HALF. Born 22/8/66 in Dublin. 178cm (5' 10") — 74kgs (11st 10lbs). Three caps.
Alain Colm Rolland was educated at Blackrock College and is a Sales Manager with **Irish Mortgage Corporation**. After playing for Leinster at Under-19 and Under-20 grades he made his Leinster Senior debut against Llanelli in 1987. He won his first Ireland 'B' cap against Scotland 'B' at Murrayfield in 1989 and was a replacement for the Ireland Under-25 side against the USA in March 1990. He made the Under-25 side the following season and following his display for them against Spain he won his first full cap against Argentina in October 1990. He subsequently lost his place in the Senior side although he was a bench reserve for the 1991 Five Nations Championship. In January 1992 he won his second 'B' cap in Ireland's 47-15 defeat by England 'B' at Richmond and after a break of over two years he returned to the Irish set-up when he was a reserve for the 'A' side against Wales 'A' at Donnybrook in February '94 before winning his third cap at that level against England 'A'. During the summer he toured Australia with the Senior squad and won his second full cap when coming on as a replacement for the injured Michael Bradley against the United States in November '94 and later that month he played for the Combined Provinces against South Africa. Alain won his third cap when coming on as a replacement against Italy last May.
International Record: 1990 — Arg. 1994 — US(r). 1995 — It(r).



NIALL A. HOGAN
(TERENURE COLLEGE)

SCRUM-HALF. Born 20/4/71 in Dublin. 173cm (5' 8") — 72kgs (11st 7lbs). Five caps.
Niall Andrew Hogan was educated at Terenure College and is a Medical Intern at the **Beaumont Hospital**. After captaining Leinster at Schools, Under-19 and Under-20 levels he made his debut for Ireland Under-21's in their 21-7 defeat by the Netherlands at Leiden in September 1990. The following season — 1991/'92 — he was appointed captain of the side and led them to victory over England Under-21's and defeat by Wales Under-21's. He has also represented Ireland at Schools, Colleges and Students levels and he was a replacement on the Ireland 'A' side that beat Wales 'A' in Newport in March '93. He was selected to fill a similar role against England 'A' a fortnight later but due to his unavailability he was replaced by Andy Matchett. In the 1993/'94 season he was a regular on the Leinster Senior side and helped them gain a share of the Smithwicks Interprovincial Championship and he won his first 'A' cap when captaining the side against Scotland 'A' in December '93. and a second cap followed at that level when again captaining the side against Wales 'A' in Donnybrook in February '94. During the summer he was flown out as a replacement during the tour of Australia and he played in Ireland's 20-18 victory over NSW County. Last season he was selected as a replacement for the international against England but with Michael Bradley having to withdraw he was brought in to win his first cap. He lost out to Bradley for the following games against Scotland and France but won back his place for the international against Wales last March. Due to his final medical exams he was not available for selection for the pre-World Cup game against Italy but was available to take his place in the World Cup squad. Bradley was again selected for the game against the All-Blacks but Niall won back his place for the remainder of the tournament and played against Japan — scoring his first international try — Wales and France.
International Record: 1995 — E, W. World Cup: J, W, F. Five points — one try.



HENRY D. HURLEY
(OLD WESLEY)

PROP. Born 28/12/65 in Doncaster. 178cm (5' 10") — 112kgs (17st 8lbs). One cap.
Henry Denis Hurley was educated at C.B.S. Arklow and the Regional College Carlow and is a Production Manager with **Alcopo Foil**. A latecomer to rugby, Henry joined Old Wesley shortly before leaving College and had a rapid rise through the ranks during the 1992/'93 season. He made his Leinster debut in September '92 in their 10-8 defeat by Northern Division and the following month he played for his province against the touring Australians at Lansdowne Road. During the summer of 1993 he was selected in the Development Squad for the tour to Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa and the following season he won his first 'A' cap when playing in the 24-9 defeat by Scotland 'A' at Ayr in December '93. Last season he was a replacement on the Combined Provinces side that played South Africa in Ravenhill but he did make the 'A' side for any of their matches. In addition he was not selected for the World Cup squad but when John Fitzgerald had to withdraw injured just prior to departure, he was brought in. Last November Henry finally won his first cap when coming on as a replacement against Fiji.
International Record: 1995 — Fj.



SHANE J. BYRNE
(BLACKROCK COLLEGE)

HOOKER. Born 18/7/71 in Dublin. 178cm (5' 10") — 96kgs (15st 2lbs).
Shane James Byrne was educated at Blackrock College and Dundalk RTC and is a Student. While at School he won Junior and Senior Cup medals and played for the Leinster Schools against Yorkshire in '89/'90. The following season he made his debut for the Leinster Under-20 side against Randwick and played in the Interprovincial series. A member of the Irish Students squad for the Students World Cup in 1992 he played for the Irish Under-21 side during the 1992/'93 season. In 1994 he was called up to the Irish Senior squad for the first time and toured Australia. In all he played two matches — against Australian Capital Territory and an Australian XV selection and last season he played for the Irish Development XV against the United States in Galway and was a replacement for the Combined Provinces against Northern Transvaal. This season he has been a regular on the Leinster Senior side.



PAUL S. WALLACE
(BLACKROCK COLLEGE)

PROP. Born 30/12/71 in Cork. 185cm (6' 1") — 102kgs (16st). Two caps.
Paul Stephen Wallace was educated at Crescent College, Limerick and University College Cork and is an employee with **First National Building Society**. He played for Ireland Schools for two seasons, before making his debut for Ireland Under-21's against Wales Under-21's in Newport in 1991. Another cap followed a week later against England Under-21's and during the 1992/'93 season he captained the side throughout their campaign and played for the Ireland Students in the Students World Cup. At the end of that season he toured with the Irish Development squad to Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa and on leaving college he joined the Blackrock club in Dublin. His performances with them last season in the Insurance Corporation All-Ireland League saw him win his first Ireland 'A' cap against England 'A' last January and a further caps followed against Scotland 'A' and Wales 'A' in addition to playing for the Combined Provinces against Northern Transvaal last March. Despite being uncapped at senior level he was selected in the squad for the World Cup and he won his first full cap when playing against Japan at Bloemfontein last May. Last November he won his second cap when playing against Fiji and on that occasion he scored his first international try.
International Record: 1995 — World Cup: J, Fj. Five points — one try.



ANGUS J.W. McKEEN
(LANSDOWNE)

PROP. Born 13/2/69 in Drogheda. 180cm (5' 11") — 104kgs (16st 5lbs).
Angus John William McKeen was educated at Kings Hospital and Greenmount College and is a Farmer. He first represented Ireland at Schools level with whom he toured Australia with in 1987. Angus also represented Ireland at Colleges and Under-21 level and toured Italy in 1989 with the latter. He made his Leinster Senior debut in 1992/'93 in their 21-3 victory over Glasgow and District at Hughendon, Glasgow. Although he failed to keep his place for the match against Australia and for the opening two matches of the Interprovincial Championship, he replaced the injured Derek Dowling during the 21-20 victory over Munster and retained his place a week later in their 12-8 defeat by Ulster. He sat on the bench for the first time for Ireland "A" against Wales "A" in March '93 and filled a similar role a fortnight later against England "A". That summer he toured with the Irish Development Squad to Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa and last season he played for Ireland Development XV against the USA. A member of the Lansdowne Club he played one season — 88/'89 season with Ballymena.



NEIL P.J. FRANCIS
(OLD BELVEDERE)

LOCK. Born 17/3/64 in Dublin. 198cm (6' 6") — 115kgs (18st 2lbs). 34 caps.
Neil Patrick John Francis was educated at Blackrock College, Dublin and is a Business Consultant to **Equity Bank Ltd**. Neil first played for Ireland at Schools level, but a back injury kept him out of representative rugby for four years. In 1986 he played for the Irish Under-25 side against Canada — scoring a try — and the following year he made his Irish Senior debut against Tonga in the World Cup and held his place for the quarter-final against Australia. He did not make the side for the 1988 Championship but returned later that year to play against Western Samoa — scoring his first international try — and Italy. After injury kept him out of the 1989 matches against France, Wales and England he finally made his Five-Nations debut against Scotland. The following season he played against England when Donal Lenihan was injured and although not selected against Scotland he played against both France and Wales. In 1991 he missed both the opening internationals against France and Wales but returned against England and including that game he played in 11 consecutive internationals until missing the game against France in March 1992. He did not tour New Zealand that summer and injury ruined his 1992/'93 season when he won just one cap against France in February '93. During the 1993/'94 season he played in all of Ireland's internationals — scoring his second international try in the second summer test against Australia — and joined Old Belvedere from Blackrock College. Last season he played for Ireland against the United States and England, but he was injured in the latter game and missed the remainder of the championship although he did play for Ireland 'A' against Wales 'A' last March. He returned to the Irish side for the World Cup playing in all four matches and scoring his third international try against Japan before adding a fourth against Fiji last month.
International Record: 1987 — World Cup: T, A. 1988 — WS, It. 1989 — S. 1990 — E, F, W. 1991 — E, S, Nai(1,2). World Cup: Z, J, S, A. 1992 — W, E, S. 1993 — F, R. 1994 — F, W, E, S, A(1,2), US. 1995 — E. World Cup: (NZ, J, W, F). Fj. 19 points — four tries.



BRIAN J. RIGNEY
(SHANNON)

LOCK. Born 22/9/63 in Portlaoise. 194cm (6' 4") — 112kgs (17st 8lbs). Eight caps.
Brian Joseph Rigney was educated at St. Mary's Christian Brothers College, Portlaoise and is a Representative for **Murphys Brewery**. He did not start playing rugby until he was 19 when he joined his local junior side Portlaoise and after spells with senior clubs Highfield and Bective Rangers he joined his present club Greystones in 1989. The previous year saw him make his Leinster debut in addition to playing for the Combined Provinces against Italy. In the 1989/'90 season he made his Ireland 'B' debut in the 22-22 draw with Scotland and won a second cap against the same opposition a year later when he was sent off after only 14 minutes. In December 1990 he went to the Algarve with the Irish Senior Squad and made his full international debut against France in February 1991. He held his place for the remainder of the championship but he suffered a serious knee injury, during the first test against Namibia that summer. This kept him out of the World Cup Squad but he returned to the Irish 'B' side against England 'B' in January 1992 and was recalled to the full international side against France in March of that year. That summer he toured New Zealand with the Irish side during which he won his seventh and eighth caps. He did not win any international honours during the 1992/'93 season but in the 1993/'94 season he returned to the Ireland 'A' side to win his fourth cap at that level against Scotland 'A'.
International Record: 1991 — F, W, E, S, Nai(1). 1992 — F, NZ(1-r, 2).



CHRISTOPHER PIM
(OLD WESLEY)

FLANKER. Born 24/3/65 in Mountmellick. 190cm (6' 3") — 102kgs (16st).
Christopher Pim was educated at Newtown School, Waterford and Edinburgh University and is a Sales Representative with **Beamish & Crawford.** After representing Leinster at Under-19 level and Edinburgh Universities at Under-21 grade he made his Irish Under-25 debut against Italy in 1988 the same year as he made his Leinster Senior debut. During the 1993/'94 season his form in Division One of the Insurance Corporation All-Ireland League with Old Wesley and a storming performance for Leinster against Ulster in the Smithwicks Interprovincial Championship saw him selected on the 'Blues' side for the Final Trials. However with the withdrawal of Pat O'Hara, he was promoted to the 'Whites' side. This season he is captain of Leinster and has played in all three Interprovincial games and both Heineken Cup games.



VICTOR C.P. COSTELLO
(ST. MARY'S COLLEGE)

No.8. Born 23/10/70 in Dublin. 198cm (6' 6") — 116kgs (18st 3lbs).
Victor Carton Patrick Costello was educated at Blackrock College and University College Dublin and is a Company Director. An Irish Shotput Champion, he played for Leinster at Schools level before making his Irish Schools debut in 1987. He remained on the side until 1989 and also played for Leinster at Under-20 level. Twice played for the Ireland Under-21 side against Italy and although a shoulder injury ruled him out of the 1990/'91 season he was to have fond memories of the following season. Played against England Under-21's on his 21st birthday and got the ideal present when scoring the try that led to Ireland's victory by 19 points to 10. During the 1993/'94 season he made his Ireland 'A' debut when coming on as a replacement for David Tweed in Ireland's 29-14 defeat. During the '94 summer he was called up to the Senior squad and was brought on the tour to Australia where he played in four of the eight games, scoring a try against Western Australia. He did not win any Ireland honours last season but he did play for the Combined Provinces against Northern Transvaal last March.



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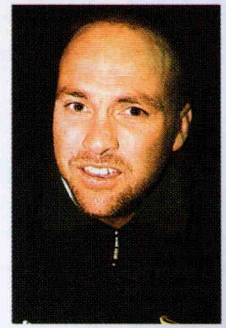
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KURT McQUILKIN
(BECTIVE RANGERS)

CENTRE. Born New Zealand.
178cm (5' 10") — 89kgs (14st).
Leinster Caps: 7



FERGAL CAMPION
(ST. MARY'S COLLEGE)

OUT-HALF. Born in Dublin.
183cm (6') — 80kgs (12st 8lbs).
Leinster Caps: 1



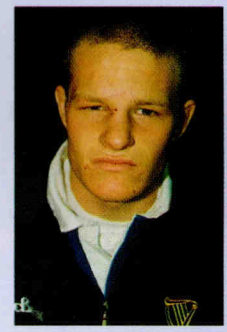
PAUL FLAVIN
(BLACKROCK COLLEGE)

PROP. Born in Dublin.
183cm (6') — 102kgs (16st).
Leinster Caps: 3



STEPHEN JAMESON
(ST. MARY'S COLLEGE)

LOCK. Born in Ballyjamesduff, Cavan.
196cm (6' 5") — 112kgs (17st 8lbs).
Leinster Caps: 4



MALCOLM O'KELLY
(ST. MARY'S COLLEGE)

LOCK. Born in England.
201cm (6' 7") — 103kgs (16st 2lbs).
Leinster Caps: 4



STEPHEN ROONEY
(LANSDOWNE)

FLANKER. Born in Dublin.
188cm (6' 2") — 104kgs (16st 5lbs).
Leinster Caps: 9



ERIC MILLER
(LEICESTER)

No.8. Born in Dublin.
190cm (6' 3") — 97kgs (15st 4lbs).
Leinster Caps: 4

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• Biographies do not include last week's Leinster v Ulster match.

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LEINSTER

BLUE JERSEYS, BLUE SHORTS

15	FULL BACK	CIARAN CLARKE	*Terenure College*
14	RIGHT WING	PADDY GAVIN	*Old Belvedere*
13	CENTRE	VINCENT CUNNINGHAM	*St. Mary's College*
12	CENTRE	KURT McQUILKIN	*Bective Rangers*
11	LEFT WING	NIALL WOODS	*Blackrock College*
10	OUT HALF	ALAN McGOWAN	*Blackrock College*
9	SCRUM HALF	ALAIN ROLLAND	*Blackrock College*
1	PROP	HENRY HURLEY	*Old Wesley*
2	HOOKER	SHANE BYRNE	*Blackrock College*
3	PROP	PAUL WALLACE	*Blackrock College*
4	LOCK	STEVE JAMESON	*St. Mary's College*
5	LOCK	NEIL FRANCIS	*Old Belvedere*
6	FLANKER	CHRIS PIM (c)	*Old Wesley*
7	FLANKER	STEVE ROONEY	*Lansdowne*
8	NO. 8	VICTOR COSTELLO	*St. Mary's College*

REPLACEMENTS: 16. **RAY HENNESSY** (Lansdowne); 17. **FERGAL CAMPION** (St. Mary's College); 18. **NIALL HOGAN** (Terenure College); 19. **PAUL FLAVIN** (Blackrock College); 20. **MARK McDERMOTT** (Lansdowne); 21. **ERIC MILLER** (Leicester).

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THE HEINEKEN CUP

SEMI-FINAL

DATE

December 30th, 1995

VENUE

LANSDOWNE ROAD, DUBLIN

KICK-OFF

1.30 p.m.

REFEREE

Mr. Brian Campfall
(R.F.U.)

CARDIFF

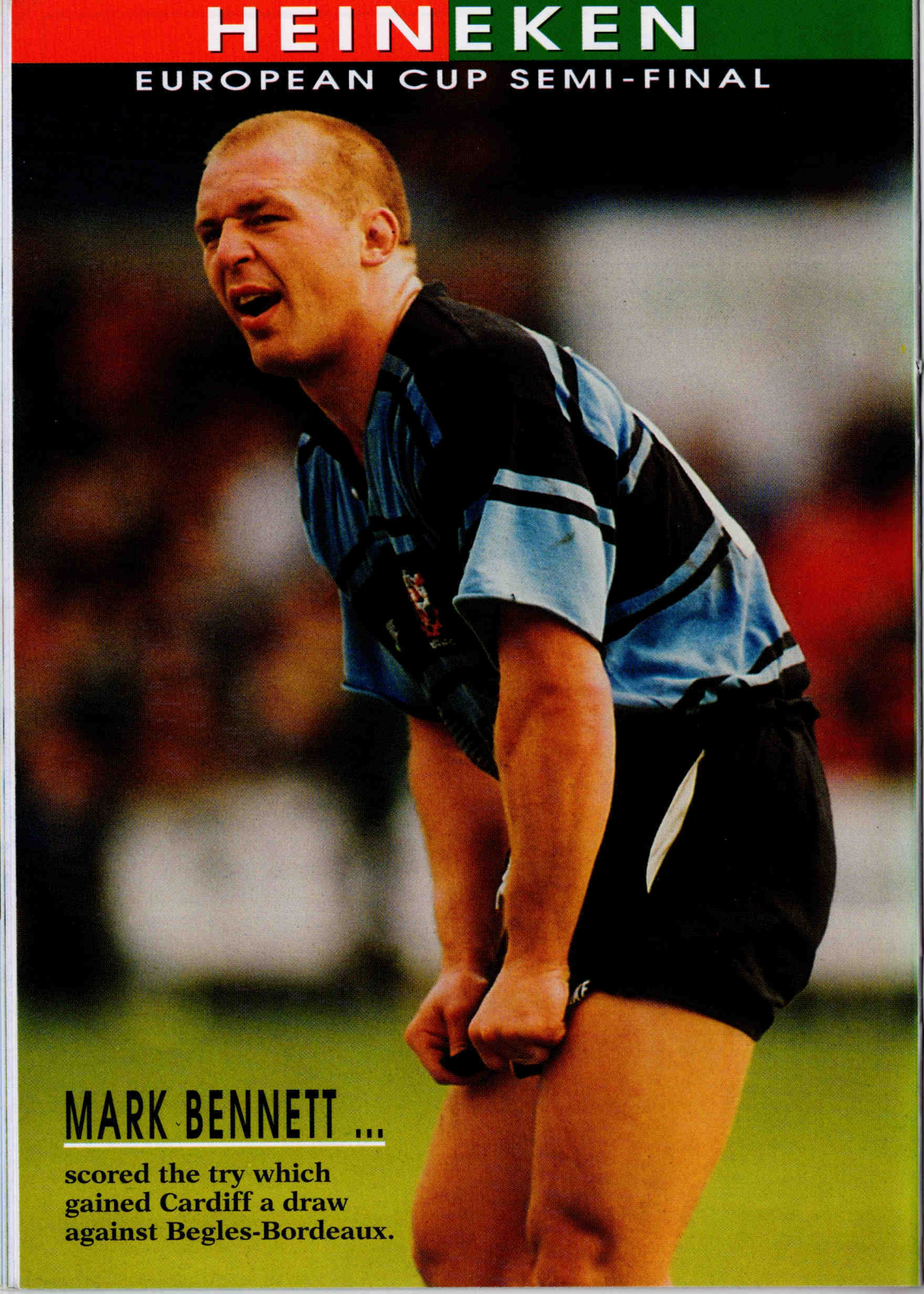
BLUE & BLACK JERSEYS, BLACK SHORTS

15	FULL BACK	MIKE RAYER
14	RIGHT WING	STEVE FORD
13	CENTRE	MIKE HALL
12	CENTRE	MARK RING
11	LEFT WING	SIMON HILL
10	OUT HALF	ADRIAN DAVIES
9	SCRUM HALF	ANDREW MOORE
1	PROP	ANDREW LEWIS
2	HOOKER	JONATHAN HUMPHREYS
3	PROP	LYNDON MUSTOE
4	LOCK	JOHN WAKEFORD
5	LOCK	DERWYN JONES
6	FLANKER	EMYR LEWIS
7	FLANKER	OWAIN WILLIAMS
8	NO. 8	HEMI TAYLOR (c)

REPLACEMENTS: 16. Chris John; 17. Nigel Walker; 18. Andrew Booth; 19. Mark Bennett; 20. Keith Stewart; 21. Paul Young; 22. Mike Griffiths.

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EUROPEAN CUP SEMI-FINAL



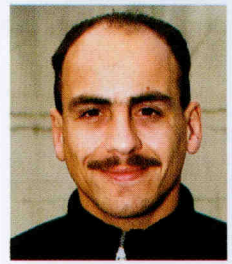
MARK BENNETT ...

scored the try which gained Cardiff a draw against Begles-Bordeaux.

CARDIFF



FULL-BACK. Born 21/7/65. 178cm (5' 10") — 84kgs (13st 3lbs).
Michael Anthony Rayer was recognised as one of the world's leading full-backs before breaking his leg badly against Treorchy last year. He has made a miraculous recovery, as shown by his play at Begles in this competition. He gained his first test cap in the 1991 World Cup as a replacement after previously captaining Wales Youth at rugby and Wales 'A' at baseball. A superb defender but showed his attacking abilities by scoring two tries at Cardiff as a replacement wing against Scotland.
International Record: 1991-1994 — 21 caps.



WING. Born 15/8/65. 183cm (6') — 80kgs (12st 7lbs).
Stephen Paul Ford is from the Rumney (Cardiff) family of rugby players that include older brother Phil, who won caps for Great Britain and Wales at Rugby League. He won the first of his eight caps against Ireland at Dublin in 1990 and marked the occasion with a try and added another against Scotland in 1991 at Murrayfield. Last season he just missed beating the Heineken League record of tries in a season and also came close to breaking the Cardiff club record of 41 tries in a season set by Bleddyn Williams in 1947-48 when he recorded a total of 39. He now has 159 in his Cardiff career. He is a self-employed carpet fitter.
International Record: 1990-1995 — Eight caps.



WING. Born 27/5/68. 180cm (5' 11") — 84kgs (13st 2lbs).
Simon David Hill was a late call-up to the Welsh tour to Zimbabwe and Namibia in 1993 and won his first cap at Bulawayo where he scored a debut try and followed with another at Windhoek against Namibia. After winning Schools caps, he played for Llantwit Major, Headingley and Leeds University, whilst reading Microbiology and gaining a BSc (Hons). He made his Wales 'A' debut against Japan in 1993 and his last appearance was against Ireland 'A' at Pontypridd last season. A versatile threequarter, he is a dental student at Cardiff Medical College.
International Record: 1993-1995 — Eight caps.



WING. Born 15/6/63. 180cm (5' 11") — 80kgs (12st 9lbs).
Nigel Walker won his first cap against Ireland at Cardiff in his first season of first-class rugby after being better known as an international athlete, who had reached the Olympic Games 110 metres hurdles semi-finals in 1984 at Los Angeles. He notched a try hat-trick in the Wales 'A' win over the Netherlands and his eight test tries include the match-clincher over France at Cardiff last year. In the World Cup preliminary match with Portugal at Lisbon he equalled the Welsh record of four tries in a match. He is a Sports Council Development Officer.
International Record: 1993-1995 — Ten caps.



CENTRE. Born 13/10/65. 185cm (6' 1") — 95kgs (15st).
Michael Robert Hall captained the Wales World Cup squad in South Africa and has now won 31 caps at centre with ten on the wing and his debut being made as a replacement in the first New Zealand test of the 1988 tour. His best form coincided with his first season as Cardiff skipper and the introduction of Australian Alex Evans as club coach. He continued to lead Cardiff in the next two seasons — first to the Welsh Cup in 1994 and then to the league title in 1995. Started his senior career with Maesteg and Bridgend, later winning Blues in 1987 and 1988 with Cambridge University. He also appeared for the Barbarians against South Africa in a glorious victory at Dublin and has scored seven international tries. He is a Director of Steep Holm Property Advisors Ltd.
International Record: 1988-1995 — 42 caps.



CENTRE. Born 11/10/73. 180cm (5' 11") — 79kgs (12st 6lbs).
Stephen H. John represented South Glamorgan and Cardiff Schools at all age levels, and then took an economics course at Loughborough University. He was capped by Wales Under-18's in 1992 against England, Scotland, Ireland and France and in April 1993 he scored a try in the Welsh Under-19's victory over Scotland at Cardiff before making his league debut against Bridgend on October 4.



CENTRE. Born 31/5/75. 183cm (6') — 90kgs (14st 2lbs).
Gareth Jones is an exciting young threequarter who made his Division One league debut for Bridgend at Llanelli in December 1993 and his international debut against South Africa at Johannesburg in September this year. He is the son of the popular former Cardiff wing 'PL' Jones, and he played for Pencoed Youth and Neath Tertiary College before winning Senior School caps and four caps for Wales Youth. Gained Wales Under-21 honours last season against Romania at Bridgend. He transferred from Bridgend to join the Cardiff club in October.
International Record: 1995 — One cap.



UTILITY BACK. Born 10/2/73. 188cm (6' 2") — 76kgs (12st).
Christopher Neil John is a versatile player who has appeared in several back positions for Cardiff. He won caps for Welsh Schools Under-18's, Wales Youth and Wales Under-19's as an out-half and was in the Cardiff Youth team that won the Welsh Youth Cup in 1992 before scoring 20 of the 25 points for Wales Under-21's when they beat France. He played for Bridgend schools from Under-11 to Under-16. Moved to Bristol University to collect a BSc degree in engineering and maths and then went to Cardiff University, seeking a MSc. He appeared against South Africa last year for Cardiff and is the son of Cardiff RFC chairman and former club skipper, Mervyn John.



UTILITY BACK. Born 15/10/62. 183cm (6') — 92kgs (14st 6lbs).
Mark Gerard Ring has played his rugby for Cardiff — apart from two spells with Pontypool — since beginning with the Youth team. He made his international debut against England when only 21-years-old and would have won more caps if not for two bad knee operations. He has recently turned down an offer to join Courage League side West Hartlepool and has announced his intention to complete his career at Cardiff. His Welsh caps include those at out-half in the 1991 World Cup having appeared in the same competition as a centre in 1987. He is a roofing contractor by trade.
International Record: 1983-1995 — 34 caps.



OUT-HALF. Born 9/2/69. 175cm (5' 9") — 81kgs (12st 10lbs).
Adrian Davies has never a regular at outside half for Wales, but his club form has been outstanding and his versatility is such that he has represented Cambridge University at rugby and soccer with brothers Lloyd and Graham also winning Blues at rugby. He captained Wales Under-19's to New Zealand and won an Under-15 soccer cap. Formerly with Neath, he notched a league record of 264 points in 1992-'93 and has won many vital matches. He is a surveyor with Chestertons.
International Record: 1991-1995 — Nine caps.



SCRUM-HALF. Born 8/12/67. 178cm (5' 10") — 83kgs (13st).
Andrew Howell Booth is, like the other Cardiff scrum-half, Andy Moore, a University Blue, but in this case it was for Cambridge in 1989 and 1990, opposing Moore in the latter match. Born in Swansea, he has had spells with both that club and Neath before returning to Cardiff. Captained Wales at Under-15 and Under-18 and also played for Wales at Students, Universities and 'B' levels. The nearest he came to a full cap was when he sat on the replacements bench against New Zealand in 1989.



SCRUM-HALF. Born 6/9/68. 178cm (5' 10") — 81kgs (12st 10lbs).
Andrew Philip Moore has established himself as Wales' number one scrum half. He played for the Welsh Schools at Under-15 level, touring with the Under-19's to New Zealand in 1987 before going on to play for the Welsh Students and captaining Wales' Under-20 side. He scored the winning try for Oxford University in the 1990 Varsity Match during a one-year stay reading social studies. He had one season with Bridgend before returning to Cardiff, with whom he had made his youth debut in 1986 and in 1994 he gained the player of the match award in Cardiff's cup final win over Llanelli. He marked his international debut with a World Cup try against Japan and this season scored a try against Fiji. He is a surveyor working in the family building firm in Caerphilly.
International Record: 1995 — Three caps.



PROP. Born 18/3/62. 180cm (5' 11") — 105kgs (16st 8lbs).
Michael Griffiths last season gave solid performances against the South Africans for both Cardiff and Wales 'A' and thus won back a squad place to appear in his second World Cup. Born in Tonypandy, he began with Ystrad Rhondda Youth before joining Bridgend, where he gained seven Welsh caps and also appeared for Wales 'B'. He switched to Cardiff in 1989 and toured Australia with the Lions the same year but missed the whole of the 1993 Five Nations campaign after breaking his shoulder in a bicycle accident in Lanzarote. Formerly a builder, he is an Employee of Whitbread Brewers Ltd.
International Record: 1988-1995 — 34 caps.



PROP. Born 13/6/73. 178cm (5' 10") — 95kgs (15st).
Andrew Leighton Paul Lewis progressed from Cardiff Youth's into the first team last season, having been capped for Welsh Schools Under-18's, and he was a member of the side that beat New Zealand Schools in Christchurch. He also won honours for Wales Youth, Under-19's and Under-21's and when Ricky Evans withdrew at the last moment for the short tour to South Africa he was delighted to jump in. He spent much of his early life in Togo where his father was working. A student at Swansea University he has also played for the Welsh Students.



PROP. Born 30/1/69. 185cm (6' 1") — 108kgs (17st).
Lyndon Mustoe began his rugby at Chepstow in the Monmouthshire Championship before joining Pontypool in 1990. He won honours for Wales at Youth, Under-19, Under-20 and Under-21 levels. In the 1992-'93 season he was capped by Wales 'A' against Holland and Ireland 'A' and played again for the 'A' team in four of their five victories in 1993-'94. He played against South Africa, France 'A' and Ireland 'A' last season and for Cardiff against South Africa. He appeared this season for Wales 'A', Cardiff, and finally Wales against the Fijian tourists. He is a bricklayer.
International Record: 1995 — One cap.



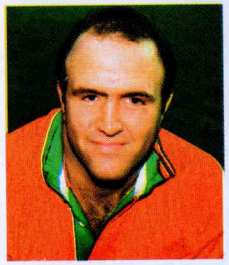
HOOKER. Born 20/10/64. 180cm (5' 11") — 92kgs (14st 6lbs).
Huw Rowland Bevan was prop for the Grand Slam Welsh Schools Under-18 team in 1983 and had previously won caps at Under-15 and Under-16 levels before going on to play for the Welsh Students while at South Glamorgan Institute. Captained the Institute and played against Cardiff in the cup in 1986. Joined Bridgend on leaving the Institute before moving on to the Arms Park. He is a schoolteacher.



HOOKER. Born 27/2/69. 183cm (6') — 104kgs (16st 4lbs).
Jonathan Matthews Humphreys is the current Wales captain and he was educated at Cynffig Comprehensive School in Kenfig Hill before studying at Cardiff Institute and the Polytechnic of Wales. Won Wales Student caps and also played in the Students World Cup in Italy in 1992. He captained the Wales Development squad in France in 1993 and made his Wales 'A' debut against France at Paris in January 1995. He hooked for Cardiff against the touring South African side in October 1994 before making his full international debut in the World Cup against New Zealand and scored a try against Ireland. He was picked as captain for Wales against South Africa in September. Jonathan is employed as a rugby development officer by Cardiff RFC.
International Record: 1995 — Four caps.



HOOKER. Born 8/1/73. 180cm (5' 10") — 90kgs (14st 3lbs).
Paul John Young scored a crucial try in Llanelli's league win at Cardiff last season before breaking a leg at Boroughmuir. On returning to the sport he joined Newport but has since switched to Cardiff. Won Wales Under-19 honours but was only on the replacements bench for Wales Youth before making his debut for the Under-21 side in the away victory over France in 1993. He started with Llandybie, though born at Ammanford.



LOCK. Born 14/11/70. 210cm (6' 10") — 118kgs (18st 7lbs).
Derwyn Jones was born in Pontarddulais and educated at Ystalyfera, and he began his first-class career with Neath and after having joined Llanelli, his studies took him to Loughborough University and Northampton. His career really took off after moving to Cardiff, though he had won Under-21 caps in 1991 and 1992. His debut for Wales 'A' followed in October 1993 and in 1994 he also played against Ireland 'A' at Donnybrook and France 'A' at Cardiff. Made his test debut against the touring South Africans in November 1994 and appeared in the next three internationals and though dropped against Ireland, he played in all three World Cup matches.
International Record: 1994-1995 — Nine caps.



LOCK. Born 23/1/72.
Keith Richard Stewart was born in Arbroath, and was called into the Welsh squad prior to the recent international against Fiji and has since played for the Scottish Exiles in the SRU District Championship. His family moved to Ypres in Belgium when he was just a year old and did not come to Wales until 11 years later. Keith did not take up rugby until the age of 19 and later joined Pontypool before switching to Cardiff at the end of last season when he made his debut against the Barbarians. He has also played for Wests in Brisbane.



LOCK. Born 1/8/61. 190cm (6' 3") — 100kgs (15st 10lbs).
Howard Stone packed down alongside current Wales team manager Rob Norster in the second row in the Cardiff side that won the cup in 1987. A versatile and loyal player, he played for Wales 'A' against Holland in 1993 and for East Wales against Japan and was a try scorer for East Wales against West Wales three years ago. He is an electrician.



LOCK. Born 29/9/66. 201cm (6' 7") — 108kgs (17st).
John Donald Marshall Wakeford has returned to the top flight after overcoming a bad knee injury that threatened his career. Moved to Cardiff from South Wales Police after winning his Welsh Senior caps with the latter club against Western Samoa and Romania. He was previously capped at Under-20, Under-21 and 'B' levels and toured Canada in 1989 with Wales 'B'. He has been a Police Officer since joining as a cadet at the age of 16.
International Record: 1988 — Two caps.



FLANKER. Born 26/1/69. 185cm (6' 1") — 92kgs (14st 7lbs).
Anthony Mark Bennett rejoined Cardiff from Ystradgynlais in 1993, having been capped by the Wales Schools Under-18's in 1986, before studying at Swansea University and playing for Wales Students. He gained a degree in Marine Biology and after appearing in the 1988 Students World Cup, he was on the replacements bench against South Africa for Cardiff before making his Wales 'A' debut against Ireland at Pontypridd last season. In the World Cup he made a good debut against New Zealand and scored his side' try when Wales returned to meet South Africa. He is an Industrial Chemist, who is now a Technical Representative for Chemviron Speciality Chemicals Ltd.
International Record: 1995 — Three caps.



FLANKER. Born 29/8/68. 193cm (6' 4") — 105kgs (16st 8lbs).
Emyr Wyn Lewis has won 21 caps at flanker for Wales and has also won 15 caps in the No.8 position. His two-try performance at Windhoek in the final test against Zimbabwe in 1993 was perhaps his best test display and he followed with an outstanding match against the South African Barbarians. He was the player of the year in Wales in 1992 and was in the Llanelli side that defeated Australia that year. Made his Scarlets debut against Newport in 1987 but last season switched from Llanelli to join Cardiff. He is a Police Officer with the Dyfed-Powys Police Authority.
International Record: 1991-1995 — 36 caps.

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FLANKER Born 10/10/65. 196cm (6' 5") — 99kgs (15st 7lbs).
Owain Williams is the younger brother of the former Wales and British Lions forward Gareth Williams and toured with the full Wales squad to Namibia in 1990 and gained a cap as a replacement in the second test where he scored a debut try. He began with Cardiff Institute and Glamorgan Wanderers before joining Bridgend and then Cardiff. He won a Wales Schools cap at Under-18 against Canada in 1983 and made a superb debut into the Wales 'A' team against Ireland 'A' at Pontypridd in March when he scored two tries. He is a TV Technician.
International Record: 1990 — One cap.



NO. 8. Born 17/12/64. 188cm (6' 2") — 92kgs (14st 7lbs).
Hemi Takatou Taylor is Cardiff captain and he was born in Morrinsville, New Zealand where he had a trial for the NZ Colts before appearing in provincial rugby for Waikato and Wairarapa-Bush. He moved to Wales in 1986, joining Newbridge and he made his debut against Neath before playing over 100 matches for the Gwent club. He transferred to Cardiff for the 1992-'93 season after having also played for the Barbarians. In 1993 he played for Wales 'A' against Japan before his winning his first international cap against Portugal at Lisbon in the World Cup qualifier in May 1994, soon after recovering from an appendicitis operation. He played in all three World Cup matches in South Africa. Eleven of his caps have come on the flank with another as a replacement. He is a Rugby Development Officer for Cardiff RFC.
International Record: 1994-1995 — 15 caps.

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The challenge of Europe

By Edmund Van Esbeck
Rugby Correspondent, Irish Times

It is perhaps indicative of the rapidly changing scene in rugby football that we are assembled here at Lansdowne Road this afternoon to witness the semi-final of the European Cup.

Who 12 months ago would have forecast that a European competition would have been on the calendar this season. But who equally would have stated with assurance and conviction that rugby would take some of the twists and turns we have seen in recent months.

I cannot say that I view many of the changes with much enthusiasm, but that may bring a charge of being a captive to tradition. That I am not, but I do have profound respect for some of the traditions on which the game has evolved and prospered. Equally I have a fear that some of the roads the game is going down will not lead to a better tomorrow.

One of the brighter elements of recent happenings has undoubtedly been the inauguration of the European Cup. Yes, it does put extra demands on players, but it also offers them added rewards and incentives at the tier below international rugby.

It has, of course an international dimension which is the premise on which it was based and it gives players invaluable experience at a high standard in a competitive situation.

I think that those who have worked so hard to put this inaugural competition in place in so short a time do deserve immense credit. May I be parochial and mention Ireland's Tom Kiernan in particular and I would bracket with his name that of Vernon Pugh. There was much to do in a very short space of time and it was done despite difficulties and the opposition of some who had their vested interests and put them first.



● *Victor Costello charges at the Pontypridd defence in their meeting at Lansdowne Road.*

I have had the pleasure of travelling to several of the matches in the European Cup this season and my travels brought me to Milan, Castres, Cardiff and to locations on the home front. Everywhere I went I found unbounded enthusiasm for the competition, firm belief in its future and the desire of those who competed this season to be back again.

One of the values, and it is considerable, is that bearing in mind the interprovincial series now in place in the Southern hemisphere, confined as it is to entries from only the three big powers, New Zealand, South Africa and Australia, it was essential that Europe had a competition in place that would give players similar experience. I am quite certain, too, that this was a primary factor in motivating the organisers to keep Europe in step.

On the financial front, and finance is now a major consideration, I see this tournament as being of immense importance. It will obviously be of considerable benefit to the participants and it may even induce players who might be considering seeking other pastures, to stay put and seek European glory with their provinces.

Of course there is probably a downside, too, in that an anxiety to get into the competition will lead to inducements to players to leave their present clubs and move to others. Perhaps the organisers could turn their attention to putting laws in place that can make it more difficult and less rewarding for those who embark on that course.

Very few things are perfect at the outset and these are very early days in the context of this worthy competition. Honesty of purpose is not always easily attained, a regulatory process is therefore necessary.

But I am quite sure that the overall benefits that will accrue from the tournament will be immense. It is a new competition that has given the game at club and provincial levels in Ireland's case a new and exciting dimension. The four competitors who have reached the semi-finals deserve congratulations and are of course history makers. Let us hope the European Cup will attain the objectives envisaged by those who have worked so hard to put it in place.



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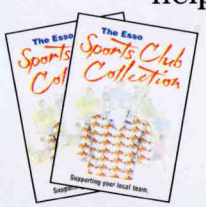
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CARDIFF
AMONG THE LEGENDS

FRANCIS ESCOTT HANDCOCK:

Francis Escott Handcock, who captained Cardiff in 1885 and who was to win four international caps for Wales, was one of the great pioneers of modern rugby.

After he had taken over the captaincy of Cardiff he advocated the use of four men in the threequarter line, where previously there had been only three. After this had been established at Cardiff, his concept spread through the other major Welsh clubs, then to the Welsh national side and it was not until Wales had won the Triple Crown in 1892/'93 that the other countries adopted the new system.

Having played against Ireland in 1884 and against England and Scotland in 1885, he was not selected for the game against England at Blackheath on January 22nd, 1886 and this particular game would have given the Handcock family a rare distinction.

His brother Philip Handcock, who played his club rugby with Blackheath in London, was selected for England in that game.

As it happened, of course, they were the first brothers to play for different countries in international rugby.

GWYN NICHOLLS:

A captain of Cardiff at the beginning of the century, he won 24 caps for Wales between 1896/1906 and captained Wales on 10 occasions and, unquestionably, his greatest moment was when led Wales to the famous victory over the All-Blacks at Arms Park in 1905.

He was the only Welsh player on the British and Irish tour of Australia in 1899 and also the first Welshman to play for the British and Irish XV.

In the four tests against Australia he scored two tries and was also the leading points scorer on the tour with 12 tries.

The Gwyn Nicholls Memorial Gates at the Arms Park were erected as a tribute to his legendary status in Welsh rugby.

CLIFF JONES:

A brilliant out-half, he was one of the great personalities of Welsh rugby in the 1930s during which he was capped on 13 occasions between 1934/'38.

One of his most memorable games was Wales's victory over the All-Blacks at Cardiff Arms Park in 1935.

Subsequently his playing career was ended by injury but he maintained his association with Welsh rugby and became President of the Welsh Rugby Union during the Centenary Year of 1981.

WILF WOOLER:

One of Wales's most talented all-rounders in



sport, Wilf Wooler, apart from playing with Cardiff and Wales, also played cricket and rugby for Cambridge University, squash for Wales and also turned out at centre-forward with Cardiff City in 1939.

He made his international debut for Wales against England in 1933 with the Welsh side that brought up its first victory at Twickenham.

In 1935 he took part in another major victory when Wales beat Jack Manchester's All-Blacks at the Arms Park.

When World War II brought an end to his international rugby career he had won 18 caps, three of them as captain.

Imprisoned in a Japanese camp during the war, he was unable to resume his rugby career but he returned to cricket and was captain of Glamorgan from 1947 to 1960.



HAYDN TANNER:

Haydn Tanner was just 18 when he played scrum-half for the Swansea club which beat the 1935 All-Blacks and following on that highly impressive performance in that game he was immediately drafted into the Welsh international side and was one of the heroes of the international side in the 13-12 win over New Zealand.

While he was with Swansea, Tanner won 13 caps for Wales but then he moved to Cardiff with whom he won a further 12 caps.

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His international career lasted for over 14 seasons and in addition to his 25 international caps he also played for the Lions in one Test against South Africa in 1938.

CLIFF MORGAN:

Now remembered as one of the greatest out-halves of international rugby, he had his first great moments with the Welsh team that won the Triple Crown in 1952.

A year later he was again the inspiration for both Cardiff and Wales in their wins over the All-Blacks.

Selected for the British and Irish Lions in 1955, he scored a glorious try in the first Test against South Africa and he also captained the Lions when they won the third Test.

Between 1951 and 1958 he won 29 caps for Wales which was then a Welsh record for an out-half.

He was honoured with the OBE in 1977 and the CVO in 1986.

BARRY JOHN:

Christened 'The King', Barry John began his rugby career with Llanelli before moving to Cardiff where he teamed up with his great partner, scrum-half Gareth Edwards.
Capped for the first time in 1966 he established his place on the international side when he teamed up with Edwards in 1967.

In his 25 appearances for Wales, he partnered Edwards on 23 occasions and they also teamed up in five appearances with Lions. During his career he set many scoring records but he decided on an early retirement at the age of 27.

GARETH EDWARDS:

After winning his first cap for Wales against France in 1967, he went on to play in 53 consecutive international matches before his final appearance which was against France in 1978.

Against Scotland in 1968 he was made captain of the international side and became the youngest captain in the history of Welsh rugby. He toured with the British and Irish Lions in South Africa in 1968 and again in New Zealand in 1971 and in all played in a total of 10 tests. His record of 53 international caps for Wales was to stand until it was beaten by J.P.R. Williams in 1981 and it still remained a record for a Welsh scrum-half until Robert Jones won his 54th cap during this year's World Cup.

His record of 20 international tries, which was equalled by Gerald Davis, was to remain unbroken until Ieuan Evans took over.

Edwards, also an accomplished angler created a British record by landing a 20.58 kilogram pike in 1990.



HOW THEY GOT HERE!

MILAN 21
LEINSTER 24

AT GUIRIATI, MILAN

A brilliant second half try by Ireland international wing Niall Woods enabled Leinster to pull off a backs-to-the-wall victory in Milan. But the Leinster side had to endure some torrid moments before claiming victory.

Indeed Milan's normal match winner, Diego Dominguez, might blame himself for their defeat. One of the deadliest place-kickers in world rugby, Dominguez had a horrible afternoon, missing six penalties, a conversion and a drop goal attempt.

Leinster led by 14 points to eight at half-time their scores coming from a Conor O'Shea try and three Alan McGowan three penalties. Roberto Crotti with a try and Dominguez with a penalty had the Milan scores.

A Dominguez penalty reduced the lead in the second half and then Milan went in front in the 55th minute when following a great break from Dominguez, Marco Platania scored a try which was converted by Massimo Bonimi. An Alan McGowan penalty meant that with 18 minutes to go Milan led by a point.

Then 14 minutes from time Woods struck with his superb try for Leinster which McGowan converted and although Dominguez added a penalty with 12 minutes to go he missed a reasonably easy chance in the final minute and Leinster hung on for a very hard-fought victory.

MILAN: F. Williams, R. Crotti, M. Platania, M. Tommasi, M. Cuttita, D. Dominguez, M. Bonimi, S. Cerioni, C. Orlandi, F. Properzi, F. Battista-Croci, F. Berni, T. Ciccio, D. Berretta, T. Milano *(captain)*. Replacement: M. Giavonello for T. Milano (52mins)

LEINSTER: C. O'Shea, P. Gavin, V. Cunningham, K. McQuilkin, N. Woods, A. McGowan, A. Rolland, H. Hurley, S. Byrne, P. Wallace, M. O'Kelly, B. Rigney, C. Pim *(captain)*, V. Costello, D. Oswald.

REFEREE: F. Maciello (France).

LEINSTER 23
PONTYPRIDD 22

AT LANSDOWNE ROAD, DUBLIN

Alan McGowan edged Leinster into the Heineken Cup semi-final as the Blackrock out-half contributed 18 points to their nail-biting victory over battling Pontypridd at Lansdowne Road.

Although Leinster outscored Pontypridd two-to-one in tries, they had to defend for their lives as teenager Lee Jarvis — called in at the 11th hour to take over from the injured Neil Jenkins — kept the Welsh side in contention with five penalty goals and some delightful running.

Leinster with tries from McGowan and Conor O'Shea looked set for a comfortable victory midway during the second half but Pontypridd hit back and a try from full-back Crispin Cormack put them 22 points to 20 in front.

However McGowan held his nerve when given the chance to restore the Leinster lead in the dying minutes and although Jarvis was to have one last chance for Pontypridd, he missed and Leinster were through to the Heineken Cup semi-final.

LEINSTER: C. O'Shea, P. Gavin, V. Cunningham, K. McQuilkin, N. Woods, A. McGowan, A. Rolland, H. Hurley, S. Byrne, P. Wallace, B. Rigney, N. Francis, C. Pim *(captain)*, S. Rooney, V. Costello. Replacement: N. Hogan for A. Rolland (32mins). Temporary Replacements: A. McKeen for P. Wallace, E. Millar for V. Costello.

PONTYPRIDD: C. Cormack, D. Manley, S. McIntosh, J. Lewis, S. Enoch, L. Jarvis, Paul John, N. Bezani *(captain)*, Phil John, A. Metcalfe, G. Prosser, M. Rowley, P. Thomas, R. Collins, M. Lloyd.

REFEREE: D. Gillet (France).

BEGLES-BORDEAUX 14
CARDIFF 14

AT STADE ANDRE-MOGA, BEGLES

Cardiff picked up a priceless Heineken Cup point as they battled their way to a hard fought draw at Stade Andre-Moga, Begles. The Cardiff try-scoring hero was flanker Mark Bennett, who capitalised on a storming break by No.8 and captain Hemi Taylor that cut the home defence to shreds.

Begles led by 11 points to eight at half-time thanks to international wing Philippe Bernat-Salles who made the most of a generous overlap to beat the Cardiff cover for a Begles try, but out-half Vincent Etcheto had an off-night with the boot and managed just three penalty goal from eight attempts.

Opposite number Adrian Davies also landed three penalties in a bruising contest although he did miss a reasonable chance late in the game that would have clinched outright victory for the Welsh club.

BEGLES-BORDEAUX: P. Fauthoux, P. Bernat-Salles, E. Darritchon, L. Lafforgue, P. Tauzin, V. Etcheto, G. Accoceberry *(captain)*, F. Garcia, V. Chamboulive, O. Sourgens, A. Berthozat, C. Mougeot, M. Barrague, P. Farner, J.J. Alibert.

CARDIFF: M. Rayer, N. Walker, M. Hall, M. Ring, S. Hill, A. Davies, A. Moore, A. Lewis, J. Humphreys, L. Mustoe, J. Wakeford, D. Jones, E. Lewis, H. Taylor *(captain)*, M. Bennett.

REFEREE: D. McHugh (Ireland).

CARDIFF 46
ULSTER 6

AT CARDIFF ARMS PARK, CARDIFF

Cardiff as good as booked their place in the Heineken Cup semi-final as they demolished Ulster at Cardiff Arms Park.

The home side had put the result out of doubt by half-time as they raced 26 points clear, scrum-half Andy Moore, centre Stephen John, No.8 Hemi Taylor and out-half Adrian Davies crossing for tries, with Davies adding three conversions and a penalty goal with Ulster's only reply being a Mark McCall penalty goal.

Ulster, restricted Cardiff to just two tries in the second half from Moore and centre Mike Hall but at the end they were 40 points behind their Welsh opponents.

With this victory for Cardiff, Begles-Bordeaux needed to beat Ulster by more than 40 points in their meeting at Ravenhill on December 13th to deny the Welsh champions a place in the Heineken Cup semi-final. However although they won their margin of victory was only 13 points so Cardiff won the group.

CARDIFF: M. Rayer, S. Ford, M. Hall, S. John, N. Walker, A. Davies, A. Moore, A. Lewis, J. Humphreys, L. Mustoe, J. Wakeford, D. Jones, E. Lewis, O. Williams, H. Taylor *(captain)*. Replacement: M. Bennett for E. Lewis (78 mins).

ULSTER: J. Bell (Northampton), J. Topping (Ballymena), M. Field (Malone), W. Harbinson (Malone) *(captain)*, J. Cunningham (Dublin University), M. McCall (Bangor), N. Doak (N.I.F.C.), R. Mackey (Malone), A. Clarke (Northampton), G. Leslie (Dungannon), J. Davidson (Dungannon), G. Longwell (Ballymena), S. Duncan (Malone), D. McBride (Malone), D. Erskine (Sale). Replacement: R. Wilson for D. McBride (78mins).



● *Cardiff's top-class full-back, Mike Rayer.*

LEINSTER IN EARLIER DAYS



● *Bill Mulcahy (President of the Leinster Branch) pictured (back row 5th from left) with the Leinster 1957 side.*

Leinster's first inter-provinical game against Munster was played on Monday, March 26th, 1877 at College Park and Leinster's first match against Connacht was at Lansdowne Road on December 8th, 1885.

By David Guiney

IN 'Rugby in Leinster 1879-1979', which was compiled by the late Judge Charles Conroy to mark the Centenary of the Leinster Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union, the author, a life-long lover and enthusiast of the game, traces the beginning of Leinster in interprovincial competition and also the origin of the Leinster colours.

Before the formation of the Leinster Branch, the province was already involved in competition and Leinster's first game, organised by the Irish Football Union and the Northern Union was against Ulster and it was played at the Ormeau Ground in Belfast on November 27th, 1875.

This historic game, which featured 20-a-side teams, was watched by a crowd of 1,000 which, by all accounts, was the largest to have watched a rugby game in Belfast up to that time.

Ulster won by a try scored by James Kerr (N.I.F.C.), which was converted by R.B. Walkington, but Judge Conroy stresses that Leinster were not at full strength and that six of the selected players were not able to travel to Belfast.

The Leinster team was: R. Galbraith (Dublin University), J. Patterson (Dublin University), E.W. Hobson (Dublin University), D.T. Arnott (Lansdowne), B.N. Casement (Wanderers), A.M. Whitestone (Dublin University), H.D. Walsh (Dublin University) *captain*, H.L. Cox (Dublin University), W.J. Hamilton (Dublin University), D. Neill (Dublin University), J. McGillicuddy (Dublin University), A. Westby (Dublin University), J.L. Cuppaidge (Dublin University), W.S. Allen (Wanderers), A. Darley (Wanderers), R.M. Peter (Wanderers), J.R. Todd (Wanderers), M. Barlow (Wanderers), A. Greene (Kingstown), W. Corscadden (Bray).

Some of the interesting personalities on that side were H.D. Walsh, who had played in Ireland's first international game against England at the Kennington Oval in London in 1875 and was later to become the first secretary of the I.R.F.U., R.M. Peter, also to become the secretary of the I.R.F.U. and who published the first book on Irish rugby in 1880, R. Galbraith, W.S. Allen, B.N. Casement, M. Barlow and H.L. Cox who had also played in Ireland's first international game.

And of course, John Loftus Cuppaidge has his place in Irish rugby history as the man who scored Ireland's first international try against England at Lansdowne Road on January 30th, 1880.

And on the subject of the Leinster colours in those early days, Judge Conroy had this to say:

'From 1875-1880, the Leinster colours were a blue and white jersey, white knicks and blue or brown stockings. At the Annual General Meeting of the Leinster Branch held in 1880, it was decided that the uniform of the Leinster players should be a blue jersey with an Irish harp as a badge, dark blue knicks and stockings.

'It is not clear when white knicks were substituted for the dark blue knicks. The change would appear to have taken place in the 1880s. Players were not too worried about the colour of the jerseys they wore in interprovincial matches.

'For instance, in a report of the Leinster v Munster match at Limerick, the reporter in the issue of *Sport* for January 22nd, 1887 said: *When Leinster were togged out you would think that you were looking at a kaleidoscope. Moore and Moton wore Varsity jerseys, D'Alton and Ganly, Monkstown jerseys, Taggart a Lansdowne jersey, Rutherford and Wallis (white jerseys) and Stewart, a Bective jersey.*

'In short there was a scarcity of blue jerseys with a white harp in the lot. This may be attributed to the fact that there were no less than eight substitutes'.

The first interprovincial match to be played in Dublin was between Leinster and Ulster on December 16th, 1876 and it is recorded that the price of admission for this game at Lansdowne Road was one shilling ... and that everyone who bought a ticket was given a ladies' ticket free of charge!

Leinster's first interprovincial game against Munster was played on Monday, March 26th, 1877 at College Park and Leinster's first match against Connacht was at Lansdowne Road on December 8th, 1885.

Leinster's first match against an overseas side did not come about until 1946 when a New Zealand Army side, known as the Kiwis, arrived at Lansdowne Road and a quite remarkable game ended in a draw.

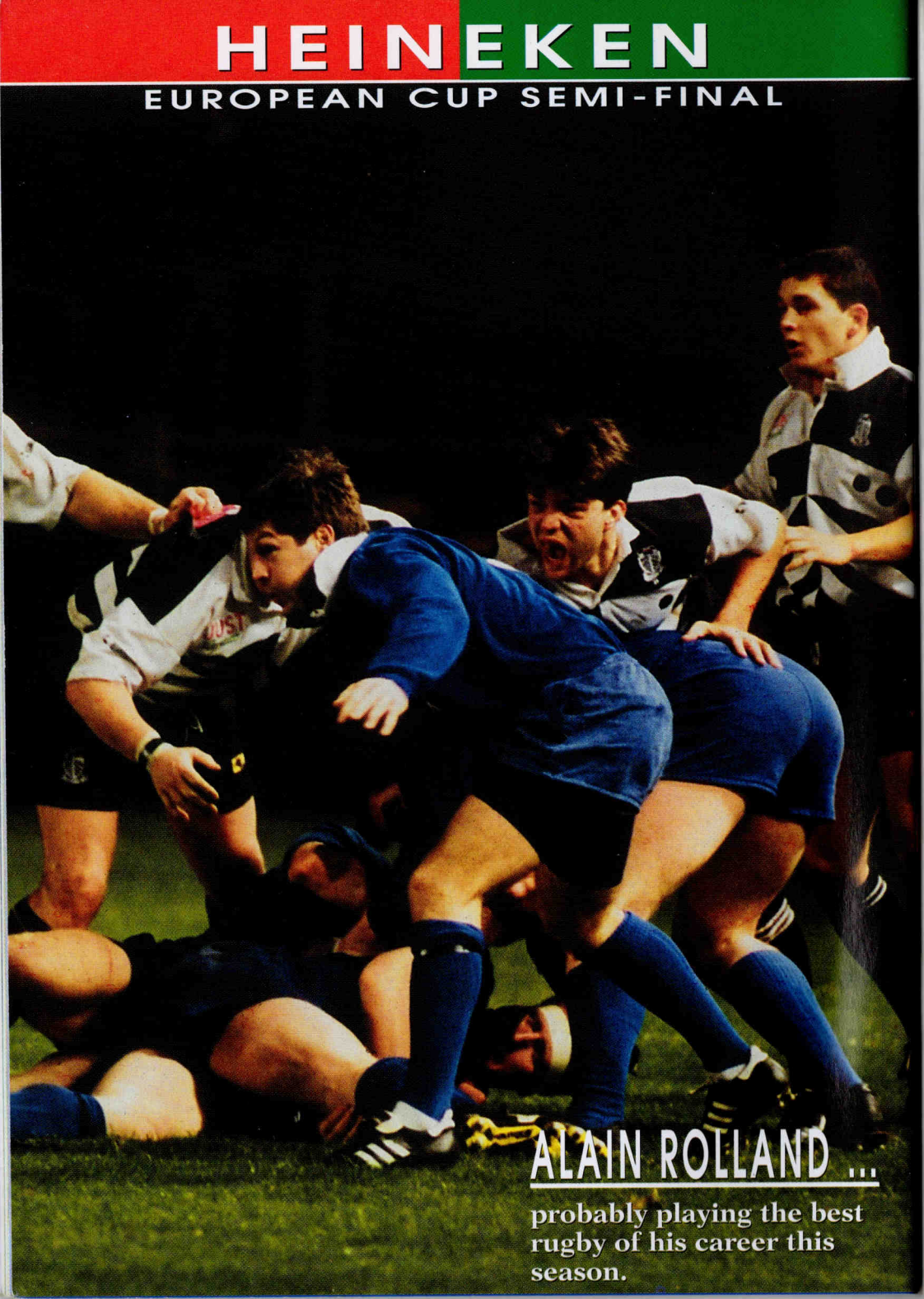
The Leinster team in this game was C. Murphy (Lansdowne), F.G. Moran (Clontarf), T. Coveney (St. Mary's College), K. Quinn (Old Belvedere), B. Quinn (Old Belvedere), E.A. Carry (Old Wesley), D. Thorpe (Old Belvedere), J. Belton (Old Belvedere), K. Mullen (Old Belvedere), H. Dolan (U.C.D.), K. O'Brien (Bective Rangers), C. Callan (Lansdowne), J.P. Guiney (Bective Rangers), J. McAuliffe (U.C.D.), R.E. Coolican (Dublin University).

The Kiwis tour was not an official tour organised by the New Zealand Rugby Union and it is now accepted that Leinster's first game against a touring side was against Australia at Lansdowne Road on November 27th, 1957 when Australia won by 10-8.

That particular side had it quota of memorable personalities ... Ronnie Kavanagh, Niall Brophy, Tony O'Reilly, Wally Bornemann and Paddy O'Donoghue of Bective, who captained the team, and who, of course, was later to become secretary of the I.R.F.U.

And, perhaps the most intriguing personality was a certain Bill Mulcahy, then with U.C.D ... now the President of the Leinster Branch whose tenure of office perhaps could be celebrated today with Leinster's progress to the final of the Heineken European Club Championship.

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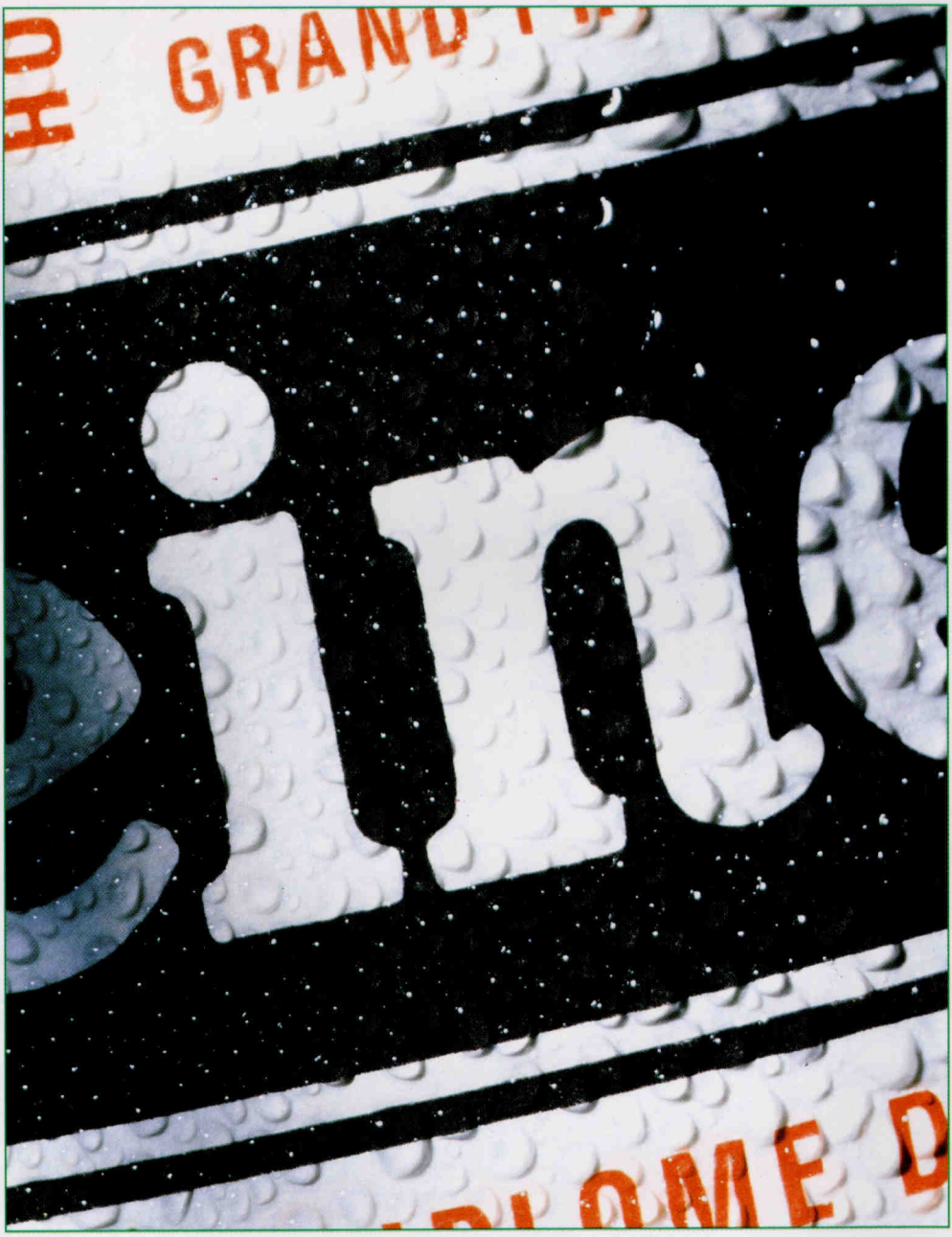
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