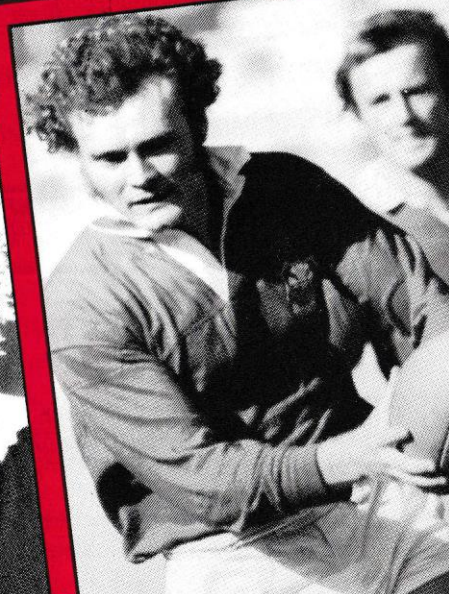
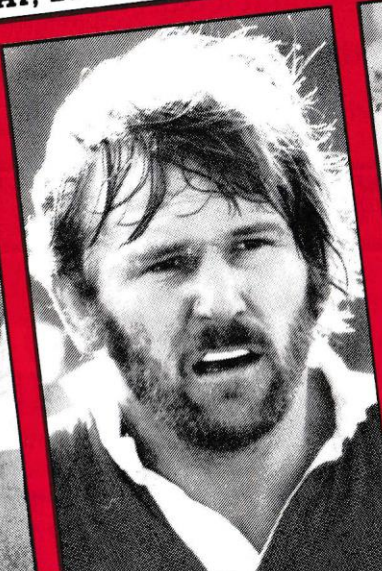


30p



# LLANELLI -v- GLOUCESTER

SATURDAY, 23rd APRIL, 1988. KICK-OFF 3.00p.m.



## IN TOUCH ... The Editorial Page

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It is too early yet to make a definitive judgment on the season — that duty will have to await the outcome of events at the National Ground in two weeks' time — but as this is the last home match of the season it might be thought appropriate that I should draw together some thoughts on the highlights of the campaign. Inevitably, perhaps, these must focus to some extent on individual achievements, and two will surely bear comparison with any in the club's history.

From the standpoint of scoring feats, the performances of left-wing Carwyn Davies have been supreme. To have overhauled Andy Hill's record of 39 tries in a season is a remarkable distinction for a popular young player, and his selection for the Welsh tour in New Zealand next month is well-deserved recognition for sterling exploits.

Even more historic has been the belated recognition which has come the way of Phil May. The club's longest-serving player, with a peerless reputation both as a forward and captain, thought long and hard before deciding to extend his rugby career into the present campaign. How unfortunate it would have been if he had retired on the very threshold of the opportunity to establish, at long last, his prowess at an international level. It has been a source of immense satisfaction at Stradey, and in Welsh rugby generally, that Phil played throughout the international campaign and is now to tour New Zealand.

It is an indication of the quality of talent within the club that seven players are going with Wales to challenge the All Blacks, and we wish the famous seven — Ieuan Evans, Carwyn Davies, Jonathan Griffiths, Jonathan Davies, Steve Bowling, Anthony Buchanan and Phil May — a highly successful tour.

Mention of the All Blacks in New Zealand brings us back to thoughts of the forthcoming engagement with the All Blacks in Wales. It is far from ideal that the international players on both sides (and, in this respect, Llanelli are in a clear majority) have to strive to play to their full capacities in a match as important as the Cup Final only a matter of days before flying to New Zealand. Even so, we are sure that the players concerned will recognise the need for a supreme effort to capture further pride and glory in the Cup.

Reference to Carwyn Davies's record scoring deeds reminds me that other Scarlets have turned in some highly meritorious try-scoring performances, and no fewer than six players have run into double figures — Carwyn himself, with 41 tries in 41 games, Ieuan Evans (21 tries in 22 games), Nigel Davies and Jonathan Griffiths (each 18 tries), and Gary Jones (11 tries). Well done, all six.

Another highlight of the season, in a very different way, has been the recent return to active duty of centre Peter Morgan after an absence of eighteen months through injury. That Peter does not intend to allow it to become merely a matter of sentiment and nostalgia has been demonstrated by his composed and effective form in his 'come-back' appearances.

Finally, a warm welcome to Gloucester — a club renowned for the durability and doughtiness of their forward play and the general edge of keen competitiveness in their play overall. We look forward to a hard and exciting tussle to bring down the curtain at Stradey — a prelude to the major climax in Cardiff in a fortnight's time.

**GARETH HUGHES**


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TEAM SHEET**

**LLANELLI**

Colin Stephens  
Ieuan Evans  
Nigel Davies  
Peter Morgan  
Carwyn Davies  
Jonathan Davies  
Jonathan Griffiths  
Ricky Evans  
David Fox  
Laurance Delaney  
Phil May (captain)  
Russell Cornelius  
Gary Jones  
Emyr Jones  
Mark Perego

V  
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14  
13  
12  
11  
10  
9  
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7

**GLOUCESTER**

Paul Mansell  
Derek Morgan  
Damian Cummins  
Andrew Kitchen  
Jim Breeze  
Mike Hamlin (captain)  
Lloyd Gardner  
Malcolm Preedy  
Kevin Dunn  
Rob Phillips  
Nigel Scrivens  
John Etheridge  
Paul Ashmead  
Mike Teague  
Andrew Stanley

**REPLACEMENTS**

Mike Clement  
David Crane


John Roberts  
Kevin White

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