

Rugby

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Old Boys give coach perfect birthday gift

Wellington...10
OPMs...29

THE Old Boys presented coach Hywell Phillips with a birthday win over established Cornwall and Devon side Wellington.

The home side put on a strong welcome for the league newcomers, but it was Wellington who slipped behind when OPMs centre Darren Clarke intercepted a pass and had a clear run in under the posts. Thomas added the conversion.

Wellington responded when they stole a line-out ball and Ian McKenzie scored, but Carl Thomas replied with a penalty to make it 10-5 to OPMs.

Thomas closed down on a chip ball into the Wellington corner as OPMs spun the ball cross-field and scored a try, but missed the conversion from wide out.

Then, from a line-out move, the ball crossed to opposite wing Neil Bellamy, who cut inside to score and Thomas converted.

The loss of influential, young fly-half Matt Parsons disrupted Wellington, as did an injury to full-back Kevin McKenzie, who had made some attacking runs from deep.

Bellamy struck with a further try in the second half after the Old Boys soaked up pressure on their line. Scrum-half Sammy Matts slipped a quickly-taken

DEVON AND
CORNWALL LEAGUE

by ALAN MANSELL

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penalty to the winger and Thomas added the conversion.

Wellington came back with all the late pressure and a penalty move close in was switched wide across the OPMs' line for Tim Blacomb to touch down.