

# Saracens



## Notes

It is very rare indeed that Gloucester should have a poor season, but that has been the case this year largely because of injuries. Many of their wounded are back in action now, so Saracens are sure to have a tough task ahead to record their first win for several years over the mighty West country side.

Gloucester's spirits will also have been given a marvellous shot in the arm by the selection of Steve Boyle for the British Lions tour of New Zealand this Summer. Steve will not be in action today because he has sensibly decided not to play again this season to avoid injury.

Although Gloucester recently lost to Richmond they have also lately had one of their best wins of the season, 20-3 over Orrel. They also have flanker Mike Longstaff, one of their successes of last season, back in the side along with Mike Teague. If John Gadd was fit they have one of the most formidable back rows in the country.

Last season Gloucester drew with Moseley in the John Player Cup final. It makes a nonsense of the competition, however, that next season they will not even appear in the draw for they have failed to qualify.

### **SARACENS TEAM**

Saracens keep faith with their new back row line-up which was impressive at Bedford. For the first time this season Saracens now field a genuine open side forward in Grant Mansfield who has spent most of the season injured but still showed the enthusiasm to watch the first team each week home and away. Thor Nilsson has also won back the place he lost when he went on holiday at Christmas.

### **INTRODUCING OUR VISITORS**

Gloucester are captained by Steve Mills who played for England earlier this season against Wales when Peter Wheeler was injured. Alongside him he has a young set of props with Phil Blakeway having retired and Malcolm Preedy in New Zealand to gain experience in club rugby during the Summer. They have the outstanding John Orwin and England under-23 John Brain in the second row. Their best wins this season have come against Moseley, Wasps and Orrel. On their previous two visits to Southgate they won 12-11. This season to date their record reads: Played 45, won 20, drawn 4, lost 21. Points 643, against 589.

### **SARACENS LOSE TO NEATH**

Saracens had a great chance to record their first win for many years over Neath but gave away two costly tries to lose 15-12 after leading 9-7 and later 12-11. Dave Gradon scored Saracens try and Dave Gregory kicked the other eight points.

### **VICTORY OVER UNIVERSITY**

Saracens walked the tightrope of defeat against the students of London University but finally squeezed home 13-10 thanks to a late penalty by Gregory which he added to the conversion of one of two tries by Nilsson and skipper Floyd Steadman.

### **REVENGE AT BEDFORD**

After losing in the John Player Cup to Bedford, Saracens last Friday won 7-4.



Following a scoreless first-half Saracens trailed to a try but their forwards who were outstanding set up a pushover try for Steadman and then Gregory kicked the winning points with a penalty.

#### **SOCIAL EVENTS**

Next Friday week, April 8, there is the popular Race Night in the clubhouse, tickets including food £2.50. Then on Saturday, April 30, there is the End of Season Barbecue. Please support these functions which the entertainments committee work so hard to promote.

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS TOMORROW**

Tomorrow morning the sponsored walk in aid of club funds starts from the clubhouse at 9 a.m. and then in the afternoon starting at 2 p.m. the Schoolboy Sevens takes place.

#### **NEXT FIXTURES**

Next Friday, April 1 Broughton Park come to Bramley Road and on Easter Saturday, Manchester whose side includes Ireland and British Lion John O'Driscoll, are the visitors. On the Wednesday after Easter, Saracens travel to London Scottish. After that there are the closing two home games of the season against new opponents in Wakefield and Sheffield.

**SARACENS RECORD**—Played 37, Won 16, Drawn 2, Lost 19, Points 473, Against 540. **Tries** (54): 10—Phillips, Catchpole; 5—Gradon; 4—Marment, Gregory; 3—Steadman, Miller, Goldring; 2—Babayode, Hancock, Kamara, Anthony; 1—Nilsson, Keay, Cooke, McGurk, Garland. **Points**: 163 Gregory, 107 Hughes.

**Appearances**: 36—Keay, Gregory; 30—Branch; 29—Steadman; 27—Catchpole; 26—Roberts; 24—Marment; 23—Hughes; 22—Phillips; 21—Cooke, Jaszczak; 19—Hancock, Babayode 17—Gradon; 16—Kamara; 15—Akhurst; 14—Lord; 13—Nilsson; 12—Anthony, Pattinson; 11—Coomber, Holmes; 10—Garland; 9—Hardy; 8—Gentlemen, Grier; 7—Lytollis; 6—Goldring, Williams, Terroni; 5—Barcilon, Miller, Coombes-Goodfellow, Mansfield; 3—Part, Evans; 2—Thomas, Harrison, Trimby; 1—Satchell, McGurk, Roberts, Harston, Wright.

CHRIS JOHNSON, Weekly Herald

Next Home Game

**Saracens v Broughton Park**

Good Friday, 1st April, 1983

K.O. 3.00 p.m.

TEAS CAN BE OBTAINED IN THE PAVILION AFTER THE GAME

# SATURDAY 26th MARCH 1983

## SARACENS v GLOUCESTER

BLACK

CHERRY & WHITE

STEVE HANCOCK	<b>15</b> Full Back	TIM SMITH
ANDY PHILLIPS	<b>14</b> Right Wing	PHIL PRITCHARD
CHRIS BABAYODE	<b>13</b> Right Centre	RICHARD MOGG
DAVE GREGORY	<b>12</b> Left Centre	CORMACK O'DONOGHUE
DAVE GRADON	<b>11</b> Left Wing	NICK PRICE
ROBIN HUGHES	<b>10</b> Stand Off	LES JONES
FLOYD STEADMAN (capt)	<b>9</b> Scrum Half	STEVE BAKER
MIKE GREER	<b>1</b> Prop	PETE JONES
NIGEL BRANCH	<b>2</b> Hooker	STEVE MILLS* (capt)
CHRIS ROBERTS	<b>3</b> Prop	BOB PHILLIPS
NICK AKHURST	<b>4</b> Second Row	NIGEL SCRIVENS
ANDY JASZCZAK	<b>5</b> Second Row	ADRIAN TURTON
GRANT MANSFIELD	<b>6</b> Wing Forward	PAUL WOOD
THOR NILSSON	<b>8</b> Lock	MIKE TEAGUE
ALEX KEAY	<b>7</b> Wing Forward	MIKE LONGSTAFF
Replacements:		Replacements:
NICK HOLMES	<b>16</b>	
DAVID KENNINGHAM	<b>17</b>	

\*INTERNATIONAL

Referee:

C. SHUTIE (London Society)

Today's Match Ball has been kindly donated by  
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