

THE WELFARE GROUND, NEWBRIDGE

Newbridge

versus

Gloucester

Wednesday, September 19th, 1984

Kick-off 7.15 p.m.

A welcome to Gloucester on their bi-annual visit to the ground. If the standard of play is equal to that displayed in last season's corresponding game at Kingston, then tonight's supporters are due for a feast of rugby. The composition of the Gloucester team suggests that they are taking no risks this evening; they appear to be calling upon their full complement of stars. Indeed last season's match was such a memorable one I have reports of it being the subject of discussion between a Welshman, now resident in Evesham, and one of our Supporters when they met on holiday in Rhodes. Let's hope that this evening's game is grand enough to form the base for similar discussion.

Unfortunately our start to this season has not been as successful as we would have liked. Our first game against Ebbw Vale was most impressive and I'm sure most of our Supporters left that day with a warm glow of optimism. Events since haven't been too encouraging and we are now left eagerly awaiting a change in our fortunes. The Bridgend game started on a high note and if our pressure had been converted into points then we might have had a different tale to tell. The unfortunate injury to Wayne Bow was most probably the turning point of the game, since this led to a reorganisation of the team which served to disrupt our pattern of play. Things since then have got worse, the loss of Paul Turner, Wayne Bow and Steve Bow through injury has tended to have a disruptive effect upon our play. Still it's not all doom and gloom, there have been a number of occurrences which give encouragement, particularly the form of some of our players. It's good to see Paul Ransom display the form he showed before last season's injury and he can't be too far from representative selection. Simon Harris also shows continuing improvement and after his performance against Ebbw Vale I'm sure that his name went into the selector's note book as a player worthy of future consideration. Chris Marley, who has now decided to join us, has impressed in every game and when things settle down will add another dimension to our play; not many centres make outside breaks as he did against Bridgend and things might have been different had he not had to move to full back when Wayne Bow was injured. It's good to see that Wayne is fit again not only because we need him so badly, but also that he maintains fitness whilst the "B" squad is being considered. If justice is done he must be well in the running and after that "the sky's the limit."

B. W.

NEWBRIDGE

Colours: SKY BLUE AND BLACK

15. W. BOW
14. A. GLASSON
13. S. CRANDON
12. C. MARLEY
11. C. PHILLIPS
10. D. OWEN
9. L. DAVIES (Captain)
1. G. HEWLETT
2. P. RANSOM
3. L. SIMS
4. R. BEALE
5. A. STIMPSON
6. P. JONES
8. A. TOMSA
7. A. MORGAN

Reps. from: P. Goodfellow, G. Powell,
P. Johnson, M. Whitson, S. Griffiths

Full Back
Right Wing
Right Centre
Left Centre
Left Wing
Outside Half
Inside Half
Forwards:

Referee:
MR. CLIVE NORLING,
Swansea

Next Home Game: NEATH
Wed. September 26th. K.O. 7.15 p.m.

GLOUCESTER

Colours: CHERRY AND WHITE

15. T. SMITH
14. J. BREEZE
13. R. MOGG
12. P. TAYLOR
11. A. RICHARDS
10. M. HAMLIN
9. M. HANNIFORD
1. G. SARGEANT
2. S. MILLS
3. M. PREEDY
4. J. ORWIN (Captain)
5. J. BRAIN
6. J. BENNETT
8. M. TEAGUE
7. M. LONGSTAFF

Replacements: G. Mann, S. Baker

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nothing shapes up to them.

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