GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB
(FOUNDED IN 1873)

TO-DAY'S GAME IS VERSUS
BEDFORD
(KICK-OFF 3.15 p.m.)

NEXT SATURDAY'S GAME:
RICHMOND
(Kick-off 3.15)

NEXT WEEK'S GAME:
Saturday: UNITED v. NEWPORT ATHLETIC

AN ATTRACTION SIDE

TO-DAY we greet Bedford, an attractive side we meet now once in a season only. Twelve months ago when we made the long journey there, the City brought off a magnificent 13-6 win and the Visitors will be all-out to-day to reverse that—especially remembering their success in the 1952-53 encounter here. Reading the various accounts of their home defeat last week by Richmond, it can be gathered that Bedford did not have a good match. The three-quarters were accused of sheer carelessness in passing and kicking and we may be sure they are unlikely to make the same mistakes a second week running. The pack is forceful and dashing, so we may expect to see a great struggle, for our own pack is going great guns, and as experience is beginning to show that the new Laws really make for more open play, we hope all players will remember them.
DIFFICULTIES AND PROBLEMS

The difficulties of writing notes for a programme are well illustrated by this one. This is the second to be turned out this week and at the time this was written, the game with Stroud had not been played—in fact even the team had not been chosen. Then too, there are the problems for the selectors—for nine of Gloucester’s players there is the possibility that if they turn out today it will be the fifth game for them in ten days—for there has been the County Match with British Police.

Further, our injured list includes several men whose abilities are undoubted but at least their absence has given others the opportunity to gain experience and prove their worth. It has been heartening to see how well these men have performed and the four wins in a row culminating with the great performance at Bristol encourage hopes for the hard games a few weeks ahead—especially with the visit to Newport in mid-October in mind, followed, almost without intermission, with equally tough encounters until Christmas!

FOR TOUCH JUDGES TOO

R. Frank Blackwell, in his explanation of the new Laws this week, stresses that the changes also mean something for Touch Judges to remember. Here is what he writes:

Touch Judge has no right to keep his flag up, just because he considers that the ball has been thrown in from the wrong place.

The Referee decides that.

The Touch Judge can only keep his flag up—
(1) if the ball is thrown in by the wrong side, or
(2) if the thrower has either foot in the field of play.

ANY DECISION OF THE TOUCH JUDGE CAN BE OVER-RULED BY THE REFEREE AND THE JUDGE CAN BE ORDERED OFF IN A SIMILAR MANNER AS A PLAYER.

The Referee has no authority to consult a Touch Judge—except on a question of time—and NEVER as to when a try is scored or otherwise.

The poor Referee must decide whether a corner flag is touched before or after a try is scored—and NOT ASK THE TOUCH JUDGE!

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

ATRONS are now enabled to use the Car Park for all matches. Arrangements have been made for the Park to be open for the United fixtures, and it is hoped this will result in a far bigger attendance of supporters to encourage the second string.

In the same way all the entrances to the main stand will be open for United matches. The Committee trust these arrangements which must add to the outlay, will meet with the approval of members and encourage them and others to attend in greater numbers. A Season Ticket entitles its holder to see 38 First XV and United matches—a very good bargain whatever kind of ticket is purchased.

It is still not too late to obtain such a ticket, so why not take the hint—if you do not have one!