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# **GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

**(Founded in 1873)**

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**TO-DAY'S GAME IS VERSUS**

## **THE ARMY**

**(Kick-off 3-00 p.m.)**

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**Saturday, Feb. 4th—Kick-off 3-15 p.m.**

**C A R D I F F**

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Our visitors, THE ARMY, are now starting on that hard and difficult road that leads to Twickenham and the Inter-Service Championship. Between now and March 3rd when they meet the Royal Navy at headquarters, they will be searching for the right combination for success there. The last time this fixture was held at Kingsholm in 1952-53, the Army lost, but went on to win the Triangular Tournament. Since that time they have failed in their championship bid, so perhaps they look upon playing Gloucester as a necessary adjunct to success later.

Every one of the soldiers will be out to stake his claim for a place in the Army Team for Twickenham. There will be no lack of spirit, may it be well blended with enterprise and ability.

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**Official Programme: Price Threepence**

# IN THE FRONT ROW :

## GLOUCESTER

Red and White

- Full Back  
1 **B. SIBERY**
- Three-quarters  
2 **P. LEWIS** R.W.  
3 **R. SUTTON** R.C.  
4 **M. BAKER** L.C.  
5 **R. BLAIR** L.W.
- Hall Backs  
6 **A. HOLDER** O.H.  
7 **B. READE** S.H.
- Forwards  
8 **\*G. HASTINGS**  
9 **C. THOMAS**  
10 **R. PARRY**  
11 **D. A. JONES**  
12 **R. A. CLARK**  
13 **P. FORD (Capt.)**  
14 **B. GREENE**  
15 **D. IBBOTSON**

## TO-DAY'S REFEREE

is

**Mr. S. B. OLSEN, Notts. Society.**

THE FIRST AID SERVICE ON THIS GROUND IS VOLUNTARILY PROVIDED BY  
THE CITY OF GLOUCESTER DIVISION ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE

### FIRST XV. FIXTURES

1955		1956	
Sept. 10	Lydney ... .. H 10-6	Jan. 7	London Scottish ... A 3-9
13	Dublin Wanderers ... H 12-3	14	Leicester ... .. A 5-9
17	Moseley ... .. H 13-6	21	Wasps ... .. H 18-3
21	Cheltenham ... .. A 0-3	28	Army ... .. H
24	Bristol ... .. H 6-14	Feb. 4	Cardiff ... .. H
29	Stroud ... .. A 8-3	11	Bath ... .. A
Oct. 1	Bedford ... .. A 3-5	18	Swansea ... .. H
8	Old Blues ... .. H 6-14 (Glos. v. Devon, at Bristol)	25	Guys Hospital ... .. A
13	Newport ... .. H 11-6	Mar. 3	Northampton ... .. A
22	Coventry ... .. A 9-28 (Glos. v. Somerset, Away)	10	R.A.F. ... .. H
29	Oxford University ... H 6-11	17	Cardiff ... .. A
Nov. 5	Leicester ... .. H 22-11	24	Newport ... .. A
12	Moseley ... .. A 0-20 (Glos. v. Cornwall, Away)	31	Bradford ... .. H
16	Cambridge University A 3-37	Apr. 2	Birkenhead Park ... H
19	Aberavon ... .. A 6-6	3	Lydney ... .. A
26	Llanelli ... .. H 3-6	7	Harlequins ... .. H
Dec. 3	Neath ... .. A 3-6	12	Cheltenham ... .. H
10	Bath ... .. H 11-0	14	Bristol ... .. A
17	Coventry ... .. H 0-3	21	Exeter ... .. A
24	Stroud ... .. H 40-5	23	Penzance and Newlyn A
26	O.M.T.'s ... .. H 22-0	24	Teignmouth ... .. A
27	U.A.U. ... .. H 22-0	28	Devonport Services ... H
31	Neath ... .. H 20-5		

## THE ARMY

- Full Back  
15 **\*Capt. A. B. EDWARDS**  
R.A.E.C.
- Three-quarters  
14 **Gnr. I. SOUTHWARD** R.W.  
13 **L/Bom. T. THOMAS** R.C.  
12 **L/Cpl. M. HARTLEY** L.C.  
11 **Sgt. J. REGAN** R.E. L.W.  
R.A.M.C.
- Half Backs  
10 **Sig. K. J. F. SCOTLAND** R. Signals O.H.  
9 **\*Capt. D. W. SHUTTLEWORTH** The Duke of Wellington's Regt. S.H.
- Forwards  
8 **Capt. W. E. TOWNSEND**  
7 **Sgt. N. S. BRUCE** R.A.E.C.  
6 **Pte. C. HOPKINS** R.A.O.C.  
5 **\*Sap. E. J. S. MICHIE** R.A.S.C.  
4 **\*Gnr. H. M. INGLIS** R.E.  
3 **O/Cadet H. RODDAN** R.A.  
2 **Sap. K. R. F. BEARNE** R.E.  
1 **O/Cadet PEART** R.A.
- \* International.

# "ENGLAND'S GLORY" MATCHES

## REFLECTIONS . . . .

Once again that loyal band of supporters who braved the rigours of inclement weather, and steadfastly refused the temptation of a televised International, received their just reward last Saturday. The game provided a thrill a minute and drove away the depression of a damp day. In wet, muddy conditions our lads were determined to play the open game and how they succeeded! Forwards and backs joined in passing movements which swung play from side to side and over the line on five occasions. Few who were there will forget the deceptive running of Dennis Ibbotson, who although he didn't score himself made two tries and provided the opportunities for more, opportunities which were not taken, in the main, because of the difficulty of taking the very greasy ball at high speed. Another most satisfactory memory, was the tremendous spirit of determination and aggression displayed in the centre by John Wills and Michael Baker. Yet it would be disingenuous to single out any particular players, for the whole team deserve commendation for their spirit and their whole-hearted efforts. Well done the Cherry and Whites!

## LEADING TRY SCORERS

Roy Blair heads the list of scorers of tries with a total of 11; he is followed by Peter Lewis with 7; Alan Holder and Roy Sutton with 5 each; George Hastings and John Wills with 4 a piece; Peter Ford and Cyril Thomas with 3; Ieuan Sheen and Michael Baker with 2; and finally Dennis Ibbotson, Lewis Morgan, Don Solomons, Brian Greene, Peter Hawker and Roy Parry with 1. In the total of points scored Michael Baker heads the list, having kicked 10 penalty goals, 9 conversions, and a dropped goal in addition to scoring 2 tries giving him a total of 57 points, Alan Holder comes next with a total of 37 points, made up of 2 penalty goals, 8 conversions and 5 tries.

## OFFSIDE REF !!!

Or was it? The old familiar cry was heard at full throat last Saturday when the Wasps wing-forward R. Syrett was very nearly given a pass by our Gloucester centres. This was in fact a case of being left behind by the play and Syrett was most certainly not offside, in my opinion, not in the opinion of the referee.

To set the scene. Syrett had gone up when Wasps attacked. Gloucester gained the ball after a tackle and commenced a passing movement, in the middle of which Syrett appeared from behind, very nearly intercepting and might have scored had he grasped the ball cleanly. It is a case for Law 18 (1) which states:—

“When the ball is in play, except in a scrummage or in a line-out, a player is offside if the ball has been kicked or touched or is being carried by one of his own team behind him.”

It is then of course illegal to play the ball—but was Syrett offside?