

WELCOME TO THE RED ROSE!

This afternoon we extend a very cordial welcome to the Lancashire team and officials, with whom we have had so many happy encounters in the past. This semi-final will be the fourth time in the last seven years that the two counties have met in the later stages of the championship and we look forward to yet another enjoyable and exciting game today.

J. S. MARSH, President, G.R.F.U.

CHAMPIONSHIP CHATTER

Three seasons ago Gloucestershire won the county championship for the 11th time when they defeated Lancashire at Blundellsands by 22 - 12. In the current campaign our Northern friends, having, we might say, reached the highest point of all their greatness, will undoubtedly be asking, like Shylock of old, "Shall we not revenge?" Whatever other opinions may be, two of the strongest sides in the country will be battling for honours this afternoon and a memorable tussle seems assured.

Gloucestershire have reached the semi-final by defeating Cornwall at Redruth, 9 - 6; Devon at Bristol, 34 - 6; Somerset at Taunton, 15 - 9; and Hertfordshire in the quarter-final at Croxley Green, by 29 - 7. And it is interesting to note that of the 87 points scored, no fewer than 55 have come from the accurate boot of Peter Butler.

Lancashire's record is: Lost to Cheshire at Fylde, 12 - 28; beat Durham at Hartlepool, 24 - 11; beat Northumberland at Manchester, 13 - 12; beat Cumberland and Westmorland at Kendal, 21 - 17; beat Yorkshire at Vale of Lune, 17 - 4; beat Cheshire in the replay at New Brighton, 13 - 3.

Congratulations to Bristol on reaching the quarter-finals of the John Player Cup competition. Their next match on this ground is against neighbouring Bath on Friday, March 5, kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Finally, the Gloucestershire R.F.U. express sincere thanks and appreciation to the Bristol club for the use of the ground, to all officials and the ladies, and to all who have supported today's game.

ARTHUR RUSSELL

RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP 1975-76



GLOUCESTERSHIRE
V.
LANCASHIRE

at
MEMORIAL GROUND, BRISTOL

on
Saturday, February 28th, 1976

KICK-OFF 2.45 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 5p

A prize of £5 will be awarded to the holder of the programme with the lucky number which will be announced over the loudspeaker during half-time. The prize may be collected in the office under the Main Centre Stand after the match.

G. E. Wright, Hon. Secretary

O&I, Gloucester

GLOUCESTERSHIRE 15 PTS (1G; 3PG)
Colours: White

- 15. P. E. Butler * (Gloucester) 1 CONV; 3PG
- 14. R. J. Clewes (Gloucester)
- 13. J. A. Bayliss (Capt.) (Gloucester)
- 12. C. J. Williams (Bristol)
- 11. A. J. G. Morley * (Bristol) 1 T
- 10. C. G. Williams (Gloucester)
- 9. P. Kingston * (Gloucester)
- 1. B. G. Nelmes * (Cardiff)
- 2. J. V. Pullin * (Bristol)
- 3. M. A. Burton * (Gloucester)
- 4. J. H. Fidler (Gloucester)
- 5. R. A. Powell (Llanelli)
- 6. J. A. Watkins * (Gloucester)
- 8. D. M. Rollitt * (Bristol)
- 7. M. J. Rafter (Bristol)

Referee: N. SANSON (L.S.R.F.U.R. & Scotland)

Touch Judge:
K. M. BABER
(Bristol Society)

Replacements:
D. E. Sorrell, Bristol
J. A. Cannon, Clifton
B. J. Vine, Gloucester
K. E. Phelps, Bristol
A. Troughton, Bristol
J. H. Haines, Gloucester

* Internationals

LANCASHIRE 7 PTS (1T; 1PG)
Colours: Red & White, narrow hoops

- 15. D. J. Gullick (Orrell) 1 PG
- 14. M. Slemen (Liverpool)
- 13. W. Lyon (Orrell)
- 12. A. M. Bond (Broughton Park)
- 11. R. T. J. Briers (West Park) 1 T
- 10. T. S. K. Aitchison (Fylde)
- 9. J. Waring (Orrell)
- 1. F. Blackhurst (Waterloo)
- 2. C. D. Fisher * (Waterloo)
- 3. F. E. Cotton * (Sale)
- 4. A. R. Trickey (Sale)
- 5. W. Beaumont * (Fylde)
- 6. R. N. Creed * (Sale)
- 8. J. O'Driscoll (London Irish)
- 7. A. Neary (Capt.) * (Broughton Park)

Replacements:
P. Phillips, Orrell
J. Partington, Broughton Park
M. Weir, Fylde
A. Henry, Sale
R. Tabern, Fylde
L. Connor, Waterloo