

1975



1976

Newport Rugby Football Club

NEWPORT
v
GLOUCESTER

at Rodney Parade, Newport

on Wednesday 7th April, 1976

Kick-off 7.15 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p

THE TEAMS

Referee: D. M. Lloyd (Maesteg)

GLOUCESTER

Colours: Cherry and White

| | | |
|----------------|------|--------------|
| P. E. BUTLER | (15) | Full Back |
| R. J. CLEWES | (14) | Right Wing |
| J. A. BAYLISS | (13) | Right Centre |
| B. J. VINE | (12) | Left Centre |
| R. R. MOGG | (11) | Left Wing |
| C. G. WILLIAMS | (10) | Outside Half |
| P. KINGSTON | (9) | Inside Half |

Forwards

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| P. J. BLAKEWAY | (1) |
| S. G. F. MILLS | (2) |
| M. A. BURTON (Capt.) | (3) |
| A. BRINN | (4) |
| S. B. BOYLE | (5) |
| J. A. WATKINS | (6) |
| P. J. WINNELL | (8) |
| J. H. HAINES | (7) |

Substitutes

NEWPORT

Colours: Black and Amber

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|------|
| Full Back | Leighton DAVIES | (15) |
| Right Wing | Ken DAVIES | (14) |
| Right Centre | David BURCHER | (13) |
| Left Centre | Gareth EVANS | (12) |
| Left Wing | Jeff CRANTON | (11) |
| Outside Half | David ROGERS | (10) |
| Inside Half | Alun EVANS | (9) |

Forwards

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Roy CRIDLAND | (1) |
| Phil WILLIAMS | (2) |
| Colin SMART (Capt.) | (3) |
| Lyn JONES | (4) |
| Jeff WATKINS | (5) |
| Geoff EVANS | (6) |
| Jeff SQUIRE | (8) |
| Brian LEASE | (7) |

Substitutes

NEXT HOME GAME

v BRIDGEND

MONDAY 12th APRIL, 1976,

K.O. 7.15 p.m.

CLUB NOTES

The 'West Country' once again proved a stumbling block for the 'Black and Ambers', Last Saturdays defeat at the Recreation Ground, Bath, following a very hard fought game, certainly halted our march for Championship and Merit Table honours. But all is not lost yet! although we have no easy games between now and the end of the season. Colin Smart and John Ryan are certain to ask the team for an extra effort for the final run in. Off the field members and supporters can play their part by turning up at every game, whether home or away, and cheering the team on. Why not start at Pontypool Park next Saturday, remember it is three years since we won there.

The teams run of success has certainly brought our players to the fore-front for recognition. Ken Davies, Gareth Evans, Lyn Jones, David Ford and Rhys Morgan have all been selected to play for the Welsh Rugby Union Presidents XV's in special centenary matches. While Geoff Evans led the county team at Blaina last week. Congratulations must be paid to Youth Player Steve Rogers on his selection for the Welsh Youth team. He is a player of great promise and should one day obtain a first team place.

Since our last home game Leighton Davies has completed his century of points in the 1st XV to go with the century he scored for the United. This is certainly a unique record. His rival for the full back position earlier in the season Glyn Bram, has decided to return to Pandy Park, Cross Keys. Although his stay was only a short one he managed a century of 1st XV points. Everyone at Rodney Parade wishes him well.

Our re-arranged fixtures with Bridgend and Aberavon will now take place at Rodney Parade on Monday 12th April and Monday 26th April, kick-off in both these Merit Table games will be 7.15 p.m.

Everyone at Rodney Parade like the rest of the rugby world were shocked by the illness that struck Welsh captain Mervyn Davies during the W.R.U. Cup semi-final. The recent news from the hospital has been encouraging, let's hope it continues, and he makes a complete recovery. We all send our 'Best Wishes' to an outstanding rugby player, the perfect gentleman, and all his family, 'Get Well Soon Merv'.

WELCOME TO RODNEY PARADE

This evening we welcome the 'Cherry and Whites' to Rodney Parade, remembering that they defeated us at Kingsholme earlier in the season by 17 pts. to 13 pts. Fixtures between our two clubs first started in 1878, and it is worth noting that since that date 161 matches have been played, with Newport winning 107, Gloucester 39 and 15 being Drawn. Since the 2nd World War the record reads, Played 61, Newport 38, Gloucester 19, Drawn 4. During this period Gloucester have only won on 4 occasions at Rodney Parade 1956-57, 1962-63, 1970-71, 1971-72 and each time completed the double. The only other seasons they achieved this, were 1881-82 and 1932-33. So to-night's team have everything to play for.

Founded in 1873, Gloucester have contributed a great deal to English Rugby both on and off the field. It is very nice to see the legendary Tom Voyce, still playing such a leading role with the club he served so magnificently on the field of play. He is still the clubs most capped player and a former President of the Rugby Union. This season the club have provided Mike Burton, Peter Butler and Chris Williams to the England team. They join fellow internationals John Watkins, Peter Kingston and Alan Brin at Kingsholme. As well as these stars, the 'Cherry and Whites' can also call upon such talented players as John Bayliss, (who seems to be following Old Father Thames' and keep rolling along), Richard Jardine, Bob Clewes, John Dix, Keith Richardson and John Fidler.

Many of these players are to be congratulated on helping Gloucester once again carry off the County Championship. John Bayliss certainly led the team in true West Country fashion. At the end of the season they leave for a tour of South Africa where they are certain to prove worthy opposition. Unfortunately their coach ex-Newport player Ted Parfitt, will not be travelling. But it is certain that he was pleased with the victory over Middlesex in the final.

Welcome Gloucester, may the game be everything good in rugby football.