RHODESIA

vs.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

POLICE GROUND

29th MAY 1976

25c
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT,
RHODESIA RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Sportsmanship throughout the world is cemented by bonds of friendship which cannot be broken by interference and influence outside the realms of true sport. In these circumstances, we salute and welcome the Gloucestershire Touring party, one and all, for their steadfastness against subversive elements. Surely, rugby can only win when such character is so forcibly manifested.

The Rhodesia Rugby Football Union is particularly thrilled to stage the opening game of the Gloucestershire tour and sincerely hopes they enjoy their short stay as much as we will enjoy having them.

Happy memories — good rugby and a successful tour of Southern Africa — hope that we shall have the pleasure of a reciprocal game in Bristol in the not too distant future.

REG STEWART.

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Welcome

In the somewhat restricted world in which Rhodesians presently find themselves rugby contacts outside of Southern Africa are greatly treasured. They bring with them fresh ideas, broadened horizons and the opportunity to cement old friendships and to make new ones. We are particularly delighted therefore that Gloucestershire, as the English County Champions for the past three years, should be visiting us in a year in which an international tour has passed us by and that they should do so notwithstanding the pressures to which they have been subjected.

On behalf of rugby followers in Rhodesia I extend to them our warmest welcome and our heartfelt thanks.

D. L. L. MORGAN,
Chairman,
Mashonaland Rugby Football Board.
GLOUCESTERSHIRE RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Colours: Jersey: White; Rugby shorts: White; Hose: Red.

PEN SKETCHES

The complete pen sketches of the whole touring group are the following (the party’s tour numbers are given, but the players will not necessarily play in these jersey numbers):

1. NELMES, Barry George (Cardiff). Prop. Nickname “Buller”. Age 27. Height 6 ft. 2 in. Weight 17¾ stone. Essentially a Bristol player becoming an “exile” when he moved to Cardiff in the course of his employment. “Disappeared” from the first-class rugby scene for nearly two years, but returned to display all his old skills. Represented the Western Counties against three touring counties and the South of England against the All Blacks. Has appeared for the Barbarians and was capped for England against Australia last summer. A Sales Representative. Married with two sons.


3. BURTON, Michael Alan (Gloucester). Prop. Age 30. Height 6 ft. 2 in. Weight 16 st. 9 lb. The current England prop, a British Lion and a Barbarian. A member of the England party who toured Australia in 1975. Has also represented Berkshire, the county of his birth, in the Championship. An irrepressible character; not only knows all the rugger songs, but says he wrote the majority in his odd moments. Product of a local Gloucester school, Longlevens. An oil company Sales Representative. Married.


5. POWELL, Roger Anthony (Llanelli). Lock. Age 29. Height 6 ft. 4 in. Oil company Commercial Representative. The first Englishman to play for the famous Scarlets of Llanelli in thirty years. Married with two children.

6. WATKINS, John Arthur (Gloucester). Flanker. Nickname “Gilly”. Age 28. Height 6 ft. ¾ in. Weight 14½ stone. The “blonde bombshell” of England rugby, as he has been called, won his first Cap against South Africa four years ago. Like John Haines is a product of that first-class rugby nursery, Gordon League. He holds the Gloucester club record of the most tries (20) scored in one season for a forward. Two tours of New Zealand and South Africa with England and is also a Barbarian. Tool-room Engineer. Single.


10. WILLIAMS, Christopher Gareth (Gloucester). Outside half. Age 25. Height 6 ft. 1 in. Weight 12½ stone. His partnership with Peter Kingston for Lydney Grammar School, Lydney, England Schools and St. Paul’s College became practically a legend in the north and west of the County. A Flying Officer, Chris has also played for the Royal Air Force and the Combined Services. Won his first England Cap against France this season.


15. BUTLER, Peter Edward (Gloucester). Full Back. Age 24. Height 6 ft. 0 in. Weight 12 st. 2 lb. In only his fourth season in first-class rugby, and was the country’s leading points scorer for three years. Generally recognised as the “King of the pace-kickers”. Educated at Crypt School and Birmingham University, where he was Rugby Captain. Played for U.A.U. and for S.W. Counties against All Blacks and Australia. Was capped for England against Australia last summer and played for England against France this year. Industrial Chemist. Single.

17. REED, Frederick Charles (Gloucester), Hooker. Age 27. Weight 13 stone. Height 5 ft. 10 in. Engineering Training Instructor. Married.


19. BRINN, Alan (Gloucester), Lock. Age 34. Has been referred to as “The Gentleman of Rugby Football”. Won his first England Cap only four seasons ago. Has made more appearances for Gloucester’s Senior XV than any other player in the club’s history. Educated at High Wycombe, in Rhodesia and Northern Ireland. Runs his own sports outfitter’s business.

20. HAINES, John Henry (Gloucester), Flanker. Age 27. Rapidly moved to the top flight on joining Gloucester for a Junior club. With his two international colleagues forms a speedy and constructive back row. A Wholesale Meat Caterer.

21. SORRELL, David (Philip) (Bristol), Outside half. Age 20. Height 6 ft. Weight 12 st. 4 lb. County Colts Cap and Bristol’s leading points scorer this season. Heating Engineer. Single.


23. VINE, Brian John (Lydney), Age 25. Height 5 ft. 9 in. Weight 11 st. 9 lb. Previously played for Gloucester. Storeman. Married.

24. JARDINE, Richard (Gloucester), Centre. Age 28. One of the two police officers in the side. Joined Gloucester from the County Police team. Has represented English and British Police.


26. MARSH, John S. Tour Manager. John Marsh is President of the Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union. He is a member of the Bristol Club of which he has been an officer for many years having been Membership Secretary, Team Secretary 1st XV and is currently Hon. Treasurer. He is a Magistrate and also actively engaged in Church work, representing the Bristol Diocese on the General Synod of the Church of England. Chartered Surveyor.

27. WALTER, David James. Assistant Tour Manager. Retired Business Executive. In his younger days played for his home town of Aberavon, South Wales, and his adopted town of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, at both Rugby and Cricket. His rugby playing career was cut short by a serious knee injury. Turning his attention to the administrative side of the game he became team secretary, coach and selector for his club for several years, before being elected to the Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union, and was appointed Team and Match Secretary in 1960-61. Has represented Gloucestershire on the Western Counties Selection Committee since 1960-61, and also Gloucestershire and Somerset on the South of England Selection Committee in 1967 and 1972.
The Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union

A SHORT HISTORY

The Union was first established in 1878 but did not enter the County Championships competition until the 1890/91 season.

To say the least Gloucestershire have an enviable reputation. Since that date they have won the Championship thirteen times, reaching the finals on twenty-two occasions, and the semi-finals on thirty occasions.

The Union established an all-time record in England in 1976 by reaching the finals of the County Championships for the seventh successive year and by beating Middlesex 24-9, they won the Championships for the third successive year.

Such is the record of our Rugby guests. In its long history Gloucestershire have played a predominant part in England’s rugby sphere and have naturally provided many international players for England, Scotland and Wales; as well as several players of the British Lions Teams. Nine Union members were included in England’s Team in Australia in 1975.

For the 1976 South Africa Tour, these are the following international players:


4.00 p.m.

RHODESIA vs. GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Referee — Mr. Joe Deyesl

Colours: Green and white hoops
15. Le Roy Duberly
13. Colin Palm
11. Blondie Harris
12. Ian Robertson
14. Danny Delport
10. Terry Bowes
9. Ian Buchanan (Vice-Capt.)
1. Tony Mollins
2. Spike McKenny
3. Rob Halstead
6. Nick Topping
4. Rob Stewart
5. Tom Ferreira
7. Colin Blythe-Wood
8. Brian Murphy (Captain)

Colours: White
15. P. E. Butler
13. A. J. G. Morley
11. J. A. Bayliss (Captain)
12. C. J. Williams
14. R. J. Clewes
10. C. G. Williams
9. P. Kingston
1. B. G. Nelmes
2. J. V. Pullin
3. M. A. Burton
6. J. A. Watkins
4. J. H. Fidler
5. R. A. Powell
7. M. Rafter
8. D. M. Rollett

Substitutes:
16. Ian Lendrum
17. Des Christian
18. Roy Stewart
19. Jannie Neeser

Substitutes:
16. G. A. F. Sargent
17. F. C. Reed
18. A. H. Troughton
20. J. H. Haines
21. D. P. Sorrell
25. R. Harding

Manager:
Denis Robinson

Tour Manager:
Mr. J. S. Marsh

Assistant Manager/Coach:
Ian McIntosh

Assistant Manager:
Mr. D. J. Walter