

SARACENS FOOTBALL CLUB (RFU)

*Centenary
Season*



SARACENS

v

1876-1976

SARACENS

v

GLOUCESTER

SUNDAY, 26th MARCH, 1977

KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

SARACENS		GLOUCESTER		
<i>(Black)</i>		<i>(Red & White)</i>		
15	M. PHILLIPS	<i>Full Back</i>	P. Butler*	15
14	P. WORSFOLD	<i>Right Wing</i>	R. Clewes	14
13	T. SMITHERS	<i>Right Centre</i>	D. Pointon	13
12	D. CROYDON	<i>Left Centre</i>	R. Jardine	12
11	C. HANSON	<i>Left Wing</i>	R. Mogg	11
10	P. HAWKINS	<i>Stand-Off</i>	C. Williams*	10
9	S. DOWLING	<i>Scrum-Half</i>	P. Howell	9
1	C. MCGREGOR	<i>Prop</i>	P. Blakeway	1
2	J. LOCKWOOD (Capt.)	<i>Hooker</i>	S. Mills	2
3	R. FAIRCLOTH	<i>Prop</i>	M. Burton*	3
4	P. HOLDEN	<i>Second Row</i>	S. Boyle	4
5	A. JASZCZAK	<i>Second Row</i>	P. Winnel	5
6	D. HARRIGAN	<i>Wing Forward</i>	J. Watkins*	6
8	E. J. RIDDLE	<i>Lock Forward</i>	G. Pinkney	8
7	A. KEAY	<i>Wing Forward</i>	J. Haines	7

* Internationals.

Referee : P. J. KINGHAM (London Society)

NEXT HOME GAME :

SARACENS CRUSADERS v HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

SATURDAY, 2nd APRIL, 1977

KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

Mitre Rugby Balls—Saracens choice

NOTES

There could hardly be a tougher test before a John Player Cup semi-final than a match against Gloucester. In fact, Saracens could not have had a more arduous preparation with a fixture against Bedford and Coventry also in the past week.

Saracens cannot expect any favours today from Gloucester, who came so close to knocking out the cup holders, Gosforth, in the quarter-finals, losing 3-0.

Saracens team . . . Tim Smithers, who missed the quarter-final match at Fylde, returns to first team action today, but that is the only bright note on the injury front. Of the team selected for this match, John Lockwood, Alex Keay and Don Harrigan were recovering from injuries in mid-week. In addition, Peter Cadle, Saracens' leading try scorer, who has been out for a month with a hamstring injury, hobbled off while making his comeback in the Crusaders' win over Letchworth last Saturday, and Mel Williams, a replacement at Fylde, badly injured his shoulder.

Introducing the visitors . . . Gloucester's pack needs little introduction, being one of the strongest in the country, with men such as Mike Burton and John Watkins. Behind the scrum there are further England internationals in fly-half Chris Williams, and full-back and place-kicker Peter Butler, while on wing there is the brilliant Richard Mogg, an England under-23 international.

Gloucester's record to date reads: won 26, drawn 3, lost 12, points 920, against 454. Their latest win came on Wednesday night when they defeated Bath 51-7, bringing their points tally to 265 in five home games.

Defeats at Bedford and Coventry, but . . . the general performance in both these games was disappointing. However, there was one pleasing note at Bedford, the superb try David Croydon set up for Malcolm Phillips. Croydon had three outstanding breaks and one wonders what might have happened if the forwards had won more possession. Those moments apart, these two games against sides we have not lost to in recent years, are best forgotten.

Mike Alder returns . . . one of the great Saracens' players of recent years returns to Bramley Road with the Ottawa Beavers tourists, who play a Saracens XV on Wednesday, April 6th, kick-off 6 p.m.

Special centenary match . . . John Heggadon has arranged a Past against Present match for Sunday, April 17th, kick-off 11.30 a.m., with a wine and cheese party at 12.30. The Past side will include Alder, Saracens' former international Vic Harding and George Sherrif, and a long list of former captains including Denis Thomas, who is coming from the United States, and Jim Wyness from Paris.

Make sure you go to Waterloo . . . see Brian Kemp after the match or give him a ring (office—348 2351; home—Cuffley 3616) to book your seat on one of the coaches.

CHRIS JOHNSON,
Weekly Herald