

BRISTOL FOOTBALL CLUB

(RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION)

BRISTOL GLOUCESTER

Memorial Ground, Filton Avenue
WEDNESDAY 27th. APRIL 1977

Kick Off 7.15 p.m.

PROGRAMME

10p

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CLUB NOTES

It is perhaps fitting that our last First XV game on the Memorial Ground this season should be against our county rivals Gloucester. We welcome them and their committee here this evening and must congratulate them on once again reaching 1000 points, and breaking their try scoring record for any season during their game at Exeter last Saturday. The result of tonight's match will count in the South and South West Rugby Union Merit Table, and it is a coincidence that the two leading teams should meet in the last week of the season. Gloucester are probably aware that we are unbeaten in this table and will no doubt be keen to dent our record. On the other hand our players (David Rollitt in particular) will be anxious to erase the thoughts of that narrow John Player Cup defeat at Kingsholm in February. A win for us tonight would mean 2 wins out of 3 matches as we also won at Gloucester in September by 9pts, to 6pts. However, we know from experience that to predict the outcome of these derby games from the form book (see Cabot) is very precarious but it has not gone unnoticed that our visitors, during the last 7 weeks have won 12 out of their last 14 games.

Unfortunately, the strength of both sides are weakened by the England Under 23 game at Orrell tonight. For Gloucester both winger Richard Mogg and second row Steve Boyle are missing and on the Bristol side we must add our congratulations to David Sorrell, John Doubleday, and Nigel Pompfrey on their selection for the England Under 23 tour to

Canada next month.

Our visitors are led tonight by county skipper John Watkins, one of 4 internationals named in their side. Their fifth international—scrum half Peter Kingston is still out because of injury, but by all accounts they have found in Paul Howell, the former Lydney player, an outstanding deputy. We are pleased to see centre Brian Vine back in action after a lengthy injury and we note with interest their pack includes the giant John Fidler and that popular tourist Mike Burton—2 players with plenty of experience of Bristol/Goucester

games.

Turning to the Bristot club, we would like to congratulate vice-captain Mike Rafter on being named this week as a reserve for the British Lions tour to New Zealand. The Bristol club would also like to thank you all for supporting our 3 teams this season and we hope to see you again at the first game next season when the First XV are home to Cheltenham on Thursday 1st September. Kick off 7.30 p.m. Finally this evening it is probably the last time 2 of our most respected and experienced players—David Tyler and David Rollitt will be representing the club (see overleaf) and we hope you will give these 2 tremendous players a farewell to remember.

STOP PRESS

The Colts match v. Ebbw Vale Youth on Saturday will now be played on the Memorial Ground Kick off 3 p.m.

THIS EVENINGS COLLECTION

This is in aid of the Bristol Schools Rugby Union, who are now divided into three groups—Under 14, Under 15 and Under 16. This regrouping has had the effect of increasing costs and cash is badly needed. We appeal for generous support.

> The Match Ball used in today's game has been kindly given by Hill House (Insurance) Ltd. Lewins Mead Bristol 1.



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Gloucester Bristol Colours-Blue and White Colours-Cherry and White A David Tyler Full Back 15 Peter Butler Full Back Right Wing Right Centre Left Centre Left Wing Bob Clewes David Pointon Brian Vine Right Wing B Ken Plummer X Take 14 (Capt) Chris Williams Phil Henson 13 Right Centre Left Centre Left Wing CD 11 John Dix E Alan Morley X Chris Williams Paul Howell 10 Fly Half Scrum Half Fly Half Phil Cue Richard Harding Scrum Half G Phil Blakeway **Forwards** Mike Fry Barrie Cole Austin Sheppard Alf Troughton Forwards Fred Reed Mike Burton Phil Winnel John Fidler John Watkins (Capt) Eddie Pinkney Vivian Wooley Referee: Nigel Gaymond Peter Polledri David Rollitt J. Burgum Esq. (North Midlands) M Mike Rafter P Andy Thomas R Rodney Speed Ron Etheridge John Simonett Replacements: 16 17 Replacements: X Indicates International