



# **BEDFORD RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB**

Founded 1886

GOLDINGTON ROAD, BEDFORD



**10p**

# Today's Teams

Saturday, 29th September, 1979

Ko 3.00 pm

## BEDFORD

- 15. M. MANNING
- 14. R. DEMMING
- 13. S. KERRIDGE
- 12. I. VINTER
- 11. N. CHESWORTH
- 10. N. GREENSMITH
- 9. S. DARVILLE
- 1. S. ASHTON
- 2. M. HOWE
- 3. R. PASCALL
- 4. \* N.O. MARTIN (Capt.)
- 5. R. MEADOWS
- 6. A. WHITEHOUSE
- 8. A. HOLLINS
- 7. G. PHILLIPS
- Rep. M. LLOYD WILLIAMS
- P. ROSSER

## GLOUCESTER

- \* P. BUTLER 15
- (Capt) R. CLEWS 14
- D. POYNTON 13
- D. VINE 12
- R. MOGG 11
- B. RUSSELL 10
- S. BAKER 9
- G. SARGENT 1
- K. WHITE 2
- A. BROOKS 3
- J. HERNIMAN 4
- A. TURTON 5
- \* J. WATKINS 6
- M. TEAGUE 8
- P. WOOD 7
- R. DALDRY Rep.
- T. FORD

\* Internationals

Referee: J.A.F. TRIGG (London Society)

# CLUB NOTES

This afternoon we have great pleasure in welcoming Gloucester to Goldington Road.

Last season Gloucester headed the South and South-West Merit Table but - rather surprisingly - were eliminated from the John Player Cup in the first round by Richmond, who forced a 3-3 draw at Gloucester and moved to the next round by virtue of the "away club" rule.

The season before, the Westcountrymen had been English club champions for the second time, beating Leicester by 6-3 in the final at Twickenham. Their earlier success, had come in the first year of the Club Competition (1971-72), when they beat Moseley by 17-6 in the final.

When Gloucester visited us two years ago, they had won all 7 of their matches up to then. A truly memorable game ensued, in which we achieved a level of sustained excellence which we had not equalled since winning the Club Competition in 1975. We beat Gloucester that day by 33-6, running in no fewer than 6 tries, converting 3 and adding a penalty, against our opponents' placed goal.

Last season, at Gloucester, it was a different story. However, with a strong wind at our backs, we led at half-time by 10-7, thanks to a try scored by Alan Towersey and 2 penalty goals. In the second half we kept our line intact but surrendered 2 penalty goals, losing finally by 10-14.

At first sight Gloucester's record so far this season (4 wins, a draw, and 3 losses) looks to be less formidable than usual; but 4 of their games have been away against clubs in great form. They have drawn at Kingsholm with Coventry (13-13) and have lost away to Moseley (12-21) and - last Saturday - Bristol (9-16), when success with 3 penalty kicks showed that Peter Butler, their English international full-back, had lost none of his skill as a kicker at goal.

Our win last Saturday at Richmond was a great achievement by the whole team, especially since Alan Towersey's distressing accident at training prevented his playing and there were one or two other notable absentees. Richmond had made a great start to the season with home wins over Wasps (29-19), whom we shall be meeting next January in the first round of the John Player Cup competition, and over Northampton (22-11).

At home last week against Harpenden the Wanderers scored 11 tries, Nick Greensmith converting 8 of them. Their opponents were unfortunate in losing a man with injury, but they kept going well despite the mounting score against them. Six of the Wanderers' tries were scored by wing threequarters. On the top pitch the Colts gave a fine exhibition of open rugby and scored well over 70 points in their win over Letchworth. Supporters who cannot witness 1st XV away matches will find much pleasure in coming to Goldington Road to watch the games of the Club's other sides.

We send our best wishes to Ian Peck and Ian Metcalfe for their England 'B' game today in Brussels against France 'B'. They have both returned recently from Cambridge University's highly successful tour of Japan. Nick Youngs is also with them in Brussels, but on the replacement bench.

We are glad to be able to say that Alan Towersey is making good progress towards recovery.