



**Newport
RFC 1979-80**

NEWPORT

v

GLOUCESTER

WEDNESDAY 27th FEBRUARY 1980 KICK-OFF 7.15p. m.

AT RODNEY PARADE

Official Programme 10p

THE TEAMS

GLOUCESTER

Colours: Cherry & White

Ian WILKINS (15) Full Back
Arthur Robert CLEWES (14) Right Wing
Arthur Richard MOGG (13) Right Centre
David POINTON (12) Left Centre
Paul TUNSTALL (11) Left Wing
Brian RUSSELL (10) Outside Half
Peter KINGSTON (9) Inside Half

Forwards

Gordon SARGENT (1)
Steve MILLS (2)
Alan BROOK (3)
Steve BOYLE (4)
John FIDLER (5)
John WATKINS (6)
Mike TEAGUE (8)
John HAINES (7)

Replacements:—

Steve BAKER
Kevin WHITE

Referee — Ken Rowlands — Ynysbwl

NEWPORT

Colours: Black and Amber

Leighton DAVIS (15) Full Back
Gareth EVANS — Captain (14) Right Wing
Phil WATERS (13) Right Centre
Justin ROBINSON (12) Left Centre
Robert ACKERMAN (11) Left Wing
Keith JAMES (10) Outside Half
Alun BILLINGHURST (9) Inside Half

Forwards

Jim DALE (1)
Steve O'DONOGHUE (2)
Roy CRIDLAND (3)
Lyn JONES (4)
David WATERS (5)
Geoff EVANS (6)
Richard BARRELL (8)
Roger POWELL (7)

NEWPORT R.F.C.
WOULD LIKE TO THANK
UMBRO
INTERNATIONAL
FOR SUPPLYING THEIR RUGBY CLOTHING

Replacements:—

Neil BROWN
David CORNWALL

NEXT HOME GAME TUESDAY 4th MARCH v. EBBW VALE, KICK-OFF 7.15 p.m.

WELCOME TO RODNEY PARADE

This evening we extend a very warm Rodney Parade welcome to the Cherry and White's of Gloucester, who having defeated us earlier in the season by 31 pts. to 12 pts. at Kingsholm, will be looking for the double. We would like to thank the Gloucester Club for agreeing to the re-arrangement of this evening's fixture which was originally to take place on Saturday, 22nd December, 1979 but had to be postponed due to the frozen state of the Rodney Parade pitch.

Gloucester Rugby Football Club like the City of Gloucester itself, has contributed a great deal to English history, and if one makes a thorough check through the records of the game of Rugby Football in England, Gloucester stands out as a major contributor, both on and off the field. The foundations of a Club are built in the past, but the present Gloucester team are maintaining the Club's reputation by their deeds on the field of play.

It would be very remiss of the Newport Club not to extend their sympathy to Gloucester Rugby Football Club and the family of the late Tom Voyce. The recent death of this legendary figure will certainly be a great loss not only to his family, Club, County and Country, but to the rugby world in general. All rugby people who came in contact with him either as a player, administrator or spectator were aware of his great knowledge and love of the game of rugby football. Visits to Kingsholm will not be the same in the future, and the Committee Box at Rodney Parade tonight and for future visits of the Cherry and Whites will miss his presence.

The present Gloucester team under their Captain, Bob Clewes have displayed attacking rugby of the highest quality. Their three-quarter line will need a great deal of looking after with the Captain and Richard Mogg being outstanding attackers, while the shadow of one of the most prolific goal kickers in British rugby, fullback Peter Butler ensures that opponents are aware of the consequences if they transgress the loss of the game. Former England Flanker and ex Club Skipper John Watkins, is playing as well as ever, and is ably supported by new England International Prop Forward Phil Blakeway, England substitute Hooker, Steve Mills and John Fidler, anyone who knows anything about rugby football realises that Gloucester always have a fine pack of forwards.

Welcome Gloucester, you have been visiting Rodney Parade for many years with each encounter producing hard uncompromising rugby. It is certain that today's game will continue in this tradition and we trust that although both teams will be anxious to secure victory that the loss of rugby football will be adhered to and that the best team will emerge as victors.

CLUB NOTES

'We're on our way to Cardiff', 'We will win the Cup' was the chant that went around Rodney Parade as the final whistle sounded at the end of our quarter final victory over Newbridge last Saturday. The team performed magnificently, and once again demonstrated to the rugby world that the Black and Ambers can still rise to the occasion. Our forwards completely destroyed the 'Newbridge Eight' and it was great to see Steve O'Donoghue hurtling over the line in true Bobby Windsor style, for his try. Leighton Davies, has confirmed to his team mates that he is keeping all his goal kicks for the semi-final.

Following Sundays draw, we now know that we have to play the high riding Swansea team in the semi-final, and although most people have now written us off, it is certain that ex-Newport forward Gordon Morris, who is Chairman of the Swansea selectors, will not allow the "All Whites" to be complacent. Cup rugby is a different game, and although they have 'the double' over us this season, we could have easily won the encounter at Rodney Parade, if we had kicked our goals.

Captain Gareth Evans, and his team were delighted with the vocal support they received last Saturday, and in thanking members and supporters would ask them to suck plenty of throat sweets between now and the semi-final.

Tonights visitors also enjoyed cup success last Saturday, defeating Coventry in a hard fought game by one point in the John Player trophy. We wish them well in a competition that they have previously won.

Welsh selectors Tony Gray and John Lloyd, must have been impressed with what they saw at Rodney Parade last Saturday, and a number of our players must have put their names forward for the forthcoming tour to U.S.A. and Canada. Let's hope they can continue their form in the domestic programme prior to the cup semi-final.