RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION CLUB COMPETITION

John Player Cup Final

GLOUCESTER v MOSELEY

TWICKENHAM 1st MAY 1982
Kick Off 3-00pm
OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 40p
A Foreword
By D. K. Brookes
President of the Rugby Football Union

The eleventh competition for the JOHN PLAYER CUP has been a most interesting one and today we see a repeat of the first final played in 1972 between Gloucester and Moseley. As usual both sides have had to fight hard to win their way through to the match today, including the semi-finals when Coventry and the holders, Leicester, were defeated.

The John Player knock-out tournament has grown in popularity with players of all levels and already, through County Cup Competitions and Merz Tables, the entrants for the 1982/83 competition have been decided.

The decision to hold a knock-out competition was conceived when the manager of the 1968 British Lions team made a plea for more competitive Rugby.

This plea came as the result of a meeting of that touring side who were tired of being beaten by both the Springboks and the All Blacks.

Since then the British Isles have beaten both South Africa and New Zealand in Test series in their own countries.

This important competition has, without doubt, contributed to these successes, and is firmly established in the Rugby Union calendar.

The Rugby Football Union are extremely grateful to John Player for their continued sponsorship and financial support. Throughout the season on the occasion of the draw for the ensuing round, they are perfect hosts to the officers of the Union, representatives of the clubs involved, and the Rugby writers. We wish to record our thanks to them.

We hope for a match which will provide all the thrills of Cup Rugby and, at the same time, the enterprising Rugby of which both sides are capable.

My personal best wishes to both clubs and their many supporters who have travelled to Twickenham today. May your journey be worthwhile and the contest worthy of the occasion.

... And a Message
from Andrew Reid
Chairman of Imperial Tobacco Ltd

Welcome to Twickenham for the John Player Rugby Union Cup Final of 1982. I am looking forward to an exciting game as much as you are.

Today the two teams will be competing for a new John Player Cup, the original having been won outright by Leicester, the winners in 1979, 1980 and 1981.

With Gloucester aiming for their third win and Moseley buoyed after ending Leicester's fine 18-match run, I feel sure today will be a great occasion for all lovers of Rugby.

The events that have culminated in the John Player Cup Final would not have been possible without the help of many individuals and organisations.

To them I extend my warmest thanks for the pleasure they have given to so many supporters of the game.

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**GLOUCESTER 12 (205; 120)**
Touch Judge: J. A. F. Trigg (London/Middlesex Society)
Cherry and White jerseys

- 15. P. FORD (205)
- 14. P. PRITCHARD
- 13. P. A. TAYLOR
- 12. S. G. PARSLOE
- 11. R. R. MOGG
- 10. L. JONES
- 9. S. J. W. BAKER

- 1. M. PREEDY
- 2. S. G. F. MILLS (Captain)
- 3. P. J. BLAKEWAY
- 4. S. B. BOYLE
- 5. J. ORWIN
- 6. J. GADD
- 8. M. TEAGUE
- 7. M. LONGSTAFF


**MOSELEY 12 (205; 120)**
Touch Judge: A. Walsby (Lancashire/Manchester Society)
Red and Black jerseys

- 15. M. J. COOPER
- 14. J. M. GOODWIN
- 13. J. E. DESBOROUGH
- 12. D. W. SHORROCK
- 11. R. D. LAWSON
- 10. M. H. PERRY
- 9. I. S. SUTHERLAND

- 1. T. F. CORLESS
- 2. G. N. J. COX
- 3. S. D. ACASTER
- 4. J. S. DAVIDSON
- 5. A. RECARDO
- 6. D. G. WARREN
- 8. D. NUTT (Captain)
- 7. N. C. JEAVONS


Drawn Matches: In the Final, if at the end of 40 minutes play each way, the scores be equal, the tries be equal, and the goals from tries be equal, there shall be an immediate period of replay between the same teams of 10 minutes each way, with a two-minute interval. If no result is then achieved the match shall be adjudged a draw.
These Clubs Stir Memories
By Barry Newcombe
Rugby Correspondent of the London Standard

By the time this season’s John Player Cup had come down to the last four, I think it was a true representation of the state of English club rugby, particularly in the second half of the season. Gloucester and Leicester had been the front runners all along and when they were drawn in opposite semi-finals, most uncommitted observers would have expected them to contest the final.

The draw gave them away matches. Gloucester were sent to Coventry (the whoop of joy from Coventry’s Harry Walker when he learned they had a home tie, at last, was one of the great sounds of the season) while Leicester headed to Moseley.

Gloucester duly lived up to expectations by winning 18-9 at Coventry but Leicester fell at The Reddings by 12-4, all of Moseley’s points coming from the boot of Mike Perry who dropped two goals and kicked two penalties before Leicester had a score on the board.

Leicester have played a marvellous part in the development of Cup rugby and it would be churlish not to pay tribute to them in their absence. By their standards and abilities they were able to broaden interest in the Cup and quite rightly retained it for ever, having been winners for three seasons in a row.

So a new trophy is being played for today and I wonder who will be holding it aloft at the end — Steve Mills, the Gloucester captain or Derek Nutt of Moseley, both forwards and both men experienced in the big club occasion.

Whatever today’s players achieve, it will matter greatly to their predecessors in the Gloucester and Moseley teams who have played their full part in the establishment of success and consistency over the years. I know that Moseley’s Colin McFadyean, the half-Scot who played centre for England, and Brian ‘Yogi’ Wightman, an England forward of 20 years ago, will be listening for the result at their homes in Hong Kong and Fiji.

I am sure that Peter Robbins, who I saw playing for Moseley in my youth, will have more than a glow of satisfaction if his club pulls it off today. So would all those Moseley forwards of yesteryear — Don Lane, one of the best hookers I ever saw in the Midlands, Mike Coulman, a prop who loved to run and had the strength and skill to do so, and Nigel Horton, a lock whose England career spanned 11 seasons.

And what of Moseley’s backs of the sixties and seventies — the late Sam Doble, goal-kicker supreme, John Finlan, that marvellously inventive fly-half, and Keith Hatter, a wing who might have deserved half a dozen caps but gained none. Who too, could forget Jan Webster, an endearing man and scrum-half of 110 per cent guts, who played for England teams which won against both South Africa and New Zealand. Yes, the 1982 Moseley team has much to play for.

Gloucester’s heritage is equally sound and the craft of forward play has been handed down from one generation to the next, giving their packs a mystique which few clubs, over the years, have been able to emulate. The first time I went to Kingsholm I saw Roy Fowke in their front row and Peter Ford in the back row and they epitomised the solidity and sense of purpose which have been the hallmarks of so many Gloucester packs.

When I started writing about rugby in Northampton, I remember how the tension used to increase as the Gloucester fixture approached. It was usually
played in March and was always regarded as one of the more fundamental tests of the season. Nothing much has changed.

Dick Smith played his part in many Gloucester triumphs and now is coach to the team which has come to Twickenham today—a bit of a sergeant major as well, by all accounts. Gloucester have been scoring tries with such rapidity that it is obvious they have expanded their game compared with, for instance, the side which won the very first Cup in 1972.

Gloucester and Moseley have remarkably similar records going into this final. Gloucester have played 32 games in the Cup, winning 24 for an average of 14 points a match. Moseley have played 34 Cup games, winning 24 for an average of 15 points a match. There could be only a bootlace between them if the averages are maintained.

Gloucester will carry the label of favourites at the start but that has often been a burden rather than a source of encouragement. I make no predictions but hope that this final, the pinnacle of the English club season, lives up to its expectations.

TODAY’S REFEREE

ROGER C. QUITTENTON
(London/Sussex Referees’ Societies)

This is the third John Player Cup Final which Roger Quittenton has handled. He was in charge of the 1978 match between Gloucester and Leicester, and last year he refereed the Leicester versus Gosforth game. As a member of the international panel of referees, he is one of the busiest officials whose travels take him an estimated 17,000 miles a season. This winter he has officiated at the Scotland v Australia International, the county championship semi-final tie between Gloucestershire and Lancashire and the U.A.U. Final. He was elected to the international panel in season 1976-77, and in May, 1977, handled the European Cup match between Italy and Rumania. Then refereed two Tests between Argentina and France the following month, the match between Russia and Rumania in July and the final of the Pernod Panache tournament in France in September of the same year. Now 41 years of age, Roger Quittenton was educated at Southampton University and played full-back for British Universities and Sussex before a knee injury cut short his playing career in 1968. Since then he has gained a worldwide reputation for his firm, yet sympathetic approach to refereeing. His fitness is a tribute to a conscientious routine of daily training. He lives with his wife and two daughters at Rustington in West Sussex and is Head of Mathematics at Sixth Form College, Worthing.
Gloucester set for exciting future

By Andrew Wise
Rugby Correspondent of Gloucester Citizen

Gloucester, who make their third Cup Final appearance at Twickenham today, are set for a highly successful future.

The manner in which the side, packed with some exciting young players, has swept through their programme this season gives plenty of justification for the confidence which club officials have been expressing for some time.

In 47 games the team has lost only three times and, significantly, have scored a remarkable 154 tries. They have achieved a new club record of 41 wins in a season.

The club’s conscientious rebuilding over the past couple of seasons has led to a talented crop of youngsters emerging from the successful Gloucester Colts side.

In the back-row, they have discovered the talents of number eight Mike Teague and blindside John Gadd, both aged 22, and already close to full England honours in the great Gloucester tradition of the legendary Tom Voyage, and more recently Peter Ford and John Watkins.

Behind them is another outstanding prospect in England Under 23 scrum-half Steve Baker. He became the youngest player to captain Gloucester earlier this season when Steve Mills was on international duty.

Maintaining the club’s tradition for producing front row forwards is loose-head prop Malcolm Preedy. He came from Longlevens, the club that “found” Mike Burton, and often appears as an extra flanker with his surging runs.

Add to that the power and experience of people like British Lions and England prop Phil Blakeway and England hooker Steve Mills, and it is easy to see why Gloucester have enjoyed a vintage season.

Success and Gloucester have become bywords throughout the club’s 109 year history, based largely on a dominant pack.

But in the past two seasons, under the guidance of coach Dick Smith, the club have been changing their approach, adopting a much more fluid style without forsaking the power up front.

The City of Gloucester is one of the few places in England where Rugby is the major sport and which boasts a thriving local scene, with the North Gloucestershire Combination a perfect nursery for the senior club.

The centre of the rugby focus is Gloucester’s famous headquarters, Kingsholm, where fans flock in their thousands to watch their heroes play.

This season they have had plenty to cheer about — including two wins over today’s opponents Moseley. No wonder they believe their team can make it three wins out of three appearances in the final.
Gloucester hound Coventry during their semi-final.

GLOUCESTER WIN AT COVENTRY

Steve Baker puts Gloucester’s backs in possession.

(Photographs of Coventry v Gloucester by Robert Martin of All Sport)
Steve Boyle and Adrian Turton climb above rivals at a line-out.

Peter Butler, recalled to Gloucester's XV, watched by colleagues Peter Pritchard, Adrian Turton and Richard Mogg.

(Photographs of Coventry v Gloucester by Robert Martin of All-Sport)
GLOUCESTER
(Players originally selected for today’s match)

P. FORD
Full-back. Age 22. 6ft. 2in., 13st. Paul Ford is another of the club’s young players who have come through Gloucester’s Colts system. Educated at Kings School, Gloucester, he is the son of former England flanker and England selector Peter Ford. Played for South West Colts XV and was an Under 23 England squad member last season. Tourd Canada with Gloucester, and for the past two seasons has been top points scorer. Finance representative with a banking group.

P. PRITCHARD
Wing. Age 24. 5ft. 11in., 11st. 4lb. Phillip Pritchard is in his first full season with the Gloucester club and has made a great impact. He has represented Welsh Schools 19 group and London Hospital and made one championship appearance for Gloucestershire this season. A deceptively slight player, Phil previously played for London Welsh. Educated at Wychiffle College, Stonehouse, he is a doctor at Guildford Hospital.

P. A. TAYLOR
Centre. Age 26. 6ft. 1in., 13st. 7lb. Paul Anthony Taylor joined Gloucester from Stroud last season, after playing with the Wdden Old Boys Club in Gloucester. Represented Gloucestershire and the South West Division. A hard tackling centre, he was educated at Severn Vale School and is a foreman with a firm of construcational engineers.

S. G. PARSLOE
Centre. Age 24. 6ft. 0in., 12st. 13lb. Steven Geoffrey Parsloe joined Gloucester at the beginning of last season after spells with Lydney and Bristol. Educated locally at Brockworth School, and represented both the English Students and Gloucestershire while at St. Paul’s College, Cheltenham. Teacher at Bournside School, Cheltenham.

R. R. MOGG
L. JONES
Stand-off. Age 27. 5ft. 10in., 12st. 7lb. Leslie Jones has had a fine season since joining from top local side Matson. Established himself as first choice and earned a place in both the County side and the England B squad. Had a short period with Pontypool last season. Educated at Saintbridge School, Gloucester. A company director with a motor components firm.

S. J. W. BAKER
Scrum-half. Age 22. 5ft. 6in., 11st. 8lb. Stephen John William Baker has been at Kingsholm since leaving Sir Thomas Rich's School. An outstanding young prospect, and is a current member of the England Under 23 side. Played for England Schools at Under 16 level and toured America and Canada with Gloucester. Engineer with Water Authority.

M. PREEDY
Loose-head prop. Age 21. 5ft. 11in., 15st. 11lb. Malcolm Preedy came to Gloucester from the same local side, Longlevens, that produced Mike Burton. Attended Hucclecote School. He has represented the County and the South West this year and is a current Under 23 squad member. Has toured Canada with Gloucester. A fitter with William Press International.

S. G. F. MILLS
Hooker. 5ft. 11in., 14st. 7lb. Stephen Graham Ford Mills first played for Gloucester in 1975. Born in Cirencester, he was educated at the local grammar school and joined Cirencester RFC. Regular member of county side, he won two full England caps in the Argentine last year. He has also captained England B and has played for the Barbarians. Steve is in his second season as club captain. Computer Programmer with an insurance company.

P. J. BLAKEWAY
Tight-head prop. Age 31. 5ft. 11in., 16st. 11lb. A former Cheltenham player, Phillip John Blakeway has won eleven caps for England and toured South Africa with the British Lions, although injury forced him to return early. Tourd Australia with England in 1975. Regular for Gloucestershire and South West. Made a famous comeback to win his caps after breaking his neck in a game for the club. Managing Director in a fruit and vegetable firm.
S. B. BOYLE

J. ORWIN
Lock. Age 28. 6ft. 4in., 17st. 7lb. John Orwin, a mobile forward who has played at prop and number eight as well as lock. A corporal in the RAF, he is a regular in their side and the Combined Services XV. Tourd America with the Services and made his Gloucestershire debut last year, having previously played for Oxfordshire in the County Championship. Stationed at Brize Norton, Oxfordshire.

J. GADD
Blind-side flanker. Age 22. 6ft. 2in., 14st. 7lb. John Gadd was born in New Zealand and lived the early part of his life there. Educated after that at Newent School, Gloucestershire, and played for the local club before joining Gloucester Old Boys. Moved to Kingsholm in the 1978/79 season. An England Under 23 and B International, has been selected for the England tour to Canada and the United States. Service engineer in electronic control gear.

M. TEAGUE
Number eight. Age 22. 6ft. 3in., 15st. Michael Teague is another of the club’s Under 23 and B International players. He was called up to stand by for England’s international v Scotland earlier this season. Went to Churchdown School and joined Gloucester four season ago. Fitter with the local Water Authority.

M. LONGSTAFF
Openside flanker. Age 27. 6ft. 0in., 14st. 11lb. Mike Longstaff was educated at Sir Thomas Rich’s School and played for the Old Richans Club. Started career as full-back, and has played in every other position behind the pack before switching to flanker two seasons ago. Tax Inspector.
# Full results JOHN PLAYER CUP 1981-82

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There's no doubting which club they support! This study in uninhibited joy was caught during Gloucester's semi-final at Coventry.
HOW THE TEAMS REACHED THE FINAL

GLOUCESTER

THIRD ROUND
(Home)
Beat HIGH WYCOMBE 40-6
Tries: J. Orwin (2), J. Gadd, S. Parsloe, M. Teague
Penalties: P. Ford (3)
Dropped goal: L. Jones
Conversions: P. Ford (4)

FOURTH ROUND
(Home)
Beat EXETER 34-3
Tries: P. Pritchard (3), S. Mills (2), M. Longstaff, S. Baker
Conversions: P. Ford (2), L. Jones

QUARTER FINAL
(Home)
Beat SALE 13-6
Tries: P. Ford, M. Teague
Penalty: P. Ford
Conversion: P. Ford

SEMI-FINAL
(Away)
Beat COVENTRY 18-9
Tries: S. Parsloe, P. Pritchard
Penalties: P. Butler (2)
Conversions: P. Butler (2)

MOSELEY

THIRD ROUND
(Home)
Beat HARROGATE 17-4
Tries: J. Goodwin (2)
Penalties: J. Metcalfe (3)

FOURTH ROUND
(Home)
Beat LONDON WELSH 25-9
Tries: J. Davidson, N. Jeavons
Penalties: M. Perry (4)
Dropped goal: M. Perry
Conversion: M. Perry

QUARTER FINAL
(Home)
Beat LIVERPOOL 15-3
Tries: A. Thomas, D. Nutt
Penalty: M. Perry
Conversions: M. Perry (2)

SEMI-FINAL
(Home)
Beat LEICESTER 12-4
Dropped goals: M. Perry (2)
Penalties: M. Perry (2)
Cheats must be penalised

By Terry O'Connor
Rugby Correspondent of the Daily Mail

It is easy to criticise the International Rugby Board by pointing out mistakes they have made when changing laws, but I think everyone who has studied the game during the post-war years must admit they now see much better rugby.

Many will remember those dull January matches in the mud of Twickenham or Cardiff between England and Wales when the ball was repeatedly kicked to touch on the full. During the first 16 matches between the countries following the war England and Wales only once reached double figures.

It is true that many scrum-halves, helped by the example set by Gareth Edwards, have perfected the art of the rolling kick. That requires space and nowadays we see loose forwards used more helping to launch first phase attacks.

Perhaps the most dramatic law change came when players were allowed to play the ball following a tackle without first using their feet. This was particularly helpful to the New Zealanders as they were the pioneers of rucking. Unfortunately, few British players have mastered this art, although Carwyn James managed to educate the 1971 Lions on tour.

Some law changes have made little difference. One can hardly say that back play has improved now that all backs, except the scrum-half, are forced to stand 10 yards back from a line-out or behind the hindmost leg of a scrum. Maybe the scrum problem is that hooking is now too predictable.

It seems to me that the standard of fly-half play has declined rather than improved since the introduction of these laws. Even when flankers were allowed to break before the ball was out, men like Jackie Kyle and Cliff Morgan were able to weave their own type of magic on the rugby field.

These were also the days before coaching at senior level. This development has improved forward play in this country as seen by the superiority of Lions teams over the All Blacks and Springboks since 1971.

Coaching has had the reverse effect on our back play. Instinctive players have been discouraged and often forced to play to a set pattern of miss moves and crash ball. The law makers cannot be blamed for this.

Yet they would have made less mistakes if they had consulted more with players and referees. This happened before, for instance, when Bert Toft, a former England captain, was brought in to give his view on changes in the hooking laws.

If this still happened the new scrumming law would never have been written in a way which brought an outcry from leading prop forwards. In fact, the Board were forced to make changes in the wording before the first match was played in the northern hemisphere last year.

The recent international championship was so dominated by the goal kicking of Ollie Campbell, “Dusty” Hare, Gwyn Evans and Andy Irvine that there has been a demand to reduce the worth of the penalty goal from three to two points.

This matter was discussed by the Board during their meeting in March but they wisely decided to consider the matter for another year. During this period members of the Unions in membership will examine the laws and see whether it would be possible to reduce the number of times where a direct kick at goal is needed.

Introducing more indirect kicks would be far better than allowing cheats to escape by conceding only two points. For example, I am convinced the number of line-out penalties could be drastically reduced. It was interesting to observe how the French referees gave fewer line-out penalties in the championship compared to the other officials.

There is a sound argument to allow lifting and obstruction, providing neither constitute foul play. Referees also should be more liberal regarding off-side and penalise only when it is deliberate and preventing the other side playing the ball.

What rugby needs is more referees prepared to play to the spirit of the game. Under the present system of assessors being brought into judge referees, it seems that extra marks are given according to the number of penalties given. This is the wrong policy.

At the same time rugby cannot tolerate cheating. Where a player prevents the opposition from playing the ball or is guilty of foul play, he must be penalised. But for these crimes many more tries would be scored.

I am sure rugby will continue to evolve into an even better game.