



GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1873

PRESIDENT

CANON H. M. HUGHES, B.A.

GLOUCESTER v LOUGHBOROUGH COLLEGE

Wednesday, 8th December, 1982

Kingsholm, Gloucester

Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

0197

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 15p

- RUGBY BOOTS • JERSEYS AND SHORTS • BALLS • CLUB DISCOUNTS
- INDIVIDUAL DISCOUNTS FOR LOCAL CLUB MEMBERS

• Personal attention always available at:

ALAN BRINN SPORTS

54 Barton Street, Gloucester

Telephone 33722

GLOUCESTER

Cherry & White

Full Back

15. P. Ford

Three Quarters

- *§ 14. R. Mogg
- * 13. S. Parsloe
- 12. C. O'Donoghue
- * 11. N. Price

Half Backs

- * 10. L. Jones
- 9. W. Hall

Forwards

- *§ 1. M. Preedy
- *† 2. S. Mills (Capt.)
- * 3. R. Pascall
- *§ 4. S. Boyle
- § 5. J. Brain
- 6. J. Bennett
- 7. I. Smith
- § 8. M. Teague

REPLACEMENTS

C. Dyke
K. White

LOUGHBOROUGH COLL.

Full Back

15. R. Sykes

Three Quarters

- 14. S. Robinson
- 13. S. Burnhill
- 12. S. Watson
- 11. S. Pill

Half Backs

- 10. A. Bird
- * 9. P. Jeffrey (Capt.)

Forwards

- 1. T. Rogerson
- 2. J. Goss
- 3. R. Matuszczyk
- 4. S. Heaver
- 5. J. Morrision
- * 6. J. Wells
- * 7. D. Pegler
- 8. N. Castleton

REPLACEMENTS

A. Robinson
D. Llewellyn

Referee: DAVID HEAD (Southern California Rugby Referee's Society U.S.A.)

† International

§ Under 23 International

* County



NORMAN P. PARTRIDGE
(INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.)

2 CLARENCE STREET, GLOUCESTER

Telephone 32088 and 34920

Part of the Scene

Tonight sees one of those annual fixtures which are so much part of the regular Kingsholm scene that losing it would be as if someone took the white harts away from the front of the White Hart.

Although Loughborough Colleges would be the first to admit that they don't evoke the same aura as last week's visitors — Leicester and Moseley — it certainly isn't a case of Lord Mayor's Shows and Dustcarts. While they have usually been on the receiving end, here, they've always given us plenty of entertainment and commitment.

Let's get the whole thing into perspective. Last season Gloucester won the equivalent fixture by 34 points to — well, just let's say that Loughborough gave the score board lads an easy night. If that sounds one sided, it's worth noting that the week previously we beat Newport 19 - 0, and that just three days after the Loughborough visit, we entertained Oxford University and administered chastisement to the tune of 46 - 6.

If you want another yardstick, remember that the traditional rivalry between Loughborough and Exeter — nee St. Lukes — is fierce and continuing, but that we could only beat the Devon college by 16 points to 10, just a few weeks ago. So tonight's game will be a good pointer to the relative strengths of the two principal non-Oxbridge colleges. And Oxford and Cambridge both gave us over 30 points this season.

In any case, it's always a pleasure to see the sort of fitness and willingness to run which Loughborough consistently exhibit. And there's always the thought that we may be watching some of the stars of the not-too-distant future, on this occasion

You're always very welcome, Loughborough. Long may our fixtures continue.

The debate continues . . .

So, there's still no final decision on where the County Championship Final will be played, or whether we shall have to ask the indulgence of Bridgend (again), for January 29th.

Apparently, the final die will be cast tomorrow evening, and my mole in the County administration tells me that the reason decision could not be reached last week was simply that the discussion went on for so long that everyone was simply too tired to think straight any longer.

I can understand that. Bristol do have a good case, the last two Finals having been staged here. On the other hand, Bristol have had two County matches this season, and we haven't seen one yet.

To be purely parochial about it, there's another good reason why we might like to see the Final here. Simply this — we wouldn't want to take on Bridgend with half a team, would we?

Christmas Goodies

I hope that, shortly, our superb calendar for 1983 is ready, and will be on sale tonight. At £1.50 it's a snip, containing, as it does, twelve of the best action pictures of the Cherry and Whites that you've ever seen gathered together in one place.

It's only right to give our heartfelt thanks to the 'Citizen' management for co-operating by allowing us to use the pictures, and to their photographers for being good enough to take such super shots in the first place.

Similarly, the Gloucester RFC Christmas Card will also be on sale. It could save you a lot of traipsing round the shops, and it could also enable you to avoid those rather sickly verses which many greetings cards are afflicted with, these days.

While we're about it, it has been pointed out to me that the array of ties available makes an excellent gift suggestion for any friend or relation you may have of the rugby persuasion — especially those exiled from Gloucester, for one reason or another.

Another idea is that the little badges on sale make excellent stocking-fillers for youngsters (or not-so-youngsters, for that matter), if you just want to top up their gift list with a little something original. Well — it's better than a pair of socks, isn't it?

So long Gerry!

Only a week or two ago, you'd have thought that the idea of Gerry Herniman giving up rugby was about like Attila the Hun giving up rape and pillage. However, Attila was a dwarf, and there's nothing small about Gerry, either physically, or in his commitment and loyalty to Gloucester rugby. If Gerry thinks it's time to hang up his athletic supporter, then we must respect him for it, and accept his resignation with regret.

We've always been fortunate in the solid nucleus of good club players we've had. Chaps like Mike Nichols, Digger Morris, Dick Smith, Eric Stephens, and so many others, who were never going to have a glittering international career, but who were always there, taking the worst that the strongest fixture list in club rugby could throw at them. No one would deny for one moment that G. Herniman is a name that stands out in even that distinguished company.

I don't want this to sound like an obituary. Gerry has given us so much entertainment, and still has a lot to offer. I hope he can be persuaded to use his experience and good nature in helping to run the Club.

Cheers Gerry! And thanks, from your friends on the terraces and in the stand.

Oh say can you see . . .

. . . if the fog isn't too thick, our guest referee tonight? He's a new experience for us, but a very welcome one. In fact, few supporters can have seen a ref. from Southern California before. In fact, we're not as strange to him, he having both played in Britain, and controlled various British teams in the States.

The last time, as far as I can remember, that we had a referee from overseas, was when a very competent Frenchman took charge of the Newport match, and ended up being just about the only ref. to be applauded off the field at Kingsholm.

So Mr. David Head has quite a bit to live up to — although I've no doubt he'll compare favourably with some home-grown officials which I needn't cause controversy by naming.

You've very welcome Mr. Head. We hope you have an excellent game, and a very pleasant stay in our ancient citadel of the game.

And I apologise for taking liberties with your National Anthem in my heading.

Full circle

If there's one John Player match which sticks in the memory, it's that epic trip to London Welsh, almost exactly a decade ago. History does have a way of repeating itself, and it was great to see that we are to meet the Exiles again — but on our own patch, this time.

It won't be an easy one, but perhaps we need a fairly stiff start to get the adrenaline flowing.

They tell me that stand tickets will be on sale in plenty of time but that it's a 'pay at the gate' situation for the ground.

One thing's for sure — it's a great prospect for the New Year.

Keeping it local

I don't know whether Mr. Head will buy a programme while he's here, or if the ref. qualifies for a 'Fortunate Fiver', but the last chap who did lived very much closer than he does. Just down the road, in fact.

Mr. P. Lander of 20, Kingsholm Road bought programme No. 563 at the Moseley match, and got a £5 prize, as well as a highly exciting game.

Next fixture — Christmas

This is the last home first team game before the Christmas matches set in with the visit of Coventry on Saturday 18th. Then, as you probably know, OMT on Boxing Day, and Newport on the 29th.

However, if you want to dodge the shopping, you could always come and see the United take on Bath next Saturday.

Tailpiece

Had a nice letter from Air Commodore Tony Mason, after his visit to the Leicester game. He says "It was a great pleasure to experience, for the first time, what I have hitherto only heard by reputation: the warmth of a welcome at Gloucester RFC."

He must have meant it. He has already sent us his Patron's cheque.

PETER ARNOLD.