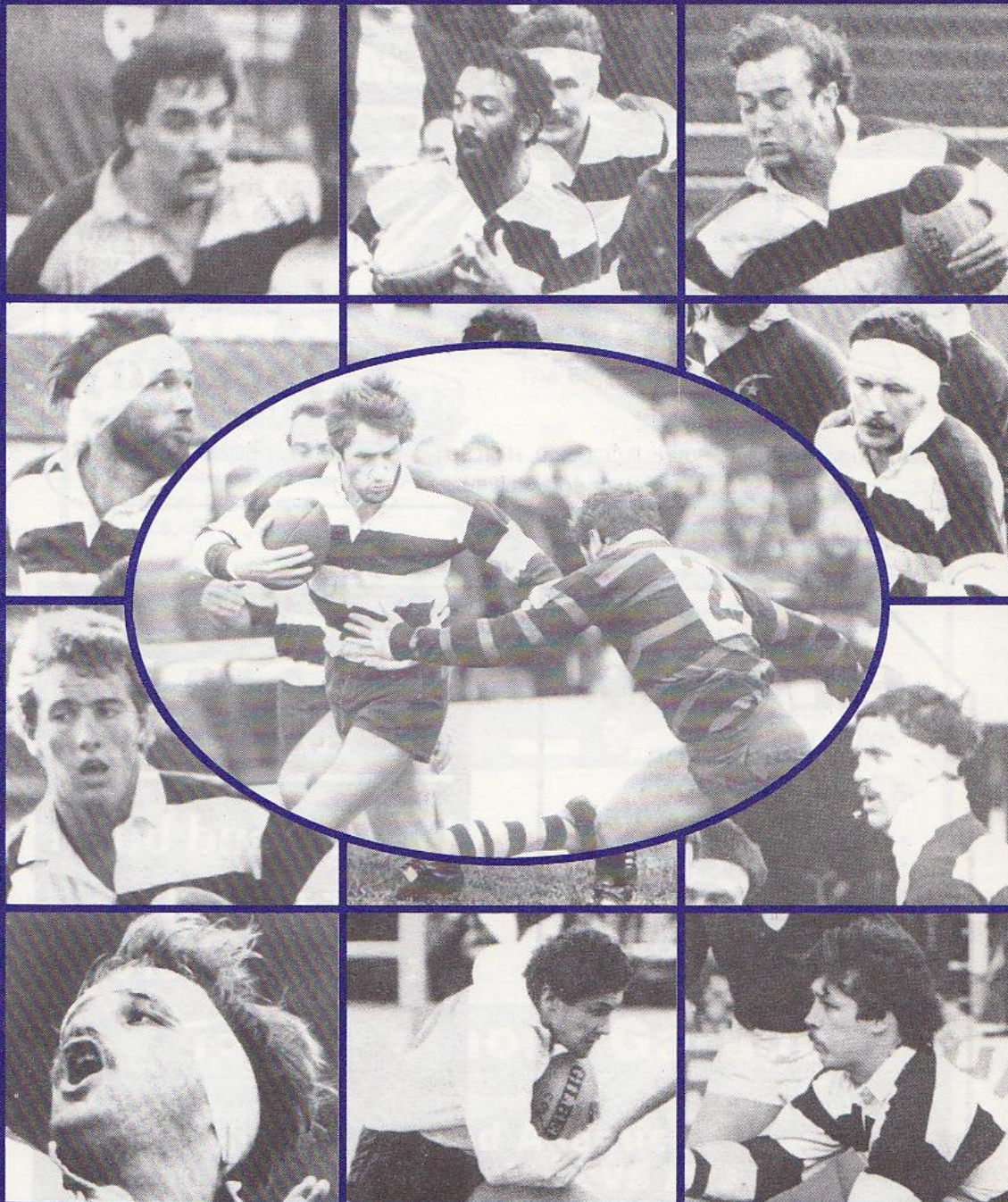


# Coventry Football Club



Программа

20p

# TEAMS

## Coventry

No.	Name	
15	P. Rossborough	<i>Full Back</i>
14	M. Summers	<i>Right Wing</i>
13	R. Massey	<i>Right Centre</i>
12	J. Cooke	<i>Left Centre</i>
11	E. Saunders	<i>Left Wing</i>
10	N. Wright	<i>Stand Off</i>
9	R. West	<i>Scrum Half</i>
1	L. Johnson	<i>Forwards</i>
2	C. Weston	
3	S. Wilkes	
4	A. Gulliver	
5	B. Kidner	
6	N. Malik (Capt.)	
8	R. Travers	
7	M. Trumper	

*Replacements:*

M. Clifford  
P. Bowkett

## Gloucester

Name	No.
T. Smith	15
D. Morgan	14
R. Mogg	13
P. Taylor	12
N. Price	11
M. Hamlin	10
S. Baker	9
G. Sargent (Capt.)	1
S. Mills	2
P. Blakeway	3
S. Boyle	4
J. Orwin	5
J. Gadd	6
M. Teague	8
D. Spencer	7

*Replacement:*

S. Parsloe

REFEREE:  
David Matthews  
Liverpool Society

SATURDAY  
17th DECEMBER 1983  
Kick-off 3.00pm



Coventry's Russell Whitworth, in his first senior appearance of the season, demonstrates the elusive running that brought him a try against Streatham/Croydon at Coundon Road a fortnight ago. The solo effort was similar to the try he scored for England Colts against Wales Youth at Gloucester last season.  
*(Photograph by courtesy of the Coventry Evening Telegraph)*

#### **GOOD AFTERNOON & WELCOME TO GLOUCESTER:**

Our last home fixture of 1983 at least does give us an opportunity of wishing everyone, both Coventry and Gloucester, a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year, even if we are a matter of eight days early.

For this, the last home match at 1st XV level for 3 weeks, we extend as usual a very warm welcome to our old friends and adversaries, Gloucester, who of course are attempting the season's double over us, having won the earlier encounter at Kingsholm in September by 19 pts to 14.

In some ways the season is a rather unusual one for the men in "cherry & white". Because of the quirks and pitfalls of the qualifying system from region to region, they are not participating in this year's "John Player Cup". Not that their side has been exactly idle! Already, in a hectic fixture list with pretty well without exception two matches per week, the Gloucester 1st XV have undertaken something like 25 matches, their record before today being won 16, 1 drawn, with 8 defeats. Most recently, last Saturday came a home win over close and arch rivals Bath, a few days earlier another home mid week success over Ebbw Vale, preceded even further two weeks ago today by the defeat at Leicester, when by all accounts despite outscoring the "Tigers" by 4 tries to 2, the boot of "Dusty" Hare had a rather large say in things.

Looking at the Gloucester side in recent weeks, their backs appear to have had a very settled look, from the side which played here last season, Richard Mogg has it seems switched back to centre partnering Paul Taylor, whilst the only other Gloucester "back" who played here last season and who's likely to be in today's side is scrum half Steve Baker.

Traditionally of course over the years the basis and real strength of the Gloucester club has been their pack and the present side is no exception. Skipped from prop forward by Gordon Sargent, Gloucester's powerful pack has regularly included Steve Mills, Phil Blakeway, John Orwin, John Fidler, John Gadd and Mike Teague, with last summer's "British Lion", Steve Boyle and England Under 23 prop, Malcolm Preedy not able to claim regular places, such is the awesome strength in depth.

Whilst, as we mentioned earlier, Gloucester are attempting their second victory over us this season, last year, for the first time in many a long day we achieved the double ourselves, 12 pts to 10 here and 15 pts to 3 at Kingsholm.

All the indications are, weather permitting, this afternoon's match is likely to fall into the usual Cov/Gloucester mould; hard, no quarter asked or given encounters, invariably very exciting. Quite a test ahead for our side that's for sure.