



Newport R.F.C.

RODNEY PARADE, NEWPORT



NEWPORT
VERSUS
GLOUCESTER

SATURDAY, 20th OCTOBER, 1984

KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

Official Programme 20p

WELCOME TO RODNEY PARADE

This afternoon's visitors to Rodney Parade are making their second visit of the week into Gwent, having won convincingly at Eugene Cross Park, Ebbw Vale, last Wednesday evening. Gloucester first appeared on a Newport fixture list over 100 years ago — in actual fact it was during the 1878–79 season, when the Cherry and Whites faced a 0-0 draw here at Rodney Parade, but were defeated at Kingsholme by one try to nil. Since those early encounters there has been great rivalry between our two clubs and it is certain that this afternoon's encounter will rival many encounters of the past. Unfortunately for Gloucester, they have to travel over the Severn Bridge without a number of their leading players, who this afternoon will be appearing in the South and South West XV who are playing the touring Australians who opened their tour at Twickenham on Wednesday with a comfortable win over the London XV. Last season the Black and Ambers achieved their first "double" over Gloucester since 1972–73, winning 7pts to 3pts at Kingsholme, (yes, an away victory!!) and here by 16pts to 3pts.

Welcome, Gloucester — we are confident that you will be bringing a great deal of West Country fervour with you. The Black and Ambers will be anxious that you don't complete "a Gwent double" within the week, and determined that they can emulate our Gwent neighbours, Newbridge, who were victorious earlier this season at the Welfare Ground.

Last Saturday, the scoreboard attendants were claiming overtime, and although the Newport faithfuls were looking for "a century", they were relieved because there is only enough space for double numbers and not triple. Congratulations to Mike Lewis on becoming the quickest centurion in the Club's history (2 days quicker than Andy Phillips, but one game more) and it was pleasing to see him opening his try account at Abertillery Park last Wednesday evening in our 31pts to 17pts victory over the home side. Having broken the 'away hoodoo' it is hoped that 'MJW' and his team will now be in a position to display all their skills on other grounds as they do here at Rodney Parade. Congratulations are also due to last week's debutants, Shaun McWilliams, Darren Gibbon and Glen George, who all scored tries in our runaway victory, while another debutant, Jason White, made his presence felt at Abertillery Park. All these young players have certainly added to the depth of talent coaches Tony Faulkner and Roy Duggan have to work with.

Last Tuesday's Schweppes W.R.U. Challenge Cup draw could have been far more favourable for the Black and Ambers, and it is certain that there will be no complacency when we travel to Vardre. It is certain that the name Penclawd will be on everyone's lips and we will be prepared for a very difficult game. The reward of a home tie in the next round to the winners of the Llantrisant v. Aberaman game should provide the players with the right kind of motivation.

With the Wales Squad for the Australian game and the Wales 'B' Squad for the France 'B' game due to be announced, everyone at Rodney Parade will be hoping that the Black and Ambers are well represented in both. Our captain, Michael J., should retain the captaincy of the National team and be joined by David Waters, who has shown fine form as a No.8 in the last two matches, while flanker Roger Powell, prop John Rawlins and wing Marc Batten must be under consideration for the 'B' Squad, plus David Waters once again. Chris Wood and John Widdicombe were on the losing side for Devon last Saturday, but are certain to retain their places for the next game.

This afternoon we extend a very warm Rodney Parade welcome to French referee Monsieur Guy Maurette as part of the W.R.U. exchange visits. We hope his stay will be a pleasant one and that he will return home full of happy memories of an exciting game of rugby played in the right spirit.

TODAY'S TEAMS

NEWPORT

Colours: Black & Amber

Phil STEELE	15	Full Back
Marc BATTEN	14	Right Wing
Chris WILLIAMS	13	Right Centre
Paul DANIEL	12	Left Centre
Chris WOOD	11	Left Wing
Mike LEWIS	10	Outside Half
Gerald WILLIAMS	9	Inside Half

GLOUCESTER

Colours: Cherry and White

Paul FORD	15	Full Back
Andy RICHARDS	14	Right Wing
Paul TAYLOR (Capt.)	13	Right Centre
Russ ELLIS	12	Left Centre
Nick PRICE	11	Left Wing
Mike HAMLIN	10	Outside Half
Marcus HANNAFORD	9	Inside Half

John RAWLINS	1	Forwards	Peter JONES	1
Michael J. WATKINS (Capt)	2		Kevin WHITE	2
Rhys MORGAN	3		Richard PASCALL	3
Robert YOUNG	4		Nigel SCRIVENS	4
Andrew PERRY	5		John BRAIN	5
Richie COLLINS	6		John GADD	6
David WATERS	8		Mike TEAGUE	8
Roger POWELL	7		Ian SMITH	7

Substitutes:

Richard STEWART
Johnathan MOORE

Tim SMITH
Dave SPENCER

REFEREE: Monsieur Guy Maurette (France)

Next Home Game: Wednesday, 24th October v. NEWBRIDGE :: K.O. 7.00 p.m.

NEWPORT R.F.C. would like to thank
GERRY JONES TRANSPORT LTD., NEWPORT
Today's Match Ball Sponsor

Newport R.F.C. thank
UMBRO INTERNATIONAL and COTTON OXFORD
for sponsoring their kit this season

Newport R.F.C. Programme Editor: B. J. Jones