

All Blacks Notes

Last Monday's game against Aberavon proved to be one of fluctuating fortunes. The "Wizards" started off in tremendous style, going 10 points up in ten minutes. Gradually the "All Blacks" regained supremacy and were 6 points in front with a couple of minutes to go, when a freak rebound from a fly-hack kick to touch by Paul Thorburn rebounded over the line and enabled wing Peter Jones to score in the corner. It all depended on fly-half Andrew Jones conversion kick — this failed and Neath achieved the "double" over our old rivals.

Having played two consecutive games at Kingsholm, we welcome the opportunity of seeing Gloucesters famous "cherry and white" strip at the Gnoll. Our visitors, after a couple of inconsistent seasons by their own high standards have once again established themselves as one of the leading sides in England. They reached the semi-finals of the John Player Cup losing to the holders and their West Country rivals — Bath.

One thing our two clubs have in common is that both were first winners of their respective Cup competitions. Gloucester defeated Mosely in the first final at Twickenham while on the same day, Neath defeated Llanelli at Cardiff.

Gloucester were formed in 1873 and over the years have become renowned for producing good forwards. A. T. Voyce who became President of the R.U. in 1960-61 is their mostcapped player with 27 caps for England between 1920-26 and being regarded as one of the finest loose forwards of his era. The present fixture secretary Peter Ford was capped 4 times in 1964, and in recent years Phil Blakeway, Mike Burton, Andy Brain, John Orwin (today's skipper) Steve Boyle, Gordon Sergeant, John Tiddler, Mike Teague, Steve Mills and Peter Butler have all represented England.

John Gwilliam a former Welsh captain played for our visitors, but one of their favourite Welshmen must be W. E. (Willie Bach) Jones what Neath supporter will ever forget his two narrowly missed drop goals against the N.Zealand 'Kiwis' on the Gnoll in November 1945. Willie left Neath about 1946 and went to Gloucester where he became a very popular Publican and played for Gloucester for some seasons.

Last season Nick Price was the leading try scorer with 27 tries and last Saturday he scored 6 tries against New Brighton. Tim Smith at full back is leading points scorer.

We look forward to a keen and exciting game.

GLOUCESTER

NEATH

15	T. Smith	Full Back Paul Thorburn †*	15	
14	D. Morgan	Right Wing Elgan Rees †*(Capt)	14	
13	R. Mogg	Right Centre David Jacob	13	
12	B. Taylor	Left Centre Steve Powell	12	
11	N. Price	Left Wing Simon Jones	11	
10	M. Hamlin	Outside Half Jonathan Davies †	10	
9	M. Hannaford	Inside Half Gareth Jones	9	
1	P. Blakeway *	Prop Brian Williams	1	
2	S. Mills *	Hooker Mike Richards †	2	
3	R. Pascoe	Prop Mark Jordan	3	
4	J. Orwin * (Capt)	V Second Row Robert Hughes	4	
5	J. Brain	Second Row Barry Clegg †*	5	
6	J. Gadd	Wing Forward Tim Waldron	6	
8	M. Teague *	No. 8 David Morgan	8	
7	I. Smith	Wing Forward Lyn Jones	7	
Replacements		REFEREE Replaceme	Replacements	
	ingston Vhite	MR. D. E. PARRY-JONES R. J (PONTYPOOL) Jeremy		
		* Denotes International – † Denotes 'B' International		