SATURDAY 19th APRIL 1986
SALE V GLOUCESTER
KICK OFF 3.00 p.m.

SALE
15. G. JENION
14. H. THOMAS
13. A. BOND (Capt.)
12. P. STANSFIELD
11. H. BENJAMIN
10. A. EGAN
  9. H. FITTON
  8. M. HIGGS
  7. A. SIMPSON
  6. M. CALLERY
  5. I. BULLOUGH
  4. C. SHAW
  3. S. TIPPING
  2. N. GAFFNEY
  1. I. MCKIE

Replacements:
  R. DAVIES
  M. KENNEDY

GLOUCESTER
15. S. LAZENBY
14. D. MORGAN
13. P. TAYLOR
12. R. McLEAN
11. R. MOGG
10. M. HAMLIN
  9. M. HANNAFORD
  8. M. LONGSTAFF
  7. M. TEAGUE
  6. J. ORWIN (Capt.)
  5. J. GADD
  4. J. ETHERIDGE
  3. J. WILLIAMS
  2. P. JONES
  1. M. PREEDY

Replacements:
  R. WILLIAMS
  G. MANN

Referee: Mr. F. HOWARD (Liverpool Society)
programme notes

MATCH sponsors today are Boddingtons Breweries Ltd, whose beers will be on sale to everyone in the clubhouse after the game. Sale are grateful to Boddingtons for their support and trust that they and their guests will enjoy their visit to Heywood Road this afternoon.

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WELCOME to Gloucester who are currently leading Table A of the National Merit Competition. When Sale went to Kingsholme last April, they were themselves leaders of Table A and knew that they had to win if they were to finish the season in top place. This year it is Gloucester who need the victory to be sure of retaining top place. However, Sale also have a strong incentive for today’s game. To avoid the possibility of relegation to Table B, after a rather in and out sort of season, Sale must not lose today. If they do, then their position in the “First Division” of the National competition will certainly be in jeopardy.

Last season’s match was particularly memorable for the onslaught which Gloucester mounted on the Sale line in the closing stages of the game. Scrummage followed scrummage deep inside the Sale 22 as Gloucester strove for the try that would give them victory. Heroic defence by the whole Sale team, and particularly by the pack, saw them through that very testing time to a final score of Sale 16 points, Gloucester 13. If today’s game is anything like as exciting as that one was, there will be no grounds for complaint no matter what the result may be.

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TWO weeks ago at College Grove, Wakefield, a very sound performance by Sale gave them a useful boost in the Northern Merit Table. Throughout the game the Sale pack kept a firm grip on proceedings both in the tight and the loose. Tony Bond and Phil Stansfield knocked down everything that moved behind the Wakefield scrummage and, all in all, the final score of 24 points to 6 could not have more fully been deserved.

Unfortunately, in the second half, Mike Kenrick was carried off with what is now known to be a broken ankle. Mike has had the worst of luck in recent times. He dislocated his shoulder at the end of last season and broke his wrist at the beginning of this. Now his injury at Wakefield in addition to putting him out for the rest of the season, has robbed him of his opportunity to play with the England U13 team.

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LAST week in Pontypool, Sale gave a very good account of themselves against such tough opposition and on foreign soil. They actually led the mighty Pools by 11 points to 10 early in the second half, and certainly scored the try of the match. A very well timed pass near the halfway line put Graham Jenion through to pass to Phil Stansfield who then put Huw Thomas in wide on the right.

After this, however, the Pontypool pressure wore down the Sale defence and three tries were conceded in the last quarter of the game. At the close Pontypool were worthy winners by 26 points to 11.

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IN September 1985 we offered congratulations to both Andy Simpson and Ian McKie on the arrival of their first born daughters, Katherina Simpson and Lindsay McKie. A month or so ago, congratulations went again to Ian on the birth of his son but we did not then know that Andy had been keeping up with events and now has another daughter. Accordingly, if a little belatedly: Congratulations to Andy and his wife on the birth of their second daughter, Stephanie.

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THE final of the Cheshire Cup will be against Birkenhead Park at Birkenhead on Wednesday, April 30th. A coach will run to take supporters to the game; the list is in the usual place in the clubhouse.

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LADIES – Would you be willing to come down and help to provide refreshments on two or three occasions per season? If so please contact either:

Irene Thomson on 973 3725 or
Bernice Hadfield on 941 3531

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