



THE
**GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL
CLUB**

President: Canon H. M. Hughes BA.

v
NEWBRIDGE

Friday, November 3rd 1989
Kick-Off 7.00pm

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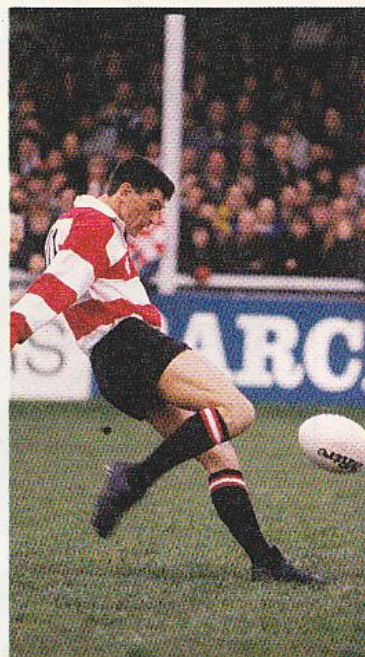
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GLOUCESTER 19 (2G;1T;1P) Cumulative
 (Cherry & White) Match Score

T G Pts

15. T. Smith

14. D. Morgan

13. D. Caskie

12. R. Mogg

11. J. Breeze

10. M. Hamlin (Capt.)

9. M. Hannaford

1. M. Preedy (I)

2. J. Hawker

3. R. Pascall

4. N. Scrivens

5. J. Brain

6. P. Ashmead

7. I. Smith

8. B. Clark

Replacements:
 L. Gardiner
 K. Dunn

(I) — International

6 H/T 13

Gloucester Rugby Club use GILBERT MATCH BALLS

NEWBRIDGE 13 (1G;1T;1P)
 (Light Blue & Dark Blue)

T G Pts

15. D. Rees

14. A. Harries

13. P. Daniell

12. S. Hill

11. A. Griffiths

10. P. Turner (I) (Capt.)

9. R. Lewis

1. J. Rowlands

2. K. Waters

3. N. Hitchman

4. A. Allen

5. A. Sutton

6. P. Crane

7. N. James

8. M. Taylor

Replacements:

19 F/T 13

Referee: L. PRIDEAUX (Cornwall Society)

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TOUCH LINES

by
Peter Arnold

THIS IS FRIDAY

There used to be a Saturday morning TV programme called 'TISWAS'. Anyone under eight years old could have told you that the initials stood for 'This Is Saturday, Watch and Smile'.

Well, this isn't Saturday, but I'm certain we'll be doing a fair amount of both watching and smiling this evening — if past games between Gloucester and Newbridge are any criterion.

The point is that it *should* have been Saturday. A certain multicultural seminar in Cardiff, tomorrow, has persuaded this evening's respected Opposition to request the change of date, so that they may savour their National side's anticipated triumph over the dreaded All Blacks, and this seemed a reasonable request to us.

But it's a pity in one way. Although we have played Staurday fixtures against Newbridge at Bridge Street, recently, it's some time since we've been able to watch them at Kingsholm without benefit of floodlight. Not that we're any less glad to see them. Halitosis is better than no breath, as they say, and it's better to play an evening game than be denied the company of a side which has been one of the most successful in Wales over the past few seasons.

If you are doubtful about that, I should point out that, last season, we lost to Newbridge 17-10, having beaten Liverpool St. Helens, 31-9 the previous week. We then went off to put it across South Wales Police, 45-7 on the following Wednesday, so we weren't going all that badly at the time.

In fact, I'm surprised that tonight's visitors don't have better representation at International level at the moment. I note that they do have players in the Welsh 'B' squad, but full honours seem to be escaping Newbridge players just at present.

No doubt, that's a state of affairs that will be rectified before very long. It does have the advantage, however, that we have the pleasure of the company of the best side they can raise this evening. Bear in

mind that Newbridge has beaten Gloucester more regularly than Bath has, over the past few seasons, and you'll get the point.

So we should be in for an entertaining game. Friday, Saturday, or Pancake Tuesday, Newbridge are always welcome, and we wish them a very pleasant evening.

THANKS TO MIDLAND CORPORATE BANKING

We're fairly used to numbering representatives of the Banking community among our generous Sponsors, but this is the first time that Midland Corporate Banking has so honoured us. Not that it took them long. They've only been in business in our neck of the woods for just over two years, and we thank them for their generous support, so promptly after they have become an important part of our local scene.

Midland Corporate Banking is, in fact, a Division of the Midland Bank Group, and their aim in life is to provide specialist banking services for medium-sized and large companies. They do this by supplying highly trained and qualified Managers who work closely with their customers, solving any financial hiccup which may arise. They're also very well able to improve overall business efficiency by introducing appropriate technology, where it's required — and you know how complex *that* field is, these days.

Midland Corporate Banking are making a very good job of it too. So successful have they been since the first Corporate Banking Area Manager, John Courts, was given the task of setting up the Centre at 109 Bath Road, Cheltenham, in 1987, that they are now in the process of enlarging their team, and expanding the range of businesses they handle.

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DAVID I. ROBINS M.Inst.T.T.

do is to contact John Courts on Cheltenham 236171.

My informant, Rob Williams is, I'm told, a round-ball aficionado, and ripe for conversion. But we're not proud, and hope that his Manager, the aforesaid John Courts — who *is* a civilised Rugby man, and here tonight — can do the appropriate evangelising job on him.

TICKETS FOR THE BRISTOL GAME

As you'll certainly be aware, our engagement down at Bristol in the Courage League, on November 18th has assumed 'crunch' proportions, following last Saturday's results. So you'll want to know about tickets.

The short answer is that Gloucester won't have any. Not at Kingsholm anyway. In any event, there will be no Ground tickets — pay at the gate. If your preference is for a Stand ticket, then the instructions are to write to:

J. WILSON,
10, PYECROFT AVENUE,
HENLEAZE, BRISTOL BS9 4NL

... enclosing a cheque for £5.00 per ticket, and a stamped addressed envelope. I have no information about any restriction on the number you can order in one go, but it seems obvious that a 'shipping' order would be frowned upon. I'm told that orders will be fulfilled on a strictly 'first come, first served' basis, so it might be an idea to get your order in instanter.

WELSH COPS ON WEDNESDAY

There are several other orders of business before we get to Bristol, however. Next Wednesday, for example, we continue our Welsh theme by entertaining South Wales Police, who though they're not quite the force they were, can still mount a formidable challenge.

Next Saturday we have Rosslyn Park in the League — certainly not to be underestimated. Then, on the 18th, if you can't get down to Bristol, you could be there in spirit by coming along and watching United take on their Bristolian counterparts.

We finish the month with a League visit from Saracens — that's three Courage games on the trot — who have been surprising everyone since their promotion this season.

Interesting times coming up.

'WE WUZ WRONG' SPOT

You may remember that I told you, last week, that

'Ali' Braithwaite, who suffered that unfortunate broken neck when playing here for Exeter University, was doing well, but had been transferred from our own Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, to the Nuffield in Cheltenham.

Well as far as I know, he is still doing well, and *has* been transferred to a Nuffield Hospital — but at Woking, not Cheltenham.

My fault entirely. When 'The Nuffield' was mentioned, I simply assumed that it was the Cheltenham branch. Should have known better. Sorry, everyone concerned.

JOHN'S EMPORIUM

I haven't given the Club Shop much of a plug lately, and perhaps it's time I did. John Beaman tells me that his range of goodies is just as incredible as ever, and that he's extraordinarily ready, willing and very able to cater for your needs, should you feel inclined to pay him a visit.

With three League games in a row coming along, you may like to re-equip yourself. And there's always the thought of Christmas prezzies, just around the corner.

Anyway, John's emporium is always worth a visit, even if you're only window shopping.

STORMED TOSSED

I got a little incensed at one or two Sunday press reports, this week, which didn't give the lads much credit for scoring eight tries against Bedford on Saturday, but were highly critical of Tim Smith for missing his kicks.

Have you ever *tried* kicking a Rugby ball in gale force conditions, with the rain coming at you horizontally? It's easy enough to pontificate — as we all do — from a nice dry stand, but not quite so simple when you're trying to produce the goods under such circumstances.

O.K. — so Bedford aren't exactly in the All Black class, at the moment. But to be able to handle well enough to score eight tries in conditions like something of Moby Dick, shows skills of a very high order.

Personally, I thought it was a remarkably good performance, all things considered.

TAILPIECE

I wrote these notes on Tuesday morning, and while getting my usual briefing from Terry Tandy, mentioned that I was going to a Hallowe'en celebration — to whit, Newport v. the All Blacks.

"Oh!" he said, "Taking your calculator with you?" Bit unkind, I thought.



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TALKING RUGBY

with
Steve Fraser



It was difficult to know whether to be disappointed or relieved at Bath's late winner against Bristol last weekend.

There were good grounds for either emotion.

Peter Blackett's try seven minutes from time meant that after only four games there is not one unbeaten team in the division this season. With Bristol cut down to size, we really are back to square one.

But it also meant the obvious favourites for the title are back on course.

Rosslyn Park's anticipated defeat at the hands of Wasps means the leading pack in the division has been reduced from seven to six.

It would not have taken a prophet to predict five of the front-runners at this stage. The one surprise in the top half of the table is Saracens.

The Londoners were unbeaten winners of Division Two last season but the gulf between the second and first divisions is so wide that they were expected to figure in the relegation battle next year. Instead, they are lying fourth and have already done enough to make a return to Division Two a remote possibility.

Against them it must be said they have had the easiest possible start to the season with matches against the bottom four clubs in the table. Their opponents get increasingly tougher as the season progresses and they should not be in the reckoning for long.

Next weekend's programme will ensure at least one of the leading pack will fall back. Harlequins entertain Bristol in the top clash of the day in a match which will decide which of two long shots for the title stays in the hunt.

Bath and Wasps should have little trouble with Moseley and Nottingham respectively. The Brummies are still without a win and there is little sign of a change in their fortunes. Ruari Maclean must wish he had stayed where he was.

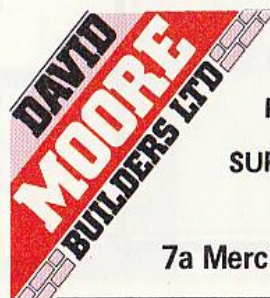
Nottingham have not come close to capturing last season's form when they could have clinched third place with a win over Gloucester in their final league match.

The Cherry and Whites play host to an above average Rosslyn Park side which beat Nottingham and Moseley but was thumped by Bath. Last weekend they led Wasps 6-0 at half-time aided by a strong wind but, like Gloucester, capitulated after the interval to lose 6-14.

That margin of defeat compares favourably with Gloucester's own result and provides further proof, if any were needed, that Gloucester will have to approach the match with the right attitude.

COURAGE LEAGUES DIV I

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Harlequins.....	4	3	0	1	110	58	6
Wasps.....	4	3	0	1	81	34	6
Bath.....	4	3	0	1	86	44	6
Saracens.....	4	3	0	1	79	47	6
Gloucester.....	4	3	0	1	70	53	6
Bristol.....	4	3	0	1	57	45	6
Leicester.....	4	2	0	2	97	71	4
Rosslyn Park.....	4	2	0	2	41	63	4
Orrell.....	4	1	0	3	60	52	2
Nottingham.....	4	1	0	3	46	51	2
Moseley.....	4	0	0	4	44	83	0
Bedford.....	4	0	0	4	20	190	0



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