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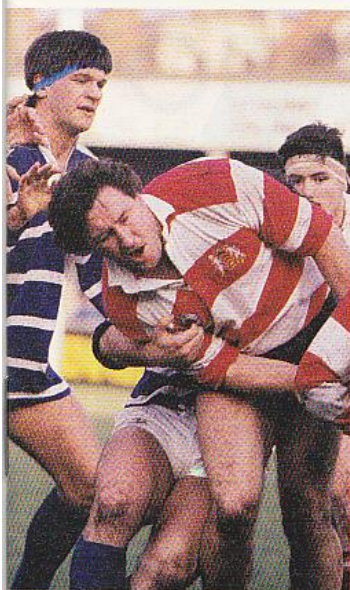
President: Canon H. M. Hughes BA.

v

## MOSELEY

Monday, January 1st 1990

Kick-Off 3.00pm



KINDLY SPONSORED BY



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MOTORS**



PROGRAMME SUPPORTED BY  
THE CITY OF GLOUCESTER



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Lucky Number



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HARTLAND MOTORS

### GLOUCESTER 33

(Cherry & White)

T G Pts

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15. N. Marmont T SMITH

14. D. Morgan

13. R. Mogg

12. D. Caskie rep 45 S DAVIS

11. J. Breeze N. PRICE

10. M. Hamlin

9. M. Hennesford M. GARDNER

1. P. Jones

2. J. Hawker K DUNN

3. R. Phillips M PRESTON

4. N. Scrivens

5. J. Etheridge

6. P. Ashmead

7. I. Smith

8. M. Teague

Replacements:

S DAVIS

J. HAWKER

(I) - International

Cumulative  
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Referee: A. SPREADBURY (Somerset Society)

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Gloucester Rugby Club use GILBERT MATCH BALLS

### MOSELEY 4

(Red & Black)

15. S. Purdy

14. I. Stookesbury

13. G. Smith

12. C. Spowart

11. A. James

10. S. Pennington

9. B. Fenley

1. M. Linnett (I)

2. C. Barber

3. G. Smith

4. J. Pullinger

5. S. Lloyd

6. S. Masters

7. R. Barr (Capt.)

8. C. Raymond

Replacements:

S. DAVIS

J. HAWKER

(I) - International

33 F/T 4

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# TOUCH LINES

by  
Peter Arnold

## ON YOUR MARKS ...

This is when we have to get set for the more challenging half of the season. Not that it's actually been all that much of a doddle so far, but with League fixtures — home and away — against Leicester, Harlequins, Orrell and Nottingham still to come, there's an awful lot to play for from here on in. And there's that Pilkington Cup trip to Wasps only four Saturdays away.

## WHAT A WAY TO START THE NINETIES

Anyway, we're starting the new decade in style. A visit from Moseley is always a pleasurable event, and the fact that it's our turn to entertain them on New Year's Day this season makes the whole thing that much more welcome.

This isn't a League match, of course. That little matter was attended to as long ago as September 9th: Gloucester won it in the end, by 16 points to 12, but made considerably heavy weather of it, before striking form to beat Bath later the same month.

Everyone will have memories of Gloucester-Moseley games. They have usually been fairly tight, whichever of the two sides is — on paper — ahead in the season's ratings at the time. In fact, so tight have our matches been, that we are the only two clubs to have kept the John Player Cup for six months each, having played a tie, after extra time, in a Final. As Pilkington have now adopted the mantle which John Player shed, that's a record which will not now be broken.

It would be easy to be misled into thinking that, this being New Year's Day, and all, and no League or Cup considerations at stake, we are in for a happy Bank Holiday runabout. I'd be very surprised, however, if that's the way things turn out. Rugby is a serious business, for both of our sides, there's a long history of — comparatively healthy — rivalry, and the two teams will want to become battle-hardened for important League fixtures in a bare twelve days time.

Not that our welcome to Moseley is any more restrained for that. It's always good to see them, and we couldn't wish for better company in which to kick off the Nineties.

## THANKS TO HARTLAND MOTORS

You could say much the same thing about today's Sponsors. Hartland Motors, our Friendly Neighbourhood Renault Distributors have been very regular supporters, for several years, and we thank them, quite enormously, for that.

Looking back over notes written for Hartland over the past season or two, one is struck by the fact that they have consistently recorded a success story. And things aren't any different this time.

You can measure their abilities in this line by looking at the figures. Last year, Renault sold some 106,000 cars and vans, in total, and Hartland Motors contributed 950 of those. That's pushing one whole per cent of the total, which can't be bad for one Distributor in a provincial City.

Of course, it does help to have the right products to sell, and Renault's 19 and 21 ranges, launched in 1988, have proved to be outstandingly popular. Just a week or two ago, the new 19 Chamade was announced, and should prove to be just as successful as the others in the range. Our friends at Mercia Road call it their 'new beauty' and invite you to make your own judgement by going along, taking a look, and indulging yourself in a test drive.

Don't forget, either, if you're in an appropriate line of endeavour, that Renault Light Commercials are currently No.1 in Europe, and seem set fair to stay there.

Not that you want to buy a new vehicle every week. However, whatever car you're driving, you can still go along to Hartland and sample the delights of their Better Fit Centre, which they claim with a high degree of justification, provides the 'best value in town' for tyres, exhausts, brakes and batteries. If you want proof, either ring for a quote or tootle along for a free check.

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They can't say fairer than that. They also send all their good wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year to everyone, customers or not — wishes which we echo as far as Hartland Motors are concerned.

#### UNITED FOR A WHILE

... and none the worse for that. You'll have noted, from the fixture list, that we aren't seeing the First XV at home again this month. One of those unavoidable quirks of the modern season, I'm afraid.

It does mean, however, that we'll have the pleasure of watching United for a week or two. Next Saturday, while the Firsts are away to London Scottish, they have a visit from Wasps, followed, the next week by Leicester. After that, Cleve on January 20th, will be something of a breather. Well worth watching, nonetheless.

#### NO NEWS IS ...

... well, no news really. We wouldn't be having the dearth of First Team Rugby if we'd been a but luckier in the draw for the Pilkington Cup. Nothing we can do about it.

However, this is the last programme you'll see before that daunting visit to the much-trumpeted Wasps side, who have done us over somewhat already once this season. There were factors about that game, though — weather, injuries — which make the result a little misleading, and Wasps won't be expecting an easy ride this time around.

Unfortunately, a combination of timing, and the fact that Terry Tandy has been suffering from an unseasonable attack of the Black Shanghai Corruption, has meant that I don't have anything much to tell you about ticket availability and things. At the time of writing, which has had to be very early because of printing requirements over the holiday period, we've heard nothing about ticket allocations from Sudbury. All I can suggest is that you watch the Press.

As far as getting there is concerned, I suggest you have a word with Trevor Pritchard or Andy Mitchell and see what plans for coaches are.

It hurts me to be so negative, but I'm rather stymied on this one.

#### EXTRA 50p

I did try to warn you. If you haven't been along for a week or two (and who can blame you with the weather we have been having), it might have come as an unwelcome surprise to find that the entrance fee at the gate has gone up to £2.50.

Sorry about that. It has to do with the new Safety at Sports Grounds regulations, and the extra expense they have imposed on the Club. Extended first aid equipment, extra Stewarding and Policing, all have to be paid for.

Season ticket holders aren't affected, and for the present, neither are OAP's and Juniors.

Now for the commercial. Most grounds are charging £3.00 these days, I'm told.

#### INTERNATIONAL TICKETS

I know it costs a lot to get into an International these days, but even so, £13.996 pays for a great many tickets. And that's the amount Terry Tandy had returned from the RFU's Ticket Office this season. Which means that our allocation of such tickets has been miserly, this season.

The reason, we're told, is that the whole of Twickenham's North Stand is being redeveloped and that has temporarily reduced the capacity of the ground by some 10,000.

'Billy Williams' Cabbage Patch' has become a smallholding for the nonce.

So, if you're disappointed with the Number of tickets you receive — we're sorry.

#### TAILPIECE

If there were New Year Awards for 1989, these would be mine:

**Remark of the Year:** "It's a long way from the All Blues Seconds against Spartans" Mike Teague after playing a key role in the lions beating Australia.

**Try of the Year:** Kevin Dunn's scamper over against Bath, when they had just drawn level.

**Drop Goal of the Year:** The one down at Bristol, late last season. By, would you believe, Malcolm Preedy.



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# TALKING RUGBY

with  
Steve Fraser



"MUGS!", "ROBSON MUST GO", "RUBBISH".

These are the sort of headlines that scream out of the sports pages of the popular press every day.

Thankfully, until now they have been restricted to the other football, the kind played with a spherical ball.

But the proposed changes in amateurism in rugby union mean it may only be a matter of time before our own code is dragged down to the same level.

Under the International Rugby Board's proposals, players will be allowed to accept payment for newspaper articles and interviews. Marketing companies are already suggesting the top players could command as much as £1,500 for an interview.

But what they have not mentioned is that for that sort of money a newspaper is going to want something pretty juicy.

The IRB has tried to ward off the danger by writing in a clause stating that players must not "bring the game into disrepute."

But as we have seen with soccer, this sort of catch-all phrase is very difficult to enforce. It has occasionally been used by soccer administrators to curb the worst excesses but it has done little to prevent the downward trend in soccer coverage.

It has certainly not stopped the sort of mud-slinging which is part and parcel of soccer reporting.

The fact is, there is nothing readers like more than a good barney. Managers and players at each other's throats makes good newspaper copy and that is precisely the sort of material certain papers — the ones with the big money — will want for their £1,500.

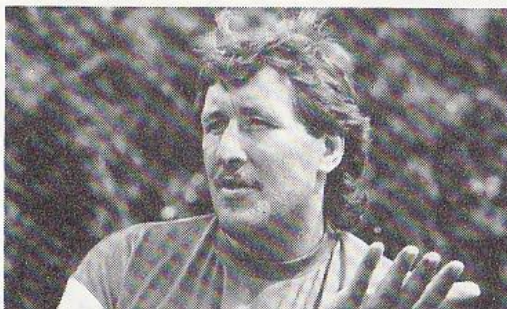
Each time Bobby Robson names an England soccer team, there is always someone ready to crawl out of the woodwork and sound off in exchange for a fat cheque. Rugby selectors do

not know how easy they have had it.

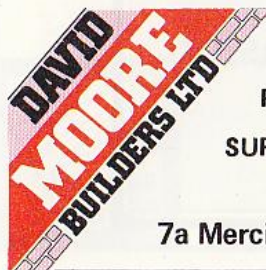
The changes to the rules, if passed later this year, will only benefit a minority of players — those at the very top of the tree. But the shape and tone of the game will be changed forever.

It has always been patently unfair that those who reached the top in rugby could not benefit financially while colleagues in other disciplines raked in the readies. To that extent, the changes are to be welcomed.

Unfortunately they are going to have some unpleasant side-effects and the players have to do a lot of soul searching to decide how far they are prepared to go to cash in on the money which will come into the game.



*Gloucester's Mike Teague — one of a select band of top players who could benefit from proposed changes in the new rules governing amateurism*



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