



FOUNDED 1873

THE
**GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL
CLUB**

President: Canon H. M. Hughes BA.

v
ORRELL



Saturday, March 23rd 1991

Kick-Off 3.00pm

KINDLY SPONSORED BY

BOCM SILCOCK



OFFICIAL SPONSORS OF THE
GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

The Winner of today's
Official Programme
Draw will receive £10 from

Tyre Sales
Tyre Sales (Bham) Ltd

1a Kingsholm Rd

50p.

Official Programme

1333

Lucky Number



TOUCH LINES

by
Peter Arnold

DOWN TO THE WIRE

The results from the last round of Courage League matches have opened up Division One considerably, and no one has more interest in the outcome of today's games than our distinguished visitors from Wigan. With Leicester fighting it out with Harlequins, Bath having to travel to Nottingham, and Wasps entertaining the not-to-be-underestimated Northampton side, we could see even more turmoil at the Top by the time we all get home this evening.

Orrell are certainly there or thereabouts. Furthermore, this is the season when the Edge Hall Road lads have finally realised the potential which has been threatening for a year or two. As you know, quite apart from an excellent record in this season's League, so far, they still have an interest in the Pilkington Cup, and many good judges are saying that they could succeed where Gloucester failed last year and actually win the thing.

Of course, we know very well what the twin pressures of League and Cup can do at the end of a testing season. It's to be hoped that Orrell can continue to play to their undoubted abilities, and that the season yields everything which their efforts deserve. However, Gloucester are going pretty well at the moment, too, and the lads won't be letting any sympathy or sentiment interfere with their own ambitions to improve our League standing.

Last season in the equivalent fixture, also at Kingsholm, and at a similar stage in the competition, we beat them 16-10, in an enthralling game. This time round, things could be even tighter, so we might all be in for a tense eighty minutes.

But it's always good to see Orrell, undoubtedly the major banner carriers of the northern cause these days. Whatever the result, we hope they find the lengthy journey much to their liking.

THANKS TO BOCM SILCOCK

There are those of us who well remember

trundling down to the Docks, as children, and scrounging bags of monkey nuts from kindly employees of that good old company Foster Brothers, who had been crushing ground nuts, linseed, cotton seed, and the rest, for more than a century on that site.

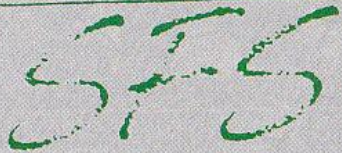
Fosters became part of the Unilever Group, and therefore a subsidiary of BOCM, in the 1940's, and those old premises closed about a decade later, BOCM is still very much with us, of course, and has been leading the field in animal feed and related products for many years. They're also very active in Gloucester, and if you want proof of that, then surely the fact that they're providing generous sponsorship of today's game will provide it for you.

Peter Hillier, an Old Cryptian, has been involved with BOCM since those early days — and what's more, he has been a member and Patron of Gloucester RFC all that time. Since last year, when the changing agricultural climate forced the company to switch from operating through merchants to direct selling to farmers, Peter has developed a formidable team around him. One of them is John Bevan, who can claim family connections with the great 'Bumps' Carpenter. The other two are Dick Wheeler and Chris Nemes, who also bear illustrious Rugby names, but, unfortunately, aren't related to their famous namesakes. Pity — but at least it helps Pete Hillier feel at home.

Between them, they have decades of experience in the animal feed business, and are thoroughly versed in BOCM's high-quality products. They'll also tell you about nutritional developments, and about the highly modern manufacturing techniques used at the company's local Portbury Mill near Avonmouth. If anyone wants any information, then a simple phone call to Gloucester 506435 will provide it.

As you'd expect, most of BOCM's guests today are

S · E · L · E · C · T



FEEDS & SEEDS

By appointment to GRFC and also suppliers of grass seed to Cinderford and other Rugby Clubs

* Suppliers of all lawn seeds *

* Large or small orders catered for *

Contact Bob Osborne on 0452 76511
or 0860 590330 (Car)

farmers, and we hope that our old friend John Pullin is one of them. He must have loved last Saturday's Grand Slam match.

We're sure they'll all have a great time. And we hope that today's effort help Peter Hiller and his team achieve their stated intention of expanding BOCM's local market share, well into the '90's.

WORLD CUP TICKETS

At last we have some information. Not a lot, but some.

The first thing to realise is that World Cup tickets are distributed worldwide. This means that there aren't going to be many to go round. This applies to the All Blacks game at Gloucester, just as much as it does to any other game. Gloucester RFC don't have any say in the matter. (Gloucester's game against England is a different affair altogether. More news when I have it.)

Applications for tickets have to be in by May 1st, so the first thing to do is to get yourself an Application Form. There's only one way you can do this, and that's by sending a stamped addressed envelope, complete with your Membership Number, to:

World Cup Ticket Office,
Gloucester RFC,
Kingsholm,
Kingsholm Road,
Gloucester GL1 3AX

Members only, strictly one ticket per member. We don't know ticket prices yet, but full information will accompany the Application Form.

I repeat. That's the *only* way you'll get a form, and the only way you'll have any chance of getting a ticket. No use trying a phone call, and a conversation in the bar won't do either.

And the best of luck to you.

PLACE IN HISTORY

It's sometimes said that England never have a strong cricket team unless there's a Yorkshireman in it. Gloucester could make the same claim where Rugby's Grand Slam is concerned.

Under the late Eric Evans it was George Hastings. Bill Beaumont's side had Phil Blakeway. Last Saturday, it was Mike Teague.

All of them, in their differing ways, had a highly significant effect on their side's success. All of them now have a little place in history.

For Mike, of course, this is by no means any time to rest on his laurels. There's a Summer Tour to think about, and the World Cup looms ever nearer. We're sure he'll do us proud.

In fact, 'proud' is just what we all are. Good on you, 'Teaguey'!

EASTER BREAK

With the greatest respect in the world to New Brighton and Fylde, their very welcome Easter visits don't represent the stern tests which Gloucester still have to face, against Bath, Bristol and Harlequins. Nevertheless, these holiday matches are always worth coming along to see, and highly recommended. Don't forget, either, that the Colts are down to entertain Solihull on April 3rd. After that, it's the long-awaited Bath game on April 6th.

Completing the picture, the scheduled away game at Cheltenham has been deferred until April 16th. However, you'll have ample compensation by coming along to the County Cup Final on Tuesday next.

Plenty of life in the Season yet!

DON'T SHOOT THE STEWARD . . .

. . . he's doing his best. Sometimes, a Steward has to stand in front of you — usually to ensure that an entrance is clear in case of accidents and emergencies. I know it can be intensely annoying, but the situation isn't improved by giving the poor chap an ear-bending. He wouldn't be standing there unless there were a very good reason for it. So a little tolerance all round would be appreciated.

While I'm on the subject, please be sure and keep all gangways and staircases clear.

TAILPIECE

A week or two ago, I was in a local pub when the landlord — a relief actually — was most unwilling to serve a brandy on the grounds that it was French.

Well, he was from Pontypool, and it was the Sunday following the France-Wales game in Paris.

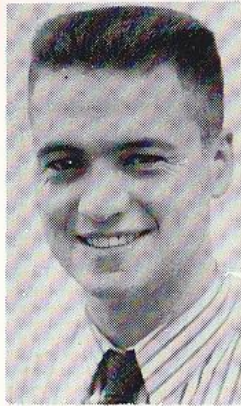
ONE FIRST CLASS TEAM SUPPORTING ANOTHER



THE THOROUGHBRED BANK.

TALKING RUGBY

with
Mike Harris



The majority of English rugby clubs rate Kingsholm one of the most intimidating grounds in the country to visit but no other club has found life more difficult here than Orrell.

The high-flying Lancashire side have never won at Gloucester but have had a number of close calls — notably last season when the Cherry and Whites were fortunate to win 16-10.

Currently the top side in the North of England by a long way, Orrell will rate this afternoon's meeting as one of their best chances to topple Gloucester on their own turf.

Their massive pack and exciting three-quarter line have been firing on all cylinders for most of the season and are still in with a realistic chance of a league and cup double.

But they will have to win today's match to maintain the pressure on Bath at the top of Courage Division One.

Gloucester are not renowned for wanting to do their West Country rivals any favours but if they beat Orrell it will relieve the pressure on Bath who are currently two points clear at the top.

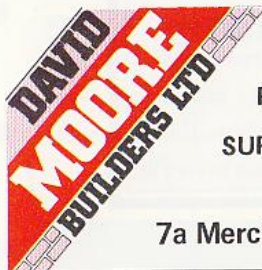
The Cherry and Whites themselves have discovered some fine form recently, particularly at Northampton two weeks ago when they deserved to win by far more than a single point, and against Aberavon last Friday.

Mathematically Gloucester are also still in the title hunt, but to win the Division One crown they would have to win all their remaining league fixtures and hope that the other leading teams slip up. But Wasps won the title in a similar fashion last year so there is still hope for Gloucester.

This afternoon's meeting is therefore vital for both sides and should be an interesting confrontation between two formidable packs and two sets of capable three-quarters.

COURAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS DIVISION ONE

	P	W	F	A	Pts
Bath.....	8	7	147	53	14
Leicester.....	9	6	174	94	12
Orrell.....	8	6	195	51	12
Wasps.....	8	6	120	95	12
Harlequins.....	8	5	162	90	10
Gloucester.....	8	5	133	96	10
Nottingham.....	8	5	95	110	10
Rosslyn Park.....	9	4	108	120	8
Northampton.....	8	3	90	160	6
Bristol.....	8	3	76	114	6
Saracens.....	9	3	100	173	6
Moseley.....	8	1	69	143	2
St. Helens.....	9	0	72	242	0



ALL TYPES OF BUILDING & REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN
 PLUMBING AND CENTRAL HEATING DECORATING
 SUPPLIERS & INSTALLERS OF MOST KITCHEN FURNITURE
 & APPLIANCES

7a Mercia Road, Gloucester. Tel: 0452 414000