

50p

Official Programme

PONTYPOOL R.F.C.
v.
GLOUCESTER

Saturday, 7th November 1992 · Kick-off 3.00 p.m.



 ***air new zealand***

THE PRIDE OF THE PACIFIC

PONTYPOOL R.F.C. USE GILBERT RUGBY BALLS IN ALL THEIR MATCHES

PONTYPOOL

Colours: RED, WHITE & Black

Adam CARR 15
Shaun WHITE 14
Paul TAYLOR 13
Bob LEWIS 12
Martin JONES 11
Sean HANSON 10
Matthew CHAPMAN 9

Andrew DIBBLE 1
Terry ROGERS 2
Phil TAYLOR 3
Neil JONES 4
Chris CRANE 5
Steve JACKSON 6
Richard GOODEY (Capt.) ... 8
Jon LEONARD 7

P. YOUNG
S. SMITH
W. RICHARDS
L. WOODS
F. JACAS
L. MRUK

Subs:

GLOUCESTER

Colours: CHERRY & WHITE

M. ROBERTS
D. MORGAN
D. CASKIE
D. CUMMINS
S. MORRIS
N. MATTHEWS
J. DAVIS

T. WINDO
D. KEARSEY
A. DEACON
D. SIMS
R. WEST
P. GLANVILLE
A. STANLY
P. MILES

M. HANNAFORD
M. WADLEY

REFEREE: HUW LEWIS (Pontypridd)

WELCOME TO PONTYPOOL PARK

During the opening two months of this season, Pontypool have played teams from Canada, Ireland and, of course, Wales, but Gloucester are our first opponents from the other side of the Severn Bridge. Indeed, Pontypool have only four further games scheduled against English opposition this season and the next of these will not be played until Friday, March 5 1993, when Cheltenham are the opposition.

After that, the next opponents from England will be Berry Hill, followed by Bath and Nuneaton. No, I haven't forgotten Waterloo. This fixture has been cancelled because April 17 will now be a league Saturday and the cup semi-finals, due to be played that day, put back to April 24.

The leagues in both England and Wales have certainly decimated many traditional Anglo-Welsh fixtures.

But enough of that. As always, the Gloucester team, officials and supporters are very welcome visitors to The Park. Games between our two clubs have always been hard and usually close fought affairs, with no-one from either side complaining if the going has got a bit rough on times.

Like Pontypool in recent seasons, Gloucester have suffered a "player drain". The Cherry and Whites have lost no fewer than ten players to various other clubs this season, but knowing them of old, they will, undoubtedly, still field a formidable pack of forwards and a tricky, speedy back division. Coach Keith Richardson will instil the old Gloucester tradition in his charges.

Gloucester are captained this season by Scottish international wing forward Ian Smith, and he has prop Peter Jones, a fellow Scottish international, in his squad.

This coming Tuesday, November 10, Pontypool entertain Gwent neighbours, Ebbw Vale, kick-off 7.00 p.m. Next Saturday, Pontypool travel to Sardis Road for a re-arranged league game. This game has been brought forward from Saturday, January 9 1993 because the Wales squad will be spending a week, from January 4- 10, training in Lanzarote in preparation for the forthcoming Five Nations Championship.

It was good to pick up the local paper on Monday evening, turn to the back page and see that a player is coming back to Pontypool. I refer, of course, to second row forward Gareth Taylor. Welcome back, Gareth — we know your presence will strengthen the lock department in the Pontypool squad.

Congratulations to Adam Carr on reaching a century of points for the season during the Cardiff game.

GRAHAM HOWDEN

SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

President: D.R. BALANKRISHNAN Chairman: KEITH HEARE Treasurer: DAVE ASTON Secretary: ANN NELMES

Pontypool Rugby Supporters Club extend a warm welcome to Gloucester Rugby Club, players, committee and supporters.

I would like to remind supporters that instead of playing Cross Keys on November 14th we are now playing Pontypridd in the league. I will let you all know when the Cross Keys game is re-arranged.

Don't forget that at midweek friendly games there are now family tickets available — two adult and two children for £6.00.

P.R.S.C. Player of the Month has now been changed to Club Man or Woman, the Athletic as well as the first team. Welsh Brewers are the new sponsors.

With Christmas in mind, why don't you come along to the Supporters hut and have a look for some Christmas gifts?

P.R.S.C. are running a bus to Pontypridd next Saturday, 14th November. Tickets are £3.00 each. The bus will leave Kwik-Save Cwmbran at 12.30pm, the clubhouse at 1.00pm, returning at 6.00pm. Tickets are on sale at the hut, from behind the bar in the clubhouse, or from Ann Nelmes - 0495 758394.

The Social Club are holding a Cabaret Night in the Ashton Bar on November 27th. Tickets are £1.50 and are available from Ian Williams or any Social Club committee-man.

ANN NELMES

KINGSHOLM . . . NOT A PLACE FOR THE FAINT HEARTED!

Any rugby player who has played at Kingsholm, will have experienced the unique atmosphere generated as the teams assemble for a scrum or lineout in front of the popular enclosure, teeming with Gloucester supporters, baying for blood. "*Kick the buggers back to Ponty, Glos*", the call would go up, barely discernible above the general hubbub of a fiercely patriotic crowd, intent on willing Gloucester to victory.

Armed in my day with players like Mike Burton, John Fidler, Mike Nicholls (and later Steve Mills) and Phil Blakeway, Gloucester were more than adequately equipped to aim to satisfy the enclosure's demands. Mind you, it was generally recognised that we were no choirboys either, and a Pontypool v Gloucester fixture was always a case of 'Greek meeting Greek'! As forwards, we all must have possessed a perverse form of sado-masochism, since we seemed to derive a sense of pleasure from booting and being booted. Not that we didn't have a sense of honour though - oh no! It was alright for us forwards to brawl - it was part of our game - but if a fight broke out amongst the threequarters, we would look on in absolute disgust. "*Where'd you get that loony from Burto,*" I would enquire of Mike Burton whilst witnessing such an outbreak of violence between the opposing backs. "*Take no notice of 'im Perky. He'll be on 'is way back to Matson if he don't mend 'is ways.*" Threequarters skirmish quickly subdued, Burton and I could resume punching and kicking lumps out of one another, undisturbed by such minor annoyances.

Pontypool and Gloucester have always been kindred spirits in rugby terms. Our attitudes toward the game coincide; our styles of play, certainly over the past 25 years or so, have been similar, and Gloucester have as their vice-chairman a former captain of Pontypool R.F.C. - Jim Jarrett.

Welcome, then, to the players, officials and supporters of Gloucester R.F.C. for what is nowadays termed a "friendly fixture" (whoever dreamt up that term?). Pontypool R.F.C. has always felt a great affinity towards Gloucester R.F.C., and it is our fervent hope that league commitments on our respective sides of the border never relegate the importance of a Pontypool v Gloucester to a meaningless charade.

Pontypool and Gloucester also have a common factor in that I.C.I. Fibres have a factory in both towns, and we have as our guests at today's match four prominent members of I.C.I.'s staff. I.C.I. Fibres Pontypool have, for many years, been one of the major industries in the area, and I would like to extend a warm welcome to Pontypool Park to **Mr. Steve Booth** - Site Manager, Pontypool; **Mr Keith Evans** - Production Manager, Pontypool; **Dr. Walter Burns** - General Manager, S.W. Works; and **Mr. Dave Thackeray** - Polyester Business Manager. We at Pontypool R.F.C. hope you thoroughly enjoy the match.

Last Saturday's defeat at Newbridge was a bitter disappointment to all, since it was a game in which we let the opposition "get out of jail". We have, however, to pick ourselves up and get back into the habit of winning before our next league match. In this context, today's match is of vital importance, and I would therefore like to wish Richie Goodey and the boys **GOOD LUCK FOR THIS AFTERNOON.**

S.J.P.

A LOOK INTO THE PAST . . . by Malcolm Jones

These were the teams that played on Wednesday, 6th October 1982, when Pontypool beat Gloucester by 52 points to 15. The game will be remembered as David Bishop's second game back, after his serious neck injury the previous November, when he created a length-of-the-field try for Bleddyn Taylor — one of the finest tries seen at Pontypool Park.

Pooler's tries that night were scored by David Bishop (2), Bleddyn Taylor (2), Goff Davies (1), Jeff Squire (1), Eddie Butler (1), and Chris Huish, with full back Peter Lewis converting 7 and adding 2 penalty goals. Gloucester points came from 5 penalties by full back Paul Ford.

PONTYPOOL

P. LEWIS	15
G. DAVIES	14
L. FAULKNER	13
L. JONES	12
B. TAYLOR	11
K. MURPHY	10
D. BISHOP	9

S. JONES	1
R. WINDSOR	2
G. PRICE	3
J. PERKINS	4
A. SIMPSON	5
J. SQUIRE	6
E. BUTLER (Capt.)	8
C. HUISSH	7

GLOUCESTER

P. FORD
P. CONWAY
P. TAYLOR
S. PARSLOE
N. PRICE
L. JONES
S. BAKER
R. PHILLIPS
S. MILLS (Capt.)
R. PASCALL
S. BOYLE
J. ORWIN
M. TEAGUE
J. PAYNE
P. WOOD

Referee: ALUN RICHARDS (Caldicot)
