

GLOUCESTER
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

v **TRANSVAAL**



FRIDAY

NOVEMBER 13th, 1992

Kick Off 7.00 p.m.



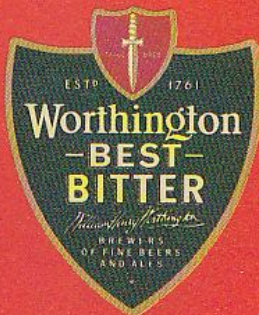
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GLOUCESTER 31

(Black/White)

T	G	Pts
	6	16

			15. M. Roberts
			14. D. Morgan
			13. D. Cummins
			12. D. Caskie
1		5	11. S. Morris

			10. N. Matthews
1		5	9. M. Hannaford

			1. T. Windo
			2. D. Kearsey
			3. A. Deacon
			4. D. Sims
			5. R. West
			6. P. Ashmead
			7. I. Smith (Capt.)
			8. P. Miles

Replacements:

			J. Davis	P. Glanville
			R. Phillips	T. Smith
			G. Mann	J. Perrins

18 H/T 8

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GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

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Cumulative Match Score

0	5		
5	5		
8	8		
8	8		
11	8		
18	8		
21	8		
21	11		
24	11		
31	11		

Referee: T. SPREADBURY (RFU)

Touch Judges: M. Bayliss (RFU) B. Glanville (RFU)

Gloucester Rugby Club use
GILBERT MATCH BALLS

TRANSVAAL 11

(Red/White/Hoops)

T	G	Pts
1	2	11

			15. Chris Dirks
			11. Jaco Louw
			12. Bernard Fourie
			13. Hennie Wiggett
			14. Steve Jacobs

			10. Jeremy Thompson
			9. Pieter Du-rant

			1. Rod Blew
			2. John Mitchell
			3. Balle Swart
			4. Cobus Wiese
			5. Lappies Labuschagne
			6. Gawie Riekert
			7. Francoise Pienaar
			8. Deon Lotter

Replacements:

			Jonathan Gerber
			Terence Steward
			James Dalton

31 F/T 11

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Peter Arnold

WHAT'S SO UNLUCKY ABOUT FRIDAY 13th?

It's certainly lucky for us. For such a respected side as Transvaal to open their tour of England, Wales and Italy at Kingsholm is a decided bonus, and comes at a time when we could do with a bit of cheering up.

My memories of Transvaal players go back quite a long way. Around 1951 the Springboks brought a fearsome side to Britain (they usually did), and one of the stars was a character called A. O. "Okey" Geffin. He was a Transvaal player who was famous for kicking goals from quite indecent distances, using the old leather ball. Unfortunately — injury I think — he didn't play against England, which was a pity, because just about the only English player who could propel the ball as far as Okey was our own Bill Hook, who was turning out for the National side at the time. So there was no direct confrontation between the two human howitzers at International level. Okey did convert seven tries at Murrayfield, however, so he has a place in history.

Mike Burton reminds me that the last time Transvaal played a side from this part of the world they put 50 points on Gloucestershire who were touring South Africa as the County Champions, so that's a measure of the mountain which Gloucester will be asked to climb today. Don't be misled by the fact that they have players away touring with the South African side — they're still a highly organised and formidable outfit.

Not only are they good at rugby; their pre-publicity is slick, too. They've been kind enough to supply us with pen-pictures of the touring party, and I thought you'd be interested in knowing something about those down to play this evening. So here goes.

Full back **CHRIS DIRKS** is a teacher by profession. He's 25 years old, and has played for the South African Barbarians. Also plays squash and golf.

At no. 11 is **JACOBUS** ("JACO") **LOEW** who, at 22 is still a student and has played for South African Students. He's also a tennis player, an athlete, and likes going to the movies.

Centre **BERNARD FOURIE** is (hard luck girls!) married and a town planner by trade. 26 years old, he also plays full-back and, like Chris Dirks, has turned out for the South African Barbarians and fancies a spot of squash and golf.

The other nominated centre — he can also play

outside-half — is **BERNIE WIGGETT**. He's another 20 year-old student, a water skier and cricketer, and is another of Transvaal's film buffs.

Sales rep **JEREMY THOMPSON** is down to play at outside-half. At 25 he already has an impressive track record, having turned out for a South African XV, South African Schools, South African Barbarians and Natal, as well as Transvaal. When not doing that, he's another golfer.

The scrum-half, **PIETER DU RANDT** is 31 years old, still single, and has moved around a bit, having played provincial rugby for Free State and Northern Transvaal, apart from his 31 appearances for Transvaal. He's also turned out for South African Defence and South African Barbarians. He lists his profession as 'Liaison Officer', and also plays tennis and golf.

ROD BLEW is listed to wear the No. 1 shirt. He's 28, married and is a foreign exchange dealer by trade. He's played for Natal as well as Transvaal, and also for the formidable NZ Provincial side, Otago. Yet another golfer, he's also into music.

The Gloucester hooker is going to have to contend with **JOHN MITCHELL**, who at 34 is something of a veteran. Again, surprise, surprise, he's a golfer. His impressive track record includes games for Border, South African Defence, South African Barbarians, the famous Quaggas and the South African 'Feeder' Team. He lists his occupation as 'Area Manager'.

At tight head, we have **BALIE SWART**, who is a PR man by trade, which fits right in with his image, which counts wine and cars among his interest. He's 28 years old, and has played for Western Province.

KOBUS WIESE at lock, is among the big men at 6'5" and around 20 stone (!). He's self employed, likes music and movies, and has also played for South African Barbarians and the South African Development side.

The other lock is **LAPPIES LABUSCHAGNE**, also 6'5", but weighing a mere 19 stone. He earns an honest crust as a broker, is into music, and has turned out for South African Barbarians and Orange Free State.

GAWIE REIKERT, at blind side, is self employed and has played for South Africa Technicon. He lists

(cont. on page 5)



THE
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THAT
TRIES
HARDER



WISHES GLOUCESTER R.F.C ALL THE
BEST FOR THE 1992/1993 SEASON
AND WELCOMES ITS GUESTS
TO KINGSHOLM

Peter Arnold (cont.)

his hobby as wrestling, which sounds a bit onimous to me.

FRANCOIS PIENAAR and **DEON LOTTER** give me something of a problem, because Francois is listed as a No. 8, and Deon as an open-side flanker, although they appear the other way round in the team sheet I've been given. Not that it matters; we'll soon see which is which.

Francois is a 25-year old student who has played for South African Barbarians, South African Schools, South African Under 20's, South African Universities and the South African Development squad, so he's obviously working his way up the ladder. He's yet another golfer and movie buff.

Deon is, by contrast, one of the side's veterans at 35 years old. He's played no less than 41 times for Transvaal. He's also turned out for Western Province and Griqualand West, is another of Transvaal's legion of golfers, and is also into cars.

So there you are. A pretty daunting bunch to have to face up to. But that, of course, just makes them, all the more welcome to Kingsholm. We hope we can make their evening memorable, and a fitting start to their historic European safari.

THANKS TO WAYLAND SYSTEMS

Sponsorship isn't a spur of the moment thing. Budgets have to be looked at, there are a host of details which have to be tied up, and the whole thing is quite time consuming for the Sponsor. So when someone takes on support of this kind at short notice — and you'll remember that Transvaal wasn't on our original fixture list — then we are ever more grateful than usual. The thanks, therefore, which we offer to Wayland Systems this evening are very sincere indeed.

Wayland Systems are twelve years old, and based at Ley Court, Barnett Way, in Gloucester. Their field of expertise lies in developing and providing software products to support telecommunications systems.

So successful was the company, that last year it was acquired by the Daretel Group, which is a major USA organisation in the field, based in Chicago. Wayland Systems regard this as highly desirable, because they can now offer new products, based on new technology, emerging from North America. The amalgamation of resources also provides a strong combination of both British and American management experience, technical expertise and commitment to the customer.

Of whom Wayland have many: a wide cross section, which includes FTSE 100 companies, local authorities, water boards and professional firms such as accountants, for example.

A brief run down of the products and services provided would include cost accounting of telephone expenditure, improving telephonists' response time and call handling capability. Messaging systems which provide 'answerphone'-style facilities to large telephone users, and indeed, management of the whole telecom network for large companies.

Wayland tell me that their cross-Atlantic roots give them a sense of commitment to the Community at large, and that they regard today's event as a contribution to that end. They also write that they 'look forward to being a part of future GRFC events'.

Our relationship with Wayland Systems certainly goes from strength to strength. We thank them for their continued and generous support, and hope that they all have a splendid evening at Kingsholm.

THE YOUNG VIC

Typical, isn't it? As soon as I comment that one of our Match Mascots is the first one with theatrical aspirations, along comes another one. Victoria Mountjoy, who's running out with the teams this evening, has been performing in Gloucester Cathedral with the Cathedral players. Furthermore, she's been distinguishing her 10-year old self at the Bristol Drama Festival, coming away with a highly creditable two Seconds and two Fourths, which must have given much pleasure to her parents, and also to the staff of Harewood Junior School.

Of course, Vicky is no stranger to us. She's a familiar figure, giving her dad, Dave, a hand with the Gloucester kit, match by match. Quite a talented family: Dave is well known in the tricky old glass cutting business, while Vicky's Mum not only makes knitwear but designs it too. Perhaps Alan Townsend and John Beaman will be able to offer designer, hand-knitted Gloucester sweaters soon.

Given her familiarity with the big public occasion, Victoria isn't going to be overawed by the crowd this evening. We hope she thoroughly enjoys herself.

GET BEHIND THE LADS

Can't leave you lot alone for a minute, can I! I go away for a quiet weekend, to a place well and truly cut off from the outside world, and return to find that we've lost to West Hartlepool.

That little disaster has led to a great deal of talk, comment and letters to the press, some of it reasoned and constructive, some ill informed but well meaning, and some, quite frankly, rubbish.

I'm no more privy to the ins and outs of the situation than any other supporter, but two things I do know. One is that several of the players who have moved to other clubs wouldn't have commanded

(cont. on page 8)

ONE FIRST CLASS TEAM SUPPORTING ANOTHER



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WHO'S DOING WHAT (and to whom)

Club Officials and Committee Members for 1992/3 are as follows:

President: Canon Mervyn Hughes.

Vice Presidents: Tom Day, Gordon Hudson, Roy 'Digger' Morris.

Chairman: Peter Ford.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Doug Wadley, 'Byeways', Belmont Avenue, Hucclecote, Tel: 617202 — but please note, Doug is 'in residence' in the Office at the Ground from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. every Monday to Friday throughout the Season. Tel: 381087.

Hon. Fixtures Secretary: Mike Nicholls, 90, Kingsholm Road. Tel: 301879.

Hon. Team Secretary: Eric Stephens, 1, Court Gardens, Hempsted. Tel: 529000.

Chairman of Selectors: Mickey Booth, 5, Insley Gardens, Hucclecote.

Hon. Colts Secretary: Reg Collins, 11, Gilpin Avenue, Hucclecote. Tel: 614335.

Committee: John Beaman, Mickey Booth, Alan Brinn, Bob Clewes, Terry Close, Mervyn Elway, David Foyle, Jim Holder, Brian Howells, Richard Jardine, Jim Jarrett, Andy Mitchell, Cecil Pope, Trevor Pritchard, Eric Stephens, Alan Townsend.

Players Representative: Jeremy Bennett.

Captains: First XV: Ian Smith. **United:** Andrew Stanley.

Coach: Keith Richardson.

... **And I nearly forgot:** Programme editor, Peter Arnold, 74, Victoria Street. Tel: 380481, who welcomes news, stories, anecdotes from any supporter, from Gloucester or Opponents. Although the laws of libel or obscenity may deter him from printing them.

Peter Arnold (cont.)

regular First Team places anyway, and that a side of Gloucester's quality doesn't become a rabble of no-hopers overnight. The second is that, if ever the lads needed our support and encouragement — it's now.

We've always been rather quicker to criticise the players than we have to praise them, and perhaps now is the time to modify that attitude. The best thing we can do to help is to get behind them and shout our heads off in their support.

Now is the time we find out who the *real* supporters are.

PILKINGTON

This really is getting beyond a joke. What is it with Gloucester and Newcastle Gosforth? We do seem to have to make that interminable trip North at quite indecently regular intervals, but I suppose that's the luck of the draw.

Actually, Doug Wadley has another theory. "Blame Keith Richardson", he says, "After all, he's getting the blame for everything else at the moment!"

Bit harsh, I thought. However, because this is a Friday evening game, our friendly, neighbourhood printers need my copy a little early this week, so at the time of writing, I don't have information about tickets. All I can suggest at the moment, is that you

(cont. on page 9)

NOBBY'S NEWSDESK



Hello Everyone,

Welcome to this special edition of my Newsdesk.

Tonight we entertain Transvaal in a match that, taking into account the form of the touring Springboks, should be a cracker. I am sure you will give them a great reception when they take the field, even if they have stolen the Gloucester colours for the night. We were going to enforce our right to wear the Cherry and White but we felt it would be a bit of an inconvenience to send their Kit Man back to South Africa for the spare strip.

Although Gloucester will be playing in their change strip I will be wearing the usual Cherry and White when I make my pre-match appearance.

GOOD LUCK TRANSVAAL

Cheers, NOBBY

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Peter Arnold (cont.)

listen out for announcements over the loudspeaker system. Something should have been sorted out by now so I expect the golden-voiced Graham Spring will have something to tell you.

But I ask you — Newcastle Gosforth yet again!

READING MATTER

There's been quite a clutch of new rugby books published recently. Again, I'm grateful to Gwyn Hiatt of Gloucestershire County Library for sending me the information, which, quite naturally, he does in the hope that you'll borrow them from his estimable organisation.

It does occur to me, however, that this is the time of year when many people are looking for things to put on their Christmas list, and why not persuade someone to give you a little reading matter?

The first one to come off the pile is 'FLYING WING', which is the autobiography of Rory Underwood. As the blurb says, no one has played more games, or scored more tries for England, so there's bound to be a great deal to interest any rugby buff. But of course, there's another dimension to Rory, as you know, he's an RAF fighter pilot as well. Well worth a read, I would have thought. It will cost you £14.99.

Another member of the two Grand Slam sides has also published his autobiography. If I tell you that the book is called 'THE TOWER AND THE GLORY', then you won't need telling that the player in question is Wade Dooley. Well, the best-known Preston Grasshopper has had his moments of controversy, so his own version will be revealing. Unfortunately, I don't have a price, but I would have thought it's a book worth getting. Or, I hasten to add, borrowing from the library.

Another book which looks worth spending £12.99 on is 'THE GUINNESS RUGBY UNION FACT BOOK', which appears to cover a whole range of subjects, including women's rugby and seven-a-side. A glance down the chapter headings gives you a flavour for the whole thing. They include, The Barbarians, Minor Nations — as different from 'Other Nations', like Western Samoa and Italy — FIRA and Olympic Rugby, and, intriguingly, a 'Roll of Dishonour'. It's certainly a book which I shall try and con out of someone.

Roger Uttley has also put pen to paper, but to add his contribution to the matter of coaching, rather than to tell his life story. "It's a simple game, really," He writes, "The difficulty is getting people to understand that." The book is called 'WINNING RUGBY', and seems to cover just about every aspect of the coaching art. A useful acquisition for anyone with an interest in coaching, I would have thought, and by the look of it, a thoroughly informative book for anyone.

Finally, David Sole, who has had his moments at Kingsholm in his Exeter University and Bath days, has produced his story too. Unsurprisingly, it's called 'HEART AND SOLE', and, according to the publicity, talks about the 'often stormy relationship which existed between him and Scotland's rugby heir-

(cont. on page 28)

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Ed Martin

This is the first time that a team from South Africa has taken on Gloucester at Kingsholm. And in the 101-year history of the ground, tonight's encounter is the 12th match that Gloucester has played against foreign opposition (not including those from Eire).

The first foreign team to take on Gloucester at Kingsholm was New Zealand on October 19, 1905. This is the famous 44-0 scoreline which is Gloucester's heaviest defeat of all time at Kingsholm — and the most points run up against Gloucester on the ground (Oxford University came close when they scored 39 in 1961).

The second team to take on Gloucester at Kingsholm was an "All Star" outfit from Rumania (or Romania as the country is now spelled). The team was a representative side from Bucharesti, with players drawn from the Central Army, Locomotive, and Dynamo clubs.

Originally, Bucharesti was scheduled to meet Moseley on Saturday September 15, 1956. But Gloucester took on the fixture when the Birmingham club cancelled the date. Bucharesti arrived in Gloucester after recording a 6-6 draw against Leicester — and after their match at Kingsholm the team left for a midweek date with Bristol.

The *Citizen* pulled out all the stops and the pre-match hype led to a gate of over 9,000. A lot of the hype centred around the fact that the visitors took part in what was then a weird pre-match ritual — the players went through a warm-up session out on the field.

"The visiting team indulged in a programme of limbering up, including physical jerks, running and kicking practice," the *Citizen* reported with a straight face!

There was also much made of a spectator Mr. R. Perks the 92 years-old grandfather of three-quarter Drug Perks. For more than 75 years, Mr. Perks snr. had been a "supporter of the Red and Whites" — in fact he was one of the very few around at the time who remembered Gloucester playing at The Spa. (Note, in the Fifties, the *Citizen* had renamed the Cherry and Whites to the Red and Whites.)

The first half of the match was scoreless, but early in the second period Alan Holder put Gloucester on the board with a dropped goal from 35 yards out. "Gloucester held a three points lead — and seemed likely to keep it . . .

"Then came disaster — swift and unexpected," the *Citizen* reported. "And at no side it was the Rumanians who lined-up proudly in midfield to acknowledge the applause as victors.

"Two shock tries, both from out of the blue — and both converted — had shattered Gloucester's hopes." The first of those tries was scored by Barbu who pounced on the ball after a passing mistake by Ieuan Sheen. Then wing forward Murraru scored to make it 10-3 to the visitors. But Holder booted a late penalty goal to limit the Bucharesti to a 10-6 win.

After a meal at the New Inn that evening, the team expressed "a wish to go to the cinema, preferably a musical." While there were no musicals on offer that day, history does not record whether they went to see Ava Gardner in "Bhowani Junction" at the Regal, "The First Travelling Saleslady" with Ginger Rogers at the Plaza, the war film "Away All Boats" at the Hippodrome or the Dale Robertson western "A Day of Fury" at the Empire.

A team from Bucharesti was to return to Kingsholm on October 7, 1978, the visitors scraping home 30-28.

While New Zealand thrashed Gloucester at Kingsholm, Gloucester did record one of its larger home scores against an overseas team. The 60-0 win in September 1969 against the students of the University of Pennsylvania ranks at the 22nd highest score recorded by Gloucester at Kingsholm and the 20th highest winning margin.

But five years later (September 1974) L'Aquila were beaten 75-0 — the 6th highest score recorded by Gloucester at Kingsholm and the third highest winning margin.

SERIES RECORDS 1891-2 TO 1991-2 AT KINGSHOLM vs OVERSEAS TEAMS

Team	P	W	L	D	PF	PA
AC Wellington	1	1	0	0	9	6
Auckland	1	0	1	0	3	34
Begles	1	0	1	0	20	21
Bucharesti	2	0	2	0	34	40
French Universities	1	0	1	0	0	17
L'Aquila	1	1	0	0	75	0
Milano	1	1	0	0	23	3
New Zealand	1	0	1	0	0	44
University Of Pennsylvania	1	1	0	0	60	0
Taranaki	1	1	0	0	18	6
Overall	11	5	6	0	242	171

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Peter Arnold (cont.)

archy.' Well, I suppose controversy sells books. 'Heart and Sole' will cost you £12.99.

Perhaps I should also mention that the latest edition of the official Courage Clubs Championship handbook is also now available, useful for anyone who wants to know nitty-gritty details of just about any club in the country. I hope they've got it right, this time. The three-year old copy I have is so full of errors that it isn't true. Gloucester Old Boys, for example, is quoted as having an address in Bristol. Still, that was the first time round, and mistakes will happen in a new project.

WELL DONE MIKE!

Let's not be dog in the manger about it. Just because Mike Teague is listed among the numbers of our defectors, we shouldn't be anything other than delighted that he's back where he belongs — in the England side for tomorrow's game against South Africa. Whether he keeps his place for the Home Championship remains to be seen, but all his old admirers in Gloucester will be wishing him the best of luck.

. . . AND TO IAN

Our congratulations, too, to skipper Ian Smith, not just for being selected for the Barbarians against Newport, not just for scoring a try, but also for being given the honour of being appointed Captain for that game.

I'm sure that Ed Martin, or someone, will enlighten me, but I can't recall that Gloucester have ever had a Barbarian Captain before, although in the long list of Gloucester Baa-Baas, I wouldn't be surprised to learn that we had.

Well played Ian. Perhaps you're in the frame for the Barbarians v. Australia match.

WE GET LETTERS

Amusing letter from David Pryce of Dursley, this week, and I'm glad to reproduce it. I don't make any comment about his opinions — especially, being a devout and practising coward, about prop forwards. But make of it what you will.

SPOILT FOR CHOICE AT KINGSHOLM . . . YOU BET

Saturday afternoon in Cardiff, and while my better half wandered around the shops, I headed off in the direction of the Arms Park.

The first team were away, squaring up to the Pontypool front row, but Cardiff Athletic, their

equivalent to our United, were hosting Pontypool Athletic. First stop was the bar, hopefully to gen. up on who was appearing for whom. "Sorry no team sheets and that's £1.20 for your pint!" Now which of the three loyal supporters packed into the bar should I talk to?

One explained to me that with the creation of Leagues in Wales, the days of 2nd XVs was numbered, with clubs tending to operate squads and selecting players on a round robin basis. Cardiff Athletic had already seen off several other clubs with scores reminiscent of those run up by Graham Gooch on a bad day!

And so to the match. £1 to get in, not bad I suppose, and you could sit anywhere in the stand. The band of followers had grown to a couple of hundred and included such notables as Ray Prosser and Bobby Windsor. On the pitch Cardiff were fielding at least 3 recognisable internationals and playing with a strong wind, you just had to bet on them. In fact it was no contest, Cardiff won 54-7.

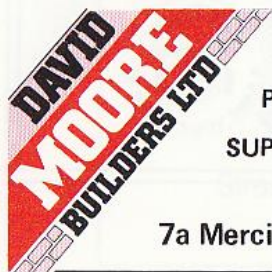
On this basis I can quite see why clubs are reverting to squads and doing away with second team matches; the Cherry and Whites are due to play 'Pooler' away on 7 November, and the United play their Athletic XV. With Wales 'B' playing Australia on the same day, would you like a small wager on a certain United game at Kingsholm being called off . . . or perhaps if Ray Prosser and Bobby Windsor turn up, and out glorious Chairman and Corporate Hospitality advisor, are around we could rearrange the match and call it "All our yesterdays".

One final thought, can we come up with a better name for Prop than that attributed to one of the Cardiff boys . . . Sven Cronk. Ah well I suppose it epitomises what we already knew about the Front Row Union, they are all swede bashers!!!

TAILPIECE

You'd think you could get away from it all on Lundy island, wouldn't you? But no. There, over the bar, on MS 'Oldenberg', which takes you over to that glorious island, is pinned a picture of our Mighty Mouth Town Crier, hereditary tump dweller, Alan Myatt. To make things worse, the first chap I ran into in the island's excellent 'Marisco Tavern' was wearing a Gloucester RFC sweatshirt.

He's a staff member, too, not a holidaymaker. His name is John Alford, and he comes from near Bath. One can, therefore, only commend his taste in menswear.



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