



COVENTRY RUGBY CLUB



PEUGEOT

CLUB SPONSORS

Coventry v Gloucester

Saturday
19th December 1992

£1.00

GEOT

PONSORS



Coventry

No.	Name	
15	Marc Thomas	Full Back
14	Barry Evans (C)*	Right Wing
13	Jason Minshull	Right Centre
12	Mick Curtis	Left Centre
11	Leroy McKenzie	Left Wing
10	Greg Harwood	Stand Off
9	Richard Turner	Scrum Half
1	Crayton Phillips	Forwards
2	David Addleton	
3	Warwick Bullock	
4	Julian Hyde	
5	Richard Mackie	
6	Mark Pearson	
8	Rob Field	
7	Paul Thomas	*International

Replacements:

Steve Chapman
Lee Jones

Coventry
is making it ...

Gloucester

Name	No.
Martyn Roberts	15
Paul Holford	14
Don Caskie	13
Ian Morgan	12
Gerry Perrins	11
Paul Morris	10
Julian Davis	9
Tony Windo	1
Dave Kearsey	2
Andy Deacon	3
Simon Devereux	4
Richard West	5
Andy Knox	6
Robert Fowke	8
Andy Stanley (C)	7

Replacements:

Gareth Reayer
Mark Wadley

Referee

Martin Gorwin

Army Society

SATURDAY, 19th DECEMBER 1992 Kick-off 3pm

INSIDE COUNDON ROAD

Our Visitors

Today we have great pleasure once again in welcoming our old friends from Gloucester to Coundon Road, particularly because our traditional fixture with them last season was cancelled in the upheaval caused by the World Cup.

Like ourselves, Gloucester face a critical period in the Courage League and have the prospect of a gruelling New Year as they attempt to pull away from the First Division relegation zone.

Gloucester were planning to bring a near full-strength side to Coundon Road today but are without wing Simon Morris, who is on duty for the South West in the Divisional Championship against the Midlands at Leicester.

The West Country team are relying on a potent mixture of youth and experience to guide them to league safety. However, there was a big shake-up in the pack recently, resulting in home-bred youngsters Andy Deacon and Tony Windo taking over as props from Peter Jones, regarded as David Sole's replacement in the Scotland team, and Bob Phillips, a member of the Welsh development squad.

The second row pairing of Dave Simms and Richard West, both at about the 6ft 7in mark, have caused all sorts of problems for their opponents this season. Simms, a member of the England B team, is not playing today and Simon Devereux teams up with West, an England Under-21 cap.

The last meeting between the clubs - at Coundon Road in December 1990 - resulted in a 26-7 victory for Gloucester. Our last win over them was in 1987 when we won 17-6 at Coundon Road and you have to go back to 1985 to find our last win at Kingsholm - a year in which we completed a rare double over our visitors.

Former Players

Today we welcome many of Coventry's former players to the match. They are here for one of their occasional pre-match lunches and many supporters will be delighted to have the opportunity of chatting to them in the clubhouse afterwards.

It would be great to see some of our ex-players at the club more often. Before today's match we were hoping to recreate the famous picture that hangs in the clubhouse showing the time when eleven internationals were playing for Coventry.

Representative Honours

Congratulations to Richard Angell for securing a place in the Midlands team and for his try-creating performance against the North last Saturday. His gain is our loss, for he was due to line up for the Midlands

today in the Divisional match against the South West at Leicester.

Youth Section

Congratulations to the Under-17s' pack, who fashioned a superb 21-20 victory over Birmingham/Solihull out of the Portway mud. Their performance reminded seasoned Cov watchers of famous past victories when the forwards just refused to be beaten.

The lead changed several times with Coventry fully deserving their win for a second-half performance which kept Birmingham/Solihull pinned in their own half. Tries were scored by lock Dylan Read and prop Eddie Shillinglaw but the whole pack were the real heroes. The front row was David Goodwin, Paul Coleman and Shillinglaw, second row Read and Martin Donnolly and the back row were flankers Steve Carvell and James Lamb and No. 8 Eddie Simpkins.

The versatile Eddie also had the distinction of scoring all the Under-17s' points in the 18-13 defeat at Bedford last Sunday. Playing at fly-half, he kicked two penalties and converted his own try but could not prevent a defeat that was caused by the Cov lads not taking advantage during their early dominance. However, they can take comfort from the fact that Bedford brought on fresh players at half-time by making wholesale changes, including two in the back-row.

The Under-16s continued their unbeaten run, winning 5-0 through a try by wing Richard Beldon at Bedford but they suffered a huge blow when talented fly-half Rob Scanlon broke a leg in the second-half. He was treated at hospital at Bedford and our hopes for a speedy recovery go to him.

The Colts crashed to a 12-try away defeat at the hands of Cheltenham last Saturday and the consensus was that their opponents were among the best they have ever faced. The only crumb of comfort for the Cov lads was that ten of their team were Under-17s and most of the Cheltenham side were last-year Colts.

Christmas Raffle

The club Christmas Raffle again has some excellent prizes and members are asked to help in selling tickets to raise much-needed extra income for the club.

Books of ten tickets are available at 50p each. If all the books are sold it will produce an income of over £3,000. Please support the club by selling your book and if you feel you can sell more the club will be happy to supply you with extra tickets.

Please return remittance and counterfoils to the club by Thursday, 31st December. The draw will take place in the clubhouse after the game against Orrell on Saturday, 2nd January.

REMEMBER WHEN...



DARRELL GILES, Rugby Correspondent of the Coventry Evening Telegraph, looks back at an earlier Coventry v Gloucester clash.



Coventry host Gloucester at Coundon Road today in a match which clashes with the Divisional and County Championship programme. Though this is not the first time the problem has affected this fixture.

The Blue-and-Whites took on the Cherry-and-Whites at Coundon Road on 24th October in the 1964-65 season and recorded one of the biggest wins of their remarkable history, a crushing 45 points to nil.

Even the excuse that Gloucester had seven reserves in the side could not justify their pitiful display, for they had traditionally been strong in depth and those who took part had considerable first team experience.

Gloucester capitulated in the third minute of the game when Rodney Webb scorched through seven attempted tackles to score a try. It typified the whole Gloucester approach that afternoon.

Yet it would be wrong to detract from Coventry's performance, for some of their rugby was a delight to see, several tries being wonderfully imaginative in conception and exciting in execution.

The backs, who showed improvement with every game that season, produced their best day's work so far and all the three-quarters scored with the exception of Ricky Melville, who, oddly enough, only had about

three passes.

Tim Dalton, with rapier-like bursts, ripped huge gaps in the flimsy Gloucester defence, while David Jenkins provided the clever footwork and Chris Wheatley the more direct penetration.

Left-winger Webb was another constant source of danger, although the key man in most of the attacks was the shrewd-thinking George Cole.

With the set-pieces only serving as an amiable exercise for the forwards, most members of the pack concentrated their efforts on supporting the halves, and Bob Knott, probably the liveliest on view, helped himself to two tries.

John Barton, controversially left out on occasions that season, and Chris Holmes were also much in evidence, but everyone played well and, for once, Peter Robbins was not missed.

There was never a period in the whole game when Gloucester really looked like stemming the flood and, in the 80 minutes play, eleven tries were registered, three coming in the last five minutes.

Coventry's scorers were Jenkins (3), Holmes (2), Knott (2), Webb, Phil Judd - after a 30-yard run, no less - and Dalton. Cole converted six but turned down the chance of at least three kickable penalties to keep the game moving.