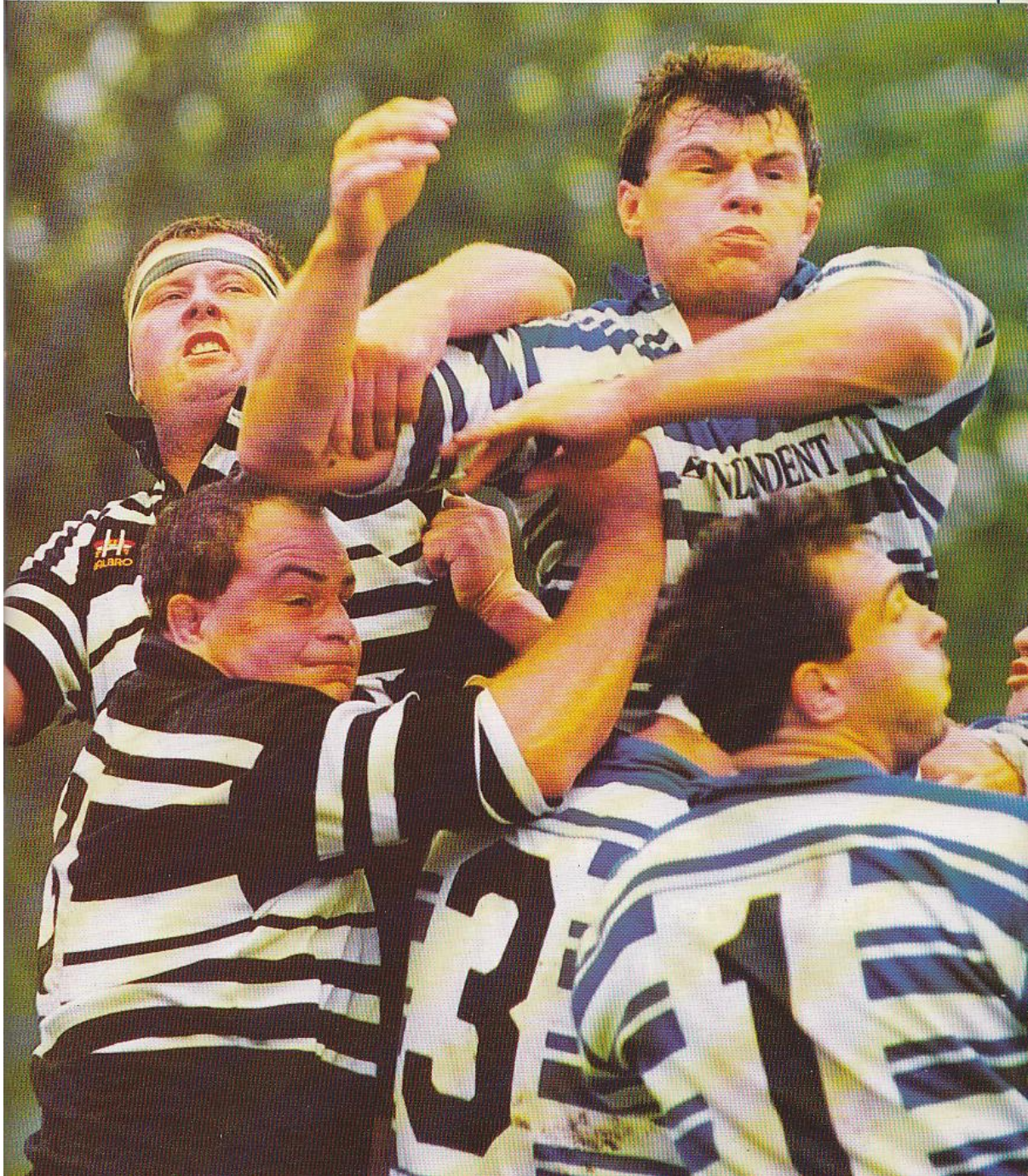


SALE FOOTBALL CLUB

versus

GLOUCESTER

Sat 8th October



SALE v GLOUCESTER



Sale

Visitors

Jim Mallinder	15	Mark Mapletoft
Simon Verbickas	14	Paul Holford
Joss Baxendell	13	Simon Morris
Gareth Stocks	12	Ben Maslen
Mark Appleson	11	Tim Smith
* Paul Turner	10	Martin Kimber
Chris Saverimutto	9	Bruce Fenley
Nick Wheeler	1	Tony Windo
Steve Diamond	2	Dave Kearsey
Andy Smith	3	Andy Deacon (capt)
Dave Baldwin	4	Dave Sims
Dave Erskine	5	Richard West
Mike Kenrick (capt)	6	* Mike Teague
Neil Ashurst	7	* Ian Smith
Charles Vyvyan	8	Chris Raymond

* Internationals

Replacements

16	Phil Jee
17	Dylan O'Grady
18	A.N.Other

Referee:

Alan Watson (I.R.F.U)

Replacements

16	John Hawker
17	Simon Devereux
18	Martin Roberts

Touch Judges:

B.Campsall, R.Sullivan

EDITORS NOTES

Whatever the result of today's game, spectators should be sure of watching open attacking rugby from Sale, whose style of play in these early weeks of the league has been praised in the media by such as Dick Best, Stephen Jones and David Irvine. While Paul Turner's beliefs continue to drive our running and expansive game which thrives on innovation, variation and the unexpected, it's clear that Sale's backs in particular are revelling in this and it is proving infectious. The Northampton game saw Joss Baxendell's flair in several moves - including the deliberate kick ahead from the knee and not the foot! - and no doubt new winger Mark Appleson will look forward to feeding off the space and opportunities that this team approach creates.

Inevitably at times, moves and risk taking will not always come off and lead to occasional disaster and gifts to the opposition. However I hope that there are very few at Heywood Road who would opt for safety first rugby and I'm convinced that persevering with this expansive approach remains crucial to our prospects for the season. Certainly spectators can look forward to great entertainment and we hope today's game will bring a further demonstration.

The third weekend of the league season, brought one major shock with West Hartlepool's marvellous win against Wasps. With Wasps having thrashed Gloucester 45 - 8, then the following week Gloucester beating West by 48 - 12, the match at Brierton Lane seemed to be an away banker. However West had restored Watson and Dixon to their pack; Patterson, the Scotland B scrum half came in for his first match, while Wasps were without Andrew, with Gregory deputising. Although behind at half time,

West stuck to their game plan to achieve a victory that will give great heart to the less fancied sides in the division.

The programme contains reports of our matches against Northampton and Orrell. The game with the Saints was a great one for the spectators with the most crucial feature being our determination and commitment that was sadly lacking the week before at Bristol. In this Northampton match, left wing Mark Appleson made a brilliant debut scoring two tries and bringing off several vital tackles.

Since last season, Sale have lost players in Max Duthie to Rosslyn Park, Paul Harrison to Coventry and Andy McFarlane through retirement. Many more have joined the club and notable amongst these are Christian Saverimutto, Neil Ashurst, Charlie Vyvyan and Mark Appleson who have all made important contributions to the play of the team in our opening league matches. Each of these players has featured in representative rugby at county, divisional or B international level and the overall strength of the squad has been greatly increased by their coming to Heywood Road. On the injury front, centre Matt Birt is now off his crutches and out of plaster and may be able to begin light training soon. Guy Parker's arm is also now out of plaster, but as things stand at present it must be unlikely that Rick McCartney will be able to play this season.

Jon Elwood
Programme Editor

TODAY'S VISITORS

Gloucester Rugby Football Club was founded in 1873 and has long been recognised as one of the foremost rugby playing clubs in the country. In the southwest there has always been very keen rivalry between Gloucester, Bath and Bristol and while recent years have seen Bath dominant, visitors to Kingsholm can continue to be sure of a hard and difficult contest, backed by a very vocal, partisan crowd.

We are very pleased to welcome the Cherry and Whites to Heywood Road today. The history of fixtures between our clubs goes back many years, but our only previous league meeting was at Kingsholm in the inaugural Courage league season, when Sale were thrashed, having already secured relegation. For their part, Gloucester have been permanent members of division one, with their best years being in 1989-9 and the following season when they were runners-up to Bath and Wasps respectively.

During the years of the leagues so far, Tim Smith has been Gloucester's top point scorer each time, with the exception of the first year, when Nick Marmont scored 42. The record for most league tries in a season with six is jointly held by Jim Breeze, Mike Hamlin and Derek Morgan. Smith's best season was in '88-9 when he notched up 85 points, while his overall total at the end of the last campaign was 408. Altogether Gloucester have won 46, drawn 6 and lost 34 league matches, with 1455 points for and 1210 against.

Last season was a struggle for our visitors, with their final position being just above the relegated London Irish and Newcastle Gosforth. Their six wins came against Northampton, Newcastle, London Irish, Harlequins and Orrell twice, while matches were drawn with Wasps and Newcastle. The season saw Gloucester score 247

points, with 21 tries and Tim Smith their top points scorer with 82.

Gloucester rugby has traditionally been associated with strong, dominant packs - well illustrated by the game in our Archive feature today - and players such as Blakeway, Burton, Brinn, Fidler, Boyle and Watkin readily spring to mind as examples of the hard uncompromising forwards that the club have regularly produced. While the returning Mike Teague very much plays in this mode, recent years have seen the club move away from what many considered a narrow approach to the game, although no doubt their supporters would point to the number of tries run in over the years by players such as Mogg, Morgan, Breeze and Morris.

This season, Gloucester are captained by Andy Deacon, with their coach being Viv Woolley. Players to join the club include Mike Teague returning from his spell with second division Moseley, clubmate Chris Raymond, fullback Mark Mapletoft from Rugby, and Lee Osborne and Adey Powles from local junior club Berry Hill. The opening weeks of the leagues have seen Gloucester well beaten at Wasps 45-8, then gain a convincing home victory by 48-12 against West Hartlepool, before travelling to Welford Road to lose 16-6 to Leicester. Last weekend saw the club entertain Bath, when the final score was 15-10 to Bath

ARCHIVE

Today's feature is of the match at Kingsholm during Easter, 1965. While the Gloucester side contained only one capped player in Peter Ford - who won four England caps and was one of my favourite players in my early years of watching rugby - future England players were Mike Burton, who was to be capped seventeen times and went on the 1974 Lions tour to South Africa and lock Alan Brinn who made his England debut against Wales in 1972, when Wales won by 12 - 3 at Twickenham.

Gloucester were captained by their place-kicking scrum-half Mickey Booth while Sale were led by centre Ken Nelson. Bill Patterson, who gained two England caps and toured New Zealand with the Lions in 1959, playing in two tests, was Sale's only international player and the full teams were:

Gloucester	Sale
D Ainge	F G Griffiths
N Foice	B Gray
R Pitt	W M Patterson
R Morris	K Nelson
R Timms	R Maddick
T Hopson	A McInnes
M Booth	A Fraser-Dackers
M Burton	J F Herbert
K Taylor	J Lansbury
J Fowke	J Little
R Long	J Gardiner
A Brinn	R Trickey
P Ford	J Davies
R Hannaford	J Allman
R Smith	A Witney

In the weeks leading up to this fixture, Gloucester had gained some impressive victories against leading Welsh clubs at Kingsholm, beating Cardiff 23 - 3; Newport 14 - 11 and Aberavon 10 - 8.

For Sale, their first game of this Easter tour had resulted in a 25 - 6 win at Cheltenham, when tries were scored by Maddick twice, Williams, Gray and Allman.

This Easter Monday clash at Kingsholm saw Sale up against one of the strongest packs in the country at that time. Gloucester were to win the greater share of possession and ultimately won by 8 - 6, with Sale's points coming from two penalties by Griffiths.

For this match, no fewer than twelve of the Cherry and Whites had played for the county of Gloucestershire in the days when county rugby was one of the showpieces of the game and long before anyone thought of the concept of divisional rugby. Gloucestershire were to particularly dominate the county championship during the 1970's, by '65 they had already won the title nine times, with six other appearances as losing finalists.

Over the years the two clubs have had regular fixtures together and while they have only met once previously in the leagues, most seasons have brought the sides together for home and away matches. The most recent game at Heywood Road was in January '93, when Sale won 19-17, with their points coming from a Kenrick try and a conversion, drop goal and three penalties from Turner, while Gloucester scored through tries by Smith, Caskie and Mann, with Roberts adding a conversion.