



Wednesday 30th April 1997



BATH RUGBY

Black, Blue & White

GLOUCESTER Cherry & White

| 16 Jon Callard (I) | Full Rack | Chris Catling 15 | | |
|----------------------------|------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 15 Jon Sleightholme (I) | Right Wing | Audley Lumsden 14 | | |
| 14 Matt Perry | Centre | Craig Emmerson 13 | | |
| 12 Phil de Glanville * (I) | Centre | Don Caskie 12 | | |
| 11 Adedayo Adebayo (I) | Left Wing | Mike Lloyd 11 | | |

| 10 Mike Catt (I) | Outside Half | Mark Mapletoft | 10 |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|----|
| 9 Andy Nicol (I) | Scrum Half | Laurie Beck | 9 |

| 1 | Kevin Yates | Prop | Tony Windo |
|---|---------------------|---------|------------------|
| 2 | Federico Mendez (I) | Hooker | John Hawker 2 |
| 3 | John Mallett (I) | Prop | Andy Deacon 3 |
| 4 | Martin Haag | Lock | Rob Fidler 4 |
| 5 | German Llanes (I) | Lock | Dave Sims * 5 |
| 6 | Nathan Thomas (I) | Flanker | Pete Glanville 6 |
| 7 | Richard Webster (I) | Flanker | Andy Stanley 7 |
| 8 | Dan Lyle (I) | No. 8 | Simon Devereux 8 |

| Replacements | Charlie Mulraine | | |
|--------------|----------------------|--|--|
| | Alastair Saverimutto | | |
| A State | Alex Morris | | |
| | Mark Cornwell | | |
| 142 | Trevor Woodman | | |
| V | Lee Fortey | | |
| | Replacements | | |

Today's Match Sponsor

Referee

G Hughes (RFU)

Half Time

(II) International



One of my most endearing memories of the season is being at Kingsholm a few weeks ago when a breakaway try by Audley Lumsden (in Cherry and White remember!) put Gloucester in front

of apparently Champions elect, Leicester. The collective belief in a home win was tangible, no matter what the Tigers did after that 10,000 people simply willed their team on and very successfully too! That is of course Gloucester rugby, deeply rooted in the City, Kingsholm is a Cathedral in much the same way as the ecclesiastical version a few hundred yards away. The saints of Kingsholm are of a rather more earthy version than their heavenly brothers, not for The Shed the ethereal delights of complex interpassing movements, but a more direct robust version of the game. None for the worse for it either, rugby needs all sorts to paint its rich tapestry.

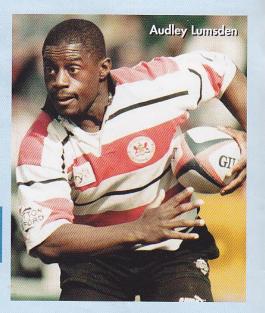
Gloucester were the leading light in the first competitive steps in English rugby, Cup winners in

Welcome to
Gloucester

71/72 and indeed have played one more game in the Cup than Bath, 75 to Bath's 74. The 1989-90 season had them challenging for both League and Cup, only for them to come second to Wasps in the League and similarly to Bath in the Cup. Take this team lightly at your peril! This season promised poorly for Gloucester and a dreadful start at Harlequins followed by more losses had them looking down the barrel of relegation. A win against subsequent Champions Wasps made all things possible and for a brief spell a week or so ago there was even an outside chance of a place in Europe, some recovery!

The team is based firmly round a combative and highly effective pack with excellent half backs in Scott Benton and Mark Mapletoft, both well known to Bath spectators. Mapletoft has been rewarded for his efforts this season with an England tour position and deservedly so. The mastermind behind Gloucester these last two seasons has been Richard Hill, thought of by many as possible England manager in due course, he will be scheming to undo Bath tonight just as he schemed on behalf of the Rec faithful for many a season. His task for next season is to blend in some foreign talent while retaining all that is successful about Gloucester rugby. It is by no means simple.

That represents the dilemma for professional rugby, how does a team founded on spirit and home town commitment add in the much needed talent, not just from abroad but from other English clubs, without diluting the very things which made it so passionate? Answers on a postcard to all Directors of Rugby!!!



For tonight we can expect Gloucester to be trying to bring the try scoring Bath machine down to more earthy levels and remembering that victory at Kingsholm last March when relegation seemed inevitable for the Cherry and Whites! No trivial matter, a Bath v Gloucester encounter, this should be a thriller!

Courage League Records:

| | P | W | D | L | % | PTSF | PTSA |
|-------|-----|-----|---|----|----|------|------|
| GLOS. | 142 | 68 | 8 | 66 | 51 | 2427 | 2409 |
| BATH | 143 | 114 | 7 | 22 | 82 | 3772 | 1741 |

This season:

Glouc: 41 tries, 26 conversions, 51 penalties and 6 drop goals.

Bath: 101 tries, 66 conversions, 40 penalties and 2 drop goals.

Leading scorers:

Mark Mapletoft: 5 tries, 24 conversions, 51 penalties, 5 drop goals 241 points

Jon Callard: 3 tries, 45 conversion, 33 penalties 204 points

Try Scorers:

Mike Lloyd 7 tries Ade Adebayo 14 tries.