

Match Report

March 20th 2004

Penguins v Bank of England

Lost 26 - 32

In this high scoring game which preceded the England v Wales international, there were high winds and high tempers as the referee applied a variable spectrum of interpretations of the laws. No matter, it was an hour of exercise. The difference between the sides was that the opposition was more adept at cheating.

With the wind, the Bank accumulated three tries before the interval. The Guys tackling was of a higher standard than in the previous game and so the score was not out of reach.

With the wind in their favour during the second half the Penguins provided some good tactical kicking and rucking. The scrums were unopposed and despite the towering presence of Jim Parton, the line-outs were poor. The Guys hooker accepted the blame with grace. A fiery Alan Jones swore at the referee, the opposition and his centres and ran at the opposition in a foul mood. This appeared to pay dividends and the team will need to devise ways of annoying him in future games. James O'Shea was always in support to take the ball on another few metres. Janusz Kaminski sold his famous dummy once and made four huge breaks supported by Charles Beardmore who scored twice. Mark Blunden forced himself onto the line, appeared to wriggle over but it was Al Jones who touched down. The fourth try came from Kaminski. There was encouraging support play all round especially from David Manson-Bahr, Richard Lee and Andrew Sneddon.

Team - Terry Gibson, Clive Hudson, Simon Hughes, Mark Blunden, James O'Shea, Jim Parton, Charles Beardmore, David Manson-Bahr, Alan Jones, Janusz Kaminski, Richard Lee, Andrew Sneddon, David Gibson, Ronan Brown.