

Guy's vs Gillingham

14/02/04

venue: HOP

score: 27-10

So here it is, the eagerly awaited weekly instalment of stato's GKTRFC review. Saturday 14th was a fine day that was made even brighter by the presence of rather an attractive referee. This ref had done many student games and shown herself to be very proficient but would the same hold true when playing with the big boys? We waited with baited breath.... Stato himself had gone 5star with his laminated sheet and marker pen, never shall a damp day hinder his statistical analysing again, and the presence of a beast of a 4wheel drive tee carrier showed the advances that have been made this season for Guys rugby.

The Gillingham side looked a large, well-drilled and formidable side, and their position in the table showed them to be a force to be reckoned with. Their pack was huge as usual and even Johnny Agunwa was made to look small by his opposite number. However this Guys pack is no pushover themselves and with Christian and Pete Davies in the pack, have both size and aggression.

Play was fast and furious and the first exchanges were brutal, however Guys held firm with a great static defence, in that every time Gillingham attacked there was always a Guys player on his shoulder so the player had to off-load without any tackles going in. Eventually Guys got hold off the ball and preceded to exert vast amounts of pressure, this pressure eventually paid when Rob Whyte picked up the ball and delicately chipped over the defence for Carbasse to run on to and score a great try. On then came the tee carrier at a great pace and just managed to reach Dave Berry before the ref blew for half time. Guys second try came from its usual source, Roy breaking the first tackle before running half the length of the pitch. However what should have been a certain try was not to be as instead of the simple pass outside the bosh was preferred and their full back was up to the challenge. Great, quick recycling released the ball again for the backs to attack their fragmented defence. The ball was recycled three times before finding Christian in midfield who broke the first few tackles and then handed over to Dave Berry who broke through the final few tackles before scoring under the posts. The kick was duly converted and it was 12-0.

Sam Rigg who had possibly his best game this season was binned in the next few exchanges for, as the opposition put it "head butting his foot", so Guys were down to 14. This did not deter them though and they continued to hold strong. They were tested even more when Christian was held back by their open-side who was duly knocked clean out. Guys were down to 13. Again though Guys held firm and found the best form of defence was attack. Ben Wheeler and Pete Davies both put in mighty performances in the pack whilst Tim Price showed his strength and power in the backs and that he had a cannon of a left foot.

The second half started in usual fashion with skirmishes between the two sides constant. The ref struggled to keep control and the away supporters didn't help things, however cards were shown and a lid was kept on most of the trouble. Then came the usual pushover try for the opposition, even if it did take them 5 or 6 attempts and eventually only came due to a penalty try. This was more due to excellent scrumaging from the Guys pack that has come far this season. The third try came from an

excellent charge down from Rob Whyte, who was as usual titanic behind the scrum, before the ball was recycled and passed down the line to Rob Hone, who scored just to the left of the posts.

Christian was then red carded for no reason what so ever, which then meant that Guys were down to 14 for the rest of the matches. The changes were rung and fresh legs were brought on. Dave Berry went for an adventurous cross kick that just failed to find the mark with Harvey in hot pursuit.

The final try was scored by stato's favourite method, pod ball, with Kit Rowland coming up as the scorer. The match then slowly became more violent before the ref blew the final whistle.

Another game another victory, but Guys still lye one point off the top. One thing that must be taken from this match if we are to beat Imperial medics is that all chances must be converted, no matter what. "UH cup final games are not won, they are lost" (Price, 2004) and this rings true, the only way we will not win the cup is if we do not convert our chances, not how many times, if at all Imperial score. Guys for the cup.

Stato's prematch prediction:

A comfortable win for Guy's.

Stato's bend:

90 degrees to the left, that's pretty emphatic. (2/3, 66.66%)

Ref.'s man of the match:

Kit Rowland- you sweet talker you.

Stato's man of the match:

Close between Tim Price and Pete Davies, but it has to go to Pete for his great display of back row ferreting and skull duggery. Pricey if only that Carlos Spencer stylee pass had worked you may well have won.

Moment of the match:

Could be the remote control car, but I think it must go to Kit Rowland for talking his way out of a yellow card. The ref even had the card in her hand and out of her pocket. Kit you sweet talker you.

| name | tackles made | tackles missed | ball carries | ball drops | bosh | boshed | kicks | kicks Of woe | tries | overall rating |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|--------------|------------|------|--------|-------|--------------|-------|----------------|
| Wheels | 1 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| Joe | 2 | - | 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| Johny | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Kit | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 |
| Matt B. | 3 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| Rob W. | - | 1 | 10 | - | 1 | - | 3 | - | - | 14 |
| Christian | 2 | - | 5 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 9 |
| Pete D. | 4 | - | 6 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 11 |
| Riggles | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Relly | 5 | 1 | 7 | - | 1 | - | 4 | 1 | 1 | 19 |
| Mat W. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0 |
| Rob H. | 1 | 2 | 5 | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | 11 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|
| Roy | 3 | - | 6 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 10 |
| Carbass | 2 | - | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 9 |
| Pricey | - | - | 5 | 1 | 2 | - | 4 | - | - | 12 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| subs | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Jamie J. | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | -1 |
| Harvey | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Percy | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| score | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 2 | -2 | 1 | -1 | 3 | |